DUTIES ON BOOKS.

AN APPEAL FOR THEIR ABOLITION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Among the questions with which Congress has to deal in readjusting the tariff, one of the most important is that of duties on books. Other questions relate to money; this to education. The loss of a few dollars to the Treasury, or to a certain class of manufactures, is not to be compared with that which the people sustain by obstructing the avenues to intelligence and thought.

As the world is now organized, books are necessaries of life, or even more, they are necessaries of civilization. They are to the mind what food is to the body, and without them healthful growth is retarded or wholly checked. Nations are to-day respected more for their advancement in wisdom and in the arts that embellish life than for their armaments, and this advancement may be measured by the diffusion among the people of books and artistic objects. The wants of bare necessity are limited in number and cost. Those of civilization are of infinite and increasing variety. Knowledge, science and taste develop new wants that give impetus to manufactures and set in motion the wheels of commerce.

In the year 1888, as reported by the Commissioner of Education, the expenditures for common schools in the United States reached the vast sum of $115,103,886. We willingly submit to this outlay because we believe that education is the cornerstone of our free institutions. And yet while with one hand we spend our money lavishly to make knowledge free to all, with the other we close the door against it by taxing the very books which we have taught our children and ourselves to read. We seem anxious that our people should have a smattering of knowledge, but if they seek to go further and become truly learned, we refuse their desires by means that have no parallel in the history or practice of mankind, civilized or savage.

What is acquired in our common schools is not education, but only the tools of knowledge, and success in life depends largely on our having these tools sharp and using them efficiently. It is a great error to suppose that after spending a few years at school the work of education is finished. It is, in fact, only begun, and the whole after-life should be spent in completing the structure of which only the foundation was laid in youth.

We seem to care less for our offspring than for our cattle. Animals for breeding purposes are, under our tariff, admitted free. We think it important to improve the bodies of our heifers because they have a computable value, but we do not concern ourselves to improve the minds of our children by giving them untrammelled access to the best wisdom of the world.

Our policy in respect to the tariff on books is without precedent among men, past or present. A few of the foreign nations are so impoverished that, in order to raise the revenue needed for their support, they are forced to tax everything imported, books with the rest, but the policy of taxing these articles as a protective measure has never been adopted in any country but ours. Every Government in Europe except Spain admits books free, even Russia, self-centred and intolerant as she is of foreign ideas. They are free in Sweden, Norway, Great Britain, the German Empire, Austria, Belgium and France. Even China and Japan, nations which we in our pride and self-conceit call uncivilized, and whose people we shut out from our shores, have sufficient intelligence to make a tariff that, in this respect, should put us to the blush.

The only nations in which duties on books are charged are the following. (See Senate Document 1884 "Foreign Tariffs"):

Liberia.

Hayti, 1 to 20 cents per volume.

Mexico, about 40 cents per 100 pounds.

Argentine Republic, 5 per cent.

Guatemala, 10 per cent.

Spain, about 80 cents per 100 pounds.

Of these six countries, two are peopled by negroes, all are poor and burdened with debt, and some of them are only recently emerging from the dominion of superstition and misrule. But bad as their financial and intellectual condition may be, they do not try to make it worse by imposing a restrictive tax on knowledge. Their duties are small, while our rich and powerful Nation with an overflowing Treasury exacts a sum two and a half times as high as the highest of them, and greater than that of all the nations of the earth added together.

It may be stated that in all the European countries above named paintings and engravings are also free, except in Spain, where a duty of one peseta on each picture is exacted. The painting of Turner, recently purchased by a public-spirited amateur in New-York, might travel free through every custom house in Europe until it reached Spain, where it would be subjected to a tariff of exactly 20 cents. When it reaches the United States it will be weighted with a duty 150,000 times as great, or say $30,000.

