

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

FRIDAY, Dec. 30—P. M.

The improvement of yesterday on the Stock Exchange developed into a strong and active market to-day, Cleveland and Pittsburgh, Erie and Michigan Southern being the leading favorites. At the early session of the open board Erie sold at 97 1/2, New York Central 96 1/2, Reading 100 1/2, Michigan Southern 74 1/2, Cleveland and Pittsburgh 83 1/2, N. Cleveland and Toledo 113, Rock Island 103 1/2, Northwestern preferred 81, Fort Wayne 103 1/2, Canton 44 1/2, Marquette 105 1/2. At the first regular board New York Central closed 1/4 higher than at the half-past two session yesterday, Erie 1/4, Cleveland and Pittsburgh 1, Northwestern preferred 3/4, Rock Island 1/2, Canton 1/2, Reading 1/2, Fort Wayne 1/2.

Government securities were strong, and five-twentieths of the old issue underwent a further advance of 1/4, seven-thirtieths of the first series 1/4, sixes of 1861 1/4, seven-thirtieths of the second series 1/4 lower. At the open board at one o'clock the market was steady. New York Central sold at 96 1/2, Erie 95 1/2, and 96 1/2, Michigan Southern 74 1/2, Cleveland and Pittsburgh 84, Rock Island 103 1/2, Northwestern 33 1/2 (b. 10), Fort Wayne 103 1/2, Schuylkill 10 (a. 10).

Afterwards, on the street, the market was buoyant, under a brisk demand for the leading stocks. Pittsburgh was excited and scarce for delivery, Erie took a sharp upward bound, as also did Michigan Southern, and the strongest shares on the list, and they are known to be largely overvalued. At half-past five o'clock 5 was bid for Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 7 1/2 for Michigan Southern, 6 1/2 for Erie, 10 1/2 for Reading, 10 1/2 for Rock Island, 10 1/2 ex-dividend for Fort Wayne.

The gold market was dull and lower, and loans were made on terms ranging from 1-1/2 to 1-3/4. The opening price was 145, followed by an advance of 1/4, a subsequent decline to 144 1/2 and a recovery to 144 1/4, the closing quotation. The only shipment of specie was \$223,900, by the steamers America, making for the west a total of \$265,900.

Table with columns: Highest, Lowest, Highest, Lowest. Rows for various months from January to December.

Foreign exchange was dull at yesterday's rates. A few important transactions in bankers' sterling were reported. The imports continue large for the week ending December 30 being valued at \$3,728,178 in gold, and bankers, looking for a steady preponderance of imports over exports, are inclined to relax their rates. Leading drawers ask 100 1/2 for their long sight bills.

There was a large amount of capital seeking employment at six per cent, and balances were offered at five for the sake of the two days' interest pending the resumption of business on Tuesday morning. This plethoric condition of the money market is already beginning to make itself felt on the Stock Exchange in a marked manner, which is significant of what may be experienced in January. The semi-stagnation which has prevailed both in legitimate business and speculative channels for the last month is likely to be succeeded by a buoyant and not unhealthy activity. The Secretary of the Treasury has given assurance of his desire to keep the money markets of the country easy, knowing it to be the best safeguard against the decline of government securities, in the face of which funding would be impossible. It is a necessity with the Treasury to maintain by every legitimate means its outstanding bonds at a high market price, so as to induce the funding of seven thirty notes, eight hundred and thirty millions of which mature within a little more than two years. Mr. McCulloch shows by his report that he is opposed to premature contraction, and the example of England wars against attempting a premature resumption of specie payments. Although Great Britain nominally returned to hard cash in 1821, she did not virtually do so on a sound basis till 1823, and the consequences of her efforts to force by legislation what could only be done by the working of the immutable laws of trade and finance were disastrous, and stand out as landmarks in financial as well as political history. To escape such evils we must keep the restoration of our finances to their normal condition steadily in view, and hence a cautious conservative policy must be pursued, and monetary spasms carefully avoided.

Petroleum stocks were steady. At the first board New York and Newark sold at 25c, Clinton 1 7/8, Heyrick 5 1/2, Palmer Petroleum 23 1/2, Philmont Consolidated 33, Beechcroft Run 41c, Buchanan Farm 77c, Central 62, Empire City 10c, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore 50c, Oceanic 41c, Oil Creek 21 1/2, Fitcher 86, United Petroleum Farms 40c, Walkill 10 1/2.