This is not a case of patriotism, or of protection. Ours is not the only nation that has adopted the policy of encouraging domestic industry. Germany, Austria, France and Russia are thoroughly protective, but they are able to see that there are other things worth possessing besides money. Expression of the mind and improvement of taste are more honorable to a people than the miserly occupation of heaping one dollar on another. The worst thing that can happen is to let our people discover that protection and education in this country cannot coexist. If we are compelled to choose between the two the issue will not be always doubtful.

Our policy is so opposed to that of every other enlightened nation that the difference cannot be harmonized. If we are right all the rest of the world must be wrong; there is none to imitate or apologize for us. We must accept the pity or censure of mankind, and submit to be looked upon as a superficial, sordid people, devoid of taste and culture, caring little for literature, art or science, and wholly absorbed in the ignoble pursuit of getting money.

It was not always so. In the first tariff of 1789, framed by the wise men who won our independence and who founded our political institutions, books were made free, and they so continued for nearly half a century. The law of 1847 imposed a duty of only 8 per cent, and this continued down to 1861, when the War Tariff raised the rate to 15 per cent. It is only since 1883 that the present rate of 25 per cent has been in force.

The Tariff Commission appointed by President Arthur in 1882 recommended that the then existing duty of 15 per cent be continued, and that books by foreign authors, not reprinted in the United States, for use and not for sale, should be free. In the face of this report the duty was nearly doubled.

By our present law books, etc., are admitted free when imported for any philosophical, literary or religious society, or for any college, school, etc. Why? If we say it is because they are necessary aids to education, then the whole argument for the duty falls to the ground, unless we take the position that although education is a good thing, protection is better. Surely it is more useful that a man should own a volume than that he should be compelled to resort to a public library to look at it. If it is his own he can study it until he has mastered its contents, but libraries are few, and to most readers inaccessible.

Our existing tariff does, it is true, admit without duty books that are over twenty years old, and with that we are told to be content. But this concession is an insignificant matter, for these amounted last year to only 12 per cent of the books imported. (Report of Bureau of Statistics.) Moreover, old books are not the ones we most need. This is an age of intense movement, when even Steam and electricity are too slow. Twenty years count for more to us than a century did to our ancestors. The student, the scientist, the chemist, the physician, the engineer, and even the skilled workman, must keep up with the time, and he can only do this by informing himself of what the latest and most advanced thinkers and workers are doing, not in America alone but in the world beyond. It is not enough that we should have what all the rest of mankind knew twenty years ago. Within that period the wonderful discoveries in chemistry, dyeing, photography, steam, electricity, explosives, machinery, etc., have revolutionized the industry of the nations and altered the map of the earth, and yet our tariff hinders us from reading of these things in foreign works, until the knowledge has ceased to be practical or useful. If we thirst for knowledge of Pasteur, Koch, Darwin or Huxley, we are told that we must satisfy ourselves with Bacon, Addison, Schiller and Jeremy Taylor.

When our present tariff was under consideration in 1883, it was proposed to exempt from duties the publications of foreign Governments and learned and scientific societies. As these works are not published to sell, have no market price and are never reprinted, American industry could in no way be injured, and it would seem to be impossible to object to their admission. Yet the measure was voted down by legislators who were "opposed to importing our literature or our politics from foreign countries." This happened, not in Russia or in China, but in our American Congress.

Our imperative need is that all books shall be absolutely free. If we tax any, let it be those that are over rather than those that are under twenty years old. But if we are not wise enough to make all books free we can at least add to the free list "books, maps and engravings, specially imported, not more than one copy for the use of any individual, and not for sale; books in any other language than English, and books in the English language more than one year old, and not republished in the United States."

Illustrated books and engravings especially should be admitted free, since they are never republished, and they are of infinite value for industrial as well as artistic purposes.

The above law could harm no one, and it would seem as if it ought to meet with no opposition in any quarter. The clause relating to books "specially imported" would apply to an inconsiderable number of objects, but it would greatly aid thousands of students and scientific men who are not generally overburdened with money. Importers should be pleased, for the world gain by an increase of trade. If, however, they object, they should be promptly informed that they have no business to interfere, for we do not make tariffs for their profit. The tariff is for the producer, the workman, and not for the trader or middleman. It would be a novel thing to levy duties to benefit the importer, and there can be no good reason why the Government should tax knowledge 25 per cent in order that some tradesman may be able to tax it another 25 per cent.

It might be objected that it would be difficult in practice to ascertain what books had not been reprinted, but this is purely an imaginary difficulty. Probably 90 per cent of the volumes so imported would be such that the average customs officer could readily decide, from the subject, the place of publication or other characteristics, whether the book is reprinted or not. As to the remaining 10 per cent, in case of doubt the oath of the receiver might be demanded, which would leave only an infinitesimal margin for error. But if a few mistakes should occur, the loss would be trifling compared with the benefits. The whole question finally resolves itself into this: Shall we consult the wishes of a few reprinters of a few foreign books, or the earnest needs of 60,000,000 of people? It is for Congress to decide.

One word as to the duties on books by mail. Of all petty annoyances this is the worst. In 1884 the number of book packages coming by mail from abroad was 69,225, the duties were $10,497, an average of 17 cents per package. This sum was less than the salaries, rent, stationery and postage required in collecting it, so that the only profit the Government gained was in harassing 69,000 of its citizens. There is probably no tax levied by any Government in the world which is collected in such small sums, from so many different people, and which is more than absorbed in the cost of collection.

CHARLES B. CURTIS.

New-York, Feb. 24, 1890.

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Auction Sales.

TRUSTEES' SALE.

Whereas the St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company (a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Missouri, by its Deed of Trust, dated February 1st, 1883, and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for the City of St. Louis, Missouri, in Book 693, page 399, conveyed to the undersigned, the Fidelity Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company, as trustee, the following described property; that is to say:

FIRST—All that certain lot or parcel of land situated in the City of St. Louis, Missouri, and located in Block Eight (8) of Central Addition to said city, and in City Block sixteen hundred and seventy (1,670), and described as follows; that is to say: Beginning at the northwest corner of Clark avenue and Eighteenth street, and running thence west, along the north line of Clark avenue, one hundred (100) feet; thence north, and parallel with Eighteenth street, ninety (90) feet more or less, to an alley; thence east, along said alley, one hundred (100) feet to said Eighteenth street; thence south, along Eighteenth street, ninety (90) feet, more or less, to the place of beginning, and bounded north by an alley, east by Eighteenth street, south by Clark avenue, and west by the leasehold premises next below described. Located on said premises above described are the following buildings, viz.: One brick fireproof building, 45x84 feet, one story high, with basement, having a corrugated iron roof and iron floor, fitted for and used as a gas generating house, and containing 1 Lowe Improved Generator and Superheater, combined, 7 feet in diameter, capacity 400,000 cubic feet per day; 2 Purifiers, 40 feet diameter, and 2 Super-Heaters, of 4 feet diameter, connected together, and having a capacity of about 150,000 cubic feet, each, per day; 3 Washers, 1 Scrubber and 1 Condenser. 1 Tank, capacity 80 gallons. Also one boiler and engine house, 36x82 feet, and one story high, built of brick, with slate and gravel roof, and containing one power Phoenix horizontal engine; one 40-horse-power Phoenix upright engine; 2 double riveted tubular boilers, 52x16 feet, with all connections complete; 1 No. 8 Sturdevant Blower; 1 No. 7 Sturdevant Blower; one 4-foot Worthington Hydraulic Pump; 2 New Jersey Hooker Pumps; 1 Heater, 24x17; 1 Steam Drum, 2'x8'6". Also one 2-story brick office and storage building, 35x22 1-2 feet, and containing one Connally Automatic Governor (16") with all connections complete, other desks, table, chairs, heating stove and heating coil. Also one one-story frame shed, of wood, 20x14 feet. Also one open sided shed, of wood, 60x14 feet. Also one Gas-Holder, single section, 50 feet diameter, capacity 40,000 cubic feet.