The business of the Sub-Treasury to-day was as follows: Receipts—Treasury notes, \$11,351,321; Payments—\$9,327,855; Balance, \$2,023,466.

Receipts for customs in December, 1865, \$4,910,906. Receipts for customs in December, 1864, \$4,467,369.

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1861. Also the Oregon War Loan of 1861, and five per cent bonds of 1857, 1861 and 1874. The State of Massachusetts will pay interest on its bonds in specie, and the city of Boston principal and interest in coin.

The following table shows the receipts of flour and grain at the principal lake ports during the week ending December 23—

Table with columns: Flour, Wheat, Corn, Barley, Rye. Rows for Cleveland, Chicago, Milwaukee, Toledo, Detroit, Cincinnati.

Liabilities of banking dep't., \$19,220,300. Assets, \$21,000,000. Loans, \$1,000,000.

The least encouragement would stimulate a great trade in the north of England. Secondly, this is a time when the banking department (and under Peel's act, at all events, this is very material) is especially pressed upon. Take the case of last year—

On the 7th of January, 1865, it was \$1,817,953. A diminution of this amount, and other things, will be very different from that which is now the case.

The New York Stock Exchange. FIRST SESSION—10-30 A. M. \$7000 U. S. 8 1/2, 120 1/2; 10000 U. S. 6 1/2, 120 1/2; 10000 U. S. 5 1/2, 120 1/2.

Receipts and Disbursements at the Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at New York, for the Month of December, 1865.

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REBELLION.

Closing Campaigns of the Great Rebellion.

THE END OF SLAVERY.

THE DISTINGUISHED DEAD.

LOSSES BY FIRE. RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT ACCIDENTS.

Governors of the States and Territories.

REVOLUTIONARY PENSIONERS.

THE REBEL CHRONICLE FOR 1865.

1. The closing year of the war opened with a failure. General Butler, who had been the bulwark of his famous Dutch Gap canal, James river, but it failed to accomplish the purpose for which it was intended.

2. Attack of Indians on the fort at Julesburg, Omaha. Steamship George Washington burned.

3. Hood's army in retreat from Nashville, where it was disastrously defeated on December 15 and 16, 1864; received its final blow near the Tennessee river from General Thomas' cavalry, resulting in the capture of its position and other trains, and the entire dispersion of its cavalry rear guard.

4. General B. F. Butler relieved of command of the Steamer Detroit. General Terry's Fort Fisher expedition of Beaufort, N. C.

5. General Sherman started on his campaign through the Carolinas. The rebel General Shelby defeated at Dardanelle, Ark.

6. General Terry assaulted and captured Fort Fisher, with considerable loss. The expedition sailed from Fort Monroe on the morning of the 6th, arriving on the 12th, when it got under way and reached the mouth of the Cape Fear river on the morning of the 14th.

7. Forts Campbell and Caswell blown up and abandoned by the rebels. Monitor Patapsco lost.

8. The rebel fleet of five iron-clads, under command of Raphael Semmes, ran down James river during the night of the 23d, intending to surprise the garrison at City Point and destroy the depots and stores there.

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in the harbor were also blown up by the enemy, and some other vessels were burned by them.

12. Louisiana State ratifies the constitutional amendment. The Forts. Adams captured by General Schofield, and with guns, fifty prisoners and much ammunition.

13. The war between Brazil and Uruguay ended by the restoration of the constitutional government. The restoration of the constitutional government.

14. Columbia, S. C., evacuated by General Sherman and burned. The fire was accidentally communicated to the rebel magazines and the rebel government property.

15. General Joseph H. Johnston relieved Beauregard. Georgetown, S. C., captured by General Gillmore.

16. Ship Arizona burned at New Orleans. The constitutional amendment rejected by New Jersey House.

17. The rebel General Roddy's camp on Elk river broken up by the navy under Lieut. N. P. Forrest. Congress authorizes the issue of \$600,000,000 in seven-thirtieths.

18. General Newton unsuccessfully attacked St. Marks, Florida. The rebel General Gregg attacked General Schofield's forces near Kingston, N. C.

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