SECOND—A certain leasehold estate in that certain lot or parcel of land situated in said City of St. Louis and located in Block eight (8) of Central Addition to said City of St. Louis and in City Block sixteen hundred and seventy (1,670) and described as follows, that is to say: Lots numbered eight (8) and seven (7) and the western eight (8) feet of lot numbered six (6), of Block number eight (8) of Central Addition to the City of St. Louis, according to a plat thereof duly recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for the City of St. Louis, and having an aggregate front of seventy-two (72) feet and one (1) inch on Clark avenue, by a depth northwardly, and parallel with Eighteenth street, of ninety-five (95) feet to an alley ten (10) feet wide; and bounded, north by said alley, east by property of the St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company (formerly the St. Louis Heat and Power Furnishing Company), south by Clark avenue, and west by an alley. Located on said premises is one storage naphtha tank, having a capacity of 10,215 gallons. Said leasehold estate was created by a certain Indenture of Lease bearing date the first day of July, 1882, and executed by Frederick Shickle and John W. Harrison, as lessors, and the St. Louis Heat and Power Furnishing Company (now the St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company), as lessee, for a term of ten years commencing on the first day of July, 1882, and ending on the first day of July, 1892, at an annual rent, reserved in said lease, of four hundred and thirty-three dollars, payable semi-annually, on the first day of January and July in each year, the last payment being due on the first day of July, 1892, and the said lessee also covenanting for itself and for all parties claiming under it, to pay all city and State taxes and all other taxes and demands of every description, whether general tax or special tax legally required or demanded in respect to said premises during the continuance of said lease. Said lease contains a clause permitting the lessee, its successors or assigns, in case of the punctual payment of the rent and taxes, as specified in said lease, to remove at the expiration of said lease all such improvements as may have been erected thereon by the lessee, during said term by said lessee or any other claimant under it. Said lease also contains a further clause giving said lessee the privilege, at its option, of purchasing the premises embraced in said lease at any time during the term created thereby, for cash, at such price as may be agreed upon by the parties to said lease, and providing, in case of their failure to agree, that the purchase shall be made at such price as may be agreed upon by the arbitration, and providing also the mode of selecting the arbitrators for such purpose.

THIRD—Also a certain leasehold estate in certain lots or parcels of land, situated in said City of St. Louis and located in City Block sixteen hundred and seventy (1,670) and described as follows: Lots numbered twelve (12), thirteen (13), fourteen (14), fifteen (15), sixteen (16), seventeen (17), eighteen (18), nineteen (19), twenty (20), twenty-one (21), twenty-four (24), and twenty-five (25), situated in City Block numbered sixteen hundred and seventy (1,670) and lots numbered twenty (20), twenty-three (23), and twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25), twenty-six (26), twenty-seven (27), twenty-eight (28), twenty-nine (29), thirty (30), and thirty-one (31), located in said City Block numbered sixteen hundred and seventy (1,670). Located on said leasehold premises are the following buildings and structures: 1 two-story stone and brick poorhouse, 40x60 feet, one story high, 82x59 feet, with tar and slate roof, and containing one Connally Automatic Governor (16") with all connections complete, other desks, table, chairs, heating stove and heating coil. Also one one-story frame shed, of wood, 20x14 feet. Also one open sided shed, of wood, 60x14 feet. Also one Gas-Holder, single section, 50 feet diameter, capacity 40,000 cubic feet.

Said leasehold estate in said premises last above described was created by a certain Indenture of Lease bearing date the 10th day of April, 1883, and executed by Frederick Sickle and John Harrison as lessors and the St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company as lessee, for a term of ten (10) years, commencing on the first day of April, 1883, and ending on the first day of April, 1893, and the said lessee also covenanting for itself and for all parties claiming under it, to pay all city and State taxes and all other taxes and demands of every description, whether general tax or special tax legally required or demanded in respect to said premises during the continuance of said lease. Said lease contains a clause permitting the lessee, its successors or assigns, in case of the punctual payment of the rent and taxes, as specified in said lease, to remove at the expiration of said lease, all improvements which said lessee or any one claiming under it or them, may have erected on said leased premises during said term. Said lease also contains a further clause giving the said lessee, its successors or assigns, the privilege of purchasing the premises embraced in said lease at the end of said term, at the price of forty thousand dollars, or of purchasing at the price of forty thousand dollars, and an additional sum of six hundred and fifty dollars for each year, and a proportionate part of said last named sum for each additional part of a year from the beginning of said term to the date of such purchase. The said lease is duly recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for the City of St. Louis in Book 690, at page 447.

Also all the right, title and interest of the said St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company, in and to the following described real estate, situated in said City of St. Louis, Missouri, and being a part of Block 1,000 of said City of St. Louis, and being a part of the tract of land conveyed to the said Gas, Fuel and Power Company by deed of assignment dated May 21, 1883, for the full and entire consideration therein mentioned, and recorded in the Land Office of said City of St. Louis, in Book 690, at page 447, and being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the southern line of Market street, as now established, with the western line of Vandeventer avenue, as now established, and running thence west, along said line of Market street, 1,320 feet to the intersection of the same with the eastern line of Theresa avenue, fourth street from Washington avenue to Market street, and Theresa avenue from Washington avenue to St. Charles street, and also Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh streets respectively, from the north line to the south line of Chestnut street. Also a set of 12,000 service, ranging in size from ¾ to 20, of which about 2,157 extend from the mains to the meters in the respective buildings, and the balance from the mains to the curb of the street, and about 1,330 meters of the sizes of 1 and 22, and 2,000 of 1 and 2, and 32 No. 3 and 22 No. 4 gas meters, 3 gas heaters and 6 spiders, and in over 70 No. 1 gas cooking stoves and in gas heating stoves, not in use, and 23 No. 3 and 12 No. 2 cooking stoves and 2 gas ranges out of repair.

All the tools and implements, consisting of tools and tool chests, pipes, hammers, taps, reaming irons, gauges and gauges, vises, rubber bags, meter provers, buckets, stepladders, wrenches, pipe-fitters' clamps, street lanterns, steel bar, service cocks, etc. Also a lot of office furniture, consisting of two safes, two stoves, counting of ceiling, stoves, one gas range, one desk, one table, one chairs and pictures, the same situated at 903 North Sixth street.

SIXTH—Also all the right, title and interest of the said St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company, in, to and under a certain lease, dated May 9, 1881, and recorded in Liber 4, 26, page 15, of Conveyances of Patents, made by the National Gas Company, a corporation, to the St. Louis Heat and Power Furnishing Company, for the improvement in processes and apparatus for the manufacture of illuminating or heating gas, under letters patent of the United States numbered 10,847, and dated September 21, 1875. Also all the right, title and interest of said St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company, in, to and under a certain lease dated April 2, 1883, executed by the National Gas Company to the Lowe Manufacturing Company and assigned to the Lowe Company to the St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company by deed of assignment dated May 21, 1883, for the full and entire consideration therein mentioned, and recorded in the Land Office of said City of St. Louis, in Book 690, at page 447, covering the use of gas made in the process of illuminating or heating gas patented by letters patent of the United States numbered 139,382, and dated August 13, 1872, and the improvement in processes and apparatus for making gas patented by letters patent of the United States numbered 139,383 and dated August 13, 1872.

SEVENTH—Also all and right, title and interest of said St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company under and by virtue of a certain ordinance of said city of St. Louis, numbered 11,336, and entitled, "An Ordinance authorizing Thomas Howard and others to lay pipes in the streets and alleys for heating purposes," approved April 8, 1886. Also all the right, title and interest of said St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company under and by virtue of a certain other ordinance of said city of St. Louis, numbered 14,016, and entitled, "An Ordinance prescribing the terms and conditions on which the St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company and its successors and assigns shall be permitted to lay pipes and maintain pipes and appliances in the streets, alleys and public places of the city of St. Louis for the distribution, supply and sale of gas for the term ending January 1, A. D. 1920," passed January, 1889.

And whereas said conveyance was made in trust to secure the payment of the principal and interest of certain bonds then described, to wit, one thousand bonds, numbered from one to one thousand, inclusive, each for the sum of one thousand dollars, dated February 1st, 1883, and payable, to bearer, on the first day of February, 1903, and bearing interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, on the first day of February and August in each year (said interest being evidenced by interest coupons, payable to bearer, attached to said bonds).

And whereas of the bonds so secured by said deed of trust, 893 (aggregating $893,000), were issued to the St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company. And whereas said deed of trust provides that in case the said St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company should at any time, after demand made, make default, or refuse, neglect or omit for any period exceeding three months to pay the semi-annual interest on the bonds secured by said deed of trust, or on any of them, then and in such case said trustees should, upon the written request of the holders of one-half in amount of said bonds then outstanding, proceed to sell the property by said deed of trust, mortgaged, to the highest and best bidder, at public sale at the east front door of the Court House, in the city of St. Louis, Missouri. And whereas said deed of trust also provides that in the event of any sale by the said trustee of the property mortgaged by said deed, then that the whole principal sum of each and all of the said bonds then outstanding and secured by said deed of trust should forthwith become due and payable; and whereas default was made in the payment of the interest on said bonds secured by said deed of trust, which matured and was due and payable on the first day of August, 1889; and whereas demand of payment of the said interest was made after said interest became due and payable and more than three months prior to this date, and the said St. Louis Gas, Fuel and Power Company neglected and refused and still neglects and refuses to pay the same and has neglected and refused, for a period exceeding three months, after demand for the payment thereof as aforesaid, to pay the said semi-annual interest, which fell due, as aforesaid, on the first day of August, 1889. Now therefore, by virtue of said deed of trust and the written request of the holders of upward of one-half in amount of said bonds secured by said deed of trust and outstanding at the date of said default and of said demand, and still outstanding, the undersigned, The Fidelity Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company will offer the above described property for sale at public vendue, to the highest bidder, for cash, at the east front door of the Court House in said City of St. Louis, Missouri, between the hours of 10 o'clock a. m. and 4 o'clock p. m. of Tuesday, the 29th day of May, 1890, for the purposes of said trust.

The Fidelity Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company, Trustee, by JOHN E. GEST, Vice-President.

Attest: CHAS. ATHERTON, Asst. Secretary.

Dated February 27, 1890.

Dry Goods

ITALIAN SILK BLANKETS, just received, new colorings, Roman stripes, $1 25, $2 25, $2 50. Carpetings, rugs, mattings, furniture. ANDREW LESTER'S SONS, Madison-ave., 58th, 57th sts.

THE BOOK OF OPEN-AIR SPORTS, octavo, 500 pages. Illustrated. The standard authority on American open-air amusements. Rules for sailing, swimming, ball playing, shooting, horseback riding, &c., &c., in full. Sent postpaid by The Tribune, New-York. Entertaining and universally complimented by the press.

THE STATE OF TRADE.

Baltimore, March 8.—Cotton nominal; middling, 11¼@11¾c. Flour dull. Wheat, Southern, steady; Fultz, 78@85c; Longberry, 80@86c. Western steady; No. 2 winter red, spot and March, 82⅝@82¾c; April, 83@83⅛c; May, 84⅛@84⅜c. Corn, Southern, quiet; white, 36@40c; yellow, 39@38c. Western firm; mixed spot, 36⅝@36¾c; March, 36⅝@36¾c; April, 35⅞@36c; May, 36@36⅛c; June, 36¼@36½c; July, 37@37⅛c; August, 37½c—steamer, 35½c bid. Oats steady and unchanged. Rye dull and unchanged. Hay steady and unchanged. Provisions firm and unchanged. Butter active for fresh goods. Eggs strong, 14½c. Petroleum unchanged. Freights unchanged. Receipts—Flour, 6,266 bbls; wheat, 27,000 bush; corn, 125,000 bush; oats, 6,000 bush; rye, 1,000 bush. Shipments—Flour, 15,676 bush; wheat, 24,000 bush; corn, 87,000 bush. Sales—Wheat, 41,000 bush; corn, 116,000 bush.

Buffalo, March 8.—Wheat in good inquiry for spring at —, under the market; No. 1 hard, 90c; No. 1 Northern, 88½c; No. 2 Northern, 84c; winter dull and lower; No. 2 red, 83½c; extra No. 3 red, 79c; No. 3 red, 75c; No. 2 white Michigan, 84c; No. 2 white, 80c, on track. Corn in good demand and prices a shade higher; No. 2 yellow, 35½c; No. 3 yellow, 33½@34c; No. 4 yellow, 32½@32½c; No. 2, 34½@35c; No. 3, 32½@33c; No. 4, 31@31½c; no grade, 30@31c, on track. Oats steady, with a fair demand; No. 2 white, 26½c; No. 3 white, 25½c; No. 2 mixed, 25½c. Barley in fair demand; No. 1 Canada, 65@66c; No. 2 Canada, 60c; No. 3 extra, 55@57c; Michigan, 16@18c; State, 50@56c. Rye nominal. Flour steady, with a good demand. Millfeed active and unchanged. Receipts, corn, 2,000 bush; oats, 4,500 bush. Shipments—Wheat, 22,000 bush.

Chicago, March 8.—The leading futures ranged as follows:

WHEAT, NO. 2.

	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
March	77½	77¾	77¼	77¼
May	78⅝	78⅞	78⅛	78¼
July	76¼	76⅝	76	76

CORN, NO. 2.

March	27⅞			27⅞
May	29⅝	29¾	29½	29⅝
July	30¼	30¼	30⅛	30⅛

OATS, NO. 2.

March	21¼	21¼	21	21
May	23⅞	23⅞	23⅝	23⅝
June	20⅛	20⅛		

MESS PORK, PER BBL.

March	9 85			9 82½
May	10 05	10 12½	10 05	10 07½
June	10 17½	10 17½	10 10	10 10

LARD, PER 100 LBS.

March	5 95	5 95	5 92½	5 92½
May	6 00	6 05	6 00	6 02½
June	6 07½	6 07½	6 05	6 07½

SHORT RIBS, PER 100 LBS.

March	4 85			4 87½
May	4 87½	4 97½	4 87½	4 92½
June	4 97½	5 00	4 97½	5 00

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour dull and unchanged. No. 2 spring wheat, 77½@78c; No. 3 spring wheat, 69c; No. 2 red, 77½@77¾c; No. 2 corn, 27⅞c; No. 2 oats, 20c; No. 2 rye, 42½c; No. 2 barley, nominal. No. 1 flaxseed $1 18; prime timothy seed $1 47. Mess pork, per bbl, $9 85@9 90; lard, per 100 lbs, $5 95@5 97; short ribs, sides (loose), $4 85@4 90; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4@4 25; short clear sides (boxed, $5 20@5 25; whiskey, distillers' finished goods, per gal, $1 02; sugars unchanged.

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls	12,000	7,000
Wheat, bush	13,000	15,000
Corn, bush	218,000	235,000
Oats, bush	119,000	151,000
Rye, bush	8,000	3,000
Barley, bush	24,000	20,000

On the Produce Exchange to-day the butter market was steady and unchanged. Eggs, 13c.

Cincinnati, March 8.—Flour barely steady. Wheat steady; No. 2 red, 77c; receipts, 2,000 bush; shipments, 500 bush. Corn weaker, lower; No. 2 mixed, 31@31½c. Oats in fair demand; No. 2 mixed, 23½@24c. Rye nominal; No. 2, 46c. P