REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS.

New Buildings in the City—How They are Constructed—Their Safety—The Tenement Houses—The Fire Escapes—Storing of Combustible Matter, &c.

The following extracts are taken from the annual report of the Inspector of Buildings, James M. McGregor, and will be found interesting:—

NEW BUILDINGS.

The number of new buildings commenced during the year amounts to 1,670, being an excess of 480 over the number commenced during the previous year. Of these 1,129 were completed, which, with those remaining unfinished at the date of last report and since completed, makes 1,507 completed during the past year.

THE HERALD BUILDING,

now in course of erection and nearly completed, although commenced prior to January, 1866, on account of the superior quality of the materials of which it is composed, and the mechanical skill displayed in its construction, together with the very conspicuous location it occupies, is worthy of special notice. This structure is situated at the junction of Broadway, Park row and Ann street. Its dimensions are 29 feet 7 inches in width on Broadway, 39 feet 8 inches on Park row, and 83 feet on Ann street. Its extreme depth is 104 feet by 54 feet 5 inches in width on the rear. It is divided into five spacious stories and a basement, the fifth story being enclosed with a mansard roof. The external walls are of unusual thickness, and are constructed of the first quality of hard burnt bricks, laid in the best manner. The street fronts are faced with white marble. The floors on each story rest upon wrought iron beams, with arched brick work built between the same. The floor beams throughout, in addition to their resting upon and being securely anchored to the external walls, are supported by two rows of wrought iron girders of great strength, extending the entire depth of the building and resting upon massive cast iron columns, having foundation piers of solid masonry. The various staircases and entire roof framing are of wrought and cast iron. From this brief statement it will be seen that neither cost nor pains has been spared to render this edifice not only magnificent in appearance but also thoroughly proof against the attacks of fire. A magnificent building has been erected on the southeasterly corner of Madison avenue and Twenty-sixth street for the use of the American Jockey Club. Its dimensions are 50 feet in width, 75 feet in depth and 5 stories in height; the walls are 20 and 16 inches in thickness, and the front is of white marble of elegant design and finish. It is covered with a mansard roof of a substantial and highly ornamental character.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

On the 21st day of May, 1866, the building known as the Academy of Music, located on the northeast corner of Fourteenth street and Irving place, was destroyed by fire. It having been made known to me that the trustees of the Academy intended to rebuild on the old premises I proceeded to hold a survey upon the walls then standing, in order that I might determine what walls or portions of the same were in a condition to be built upon and what parts should be taken down. Deeming the matter one of unusual public importance I invited the examining committee of the American Institute of Architects to take part in the survey, and on the 13th day of June the survey was held, and a written report made on the subject, detailing the defective and unsafe portions of the walls. A copy of this report was transmitted to the trustees of the Academy, and the condemned portions of the walls were taken down. In July plans and specifications for portions of a new building were submitted to me and approved. On the 13th day of December, when the building was nearly completed, his Honor Recorder Hackett called the attention of the Grand Jury to its insecurity; a copy of all correspondence had upon the subject, together with a copy of the report of the survey held upon the walls, was immediately forwarded to the Grand Jury, with an offer to render any assistance in my power to enable them to reach an intelligent conclusion in the matter. I received no answer as to what was done by them. I was never officially informed. It was reported, however, in the public newspapers that an examination was had upon the building, and the roof declared faulty and insecure—in what particular was not stated—I endeavored to ascertain, but have been unable to succeed. I, together with several architects of undisputed ability and reputation, have since made a thorough examination of the roof, and they agree with me in reporting the roof to be well constructed, and safe and secure in every particular. If the Grand Jury had evidence to the contrary in their possession it was due to this department, to the owners of the building, and also to the public that the same should be known. The excitement caused by having doubts thrown upon the security of a building to be used for purposes of public amusement by so high a judicial officer, and the confirmation repeated at random by the press, induced me to hold a re-examination of the building in company with the gentlemen associated with me in the first survey. We found that the requirements set forth in that survey were strictly adhered to in every particular. Some suggestions were made in reference to the roof and the interior of the building, all of which were cheerfully complied with. In this connection I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the willingness on the part of the trustees and the architects of the Academy of Music to comply with every suggestion made by the examining committee and myself relative to the strength and safety of their building. Improvements conducive to these points—durability and safety—have been made in many particulars, among which I may enumerate the following:—The new building is sixteen feet less in height, and does not accommodate within twelve hundred of the number that the old building did; besides having five seven feet doors on Fourteenth street, four on Irving place, and two on an open court, for egress, all of which will open outward, it has a circular staircase seventeen feet in diameter, with an iron stair leading from the family circle, set in two feet of brickwork. The principal lobby is four feet wider and connected with the box tier by additional staircases at either end, six feet wide, of stone, set in brick walls; the supporting columns to second tier are of iron (formerly of wood.) In the matter of warming the building a very great improvement has been made. Instead of the ten furnaces which were formerly located in the basements under the stage for that purpose, heat is supplied throughout the establishment by steam pipes supplied from a boiler placed in a vault outside the building. The gas metres are also placed in a vault outside the building. A brick wall twenty inches thick in basements and sixteen inches above, encircling the auditorium, surrounding the proscenium, connecting with the outside walls (formerly composed of wood.) I am satisfied that the present structure, when completed, will be perfectly safe for the purpose for which it is designed, being constructed in a workmanlike manner, and the materials used being of the best quality, making it far superior, in point of strength and durability, to the building which preceded it. So much public interest has been excited in relation to the Academy of Music that I deem it my duty in this connection to repeat the statement that the building is in all respects safe and secure. Throughout the progress of its construction it has been inspected almost daily by an officer of this department, and such improvements as I could suggest have been cheerfully made, and, in my opinion, the public need have no apprehensions of accidents or danger.

OLD BUILDINGS, APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS TO ALTER AND REPAIR.

The number of old buildings that have been altered during the year, as will be seen in Exhibit H, was 625, as against 551 during the year 1865. For the location and classification I refer you to Exhibit B. No building can be raised, enlarged, altered or built upon until an application has been first made to this department, and the premises examined, and a permit granted allowing the owners to proceed with the work. Of this class of applications 623 were received and acted upon during the year, on which permits were granted in 550 cases, as the buildings, upon examination, were found to be in a good and safe condition for the proposed alterations, and applications denied in 73 cases where the alterations, as proposed, would not be in conformity with the law.

Whole number of applications received since May 1, 1862	1,709
Approved, and permits issued	1,549
Not approved, and permits refused	160
Total	1,709

Of the buildings altered during the year, 364 were raised or built upon, the remaining 261 being composed of alterations of various kinds, both internal and external. Buildings in the lower part of the city, erected long anterior to the existence of the present building law, and occupied at that time as dwellings, are being constantly converted into stores and factories. This has the almost invariable tendency of making the same more insecure, although it is usual to suppose the opposite would be the result, and constant care and supervision is required on the part of the inspectors to prevent the same from becoming in any manner in violation of the law from being so altered. Of the 160 permits refused for the alteration of old buildings, in many cases the owners of the same have taken them down and erected new buildings in their stead, and the importance of this provision, requiring applications to be made as aforesaid, cannot be fully appreciated, as it strikes at the root of the evils sought to be eradicated.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

There were six hundred and thirty-five sets of plans and specifications submitted during the year; of this number eighty-seven were presented prior to the 1st day of June, on which date the provision requiring all plans and specifications for new or altered buildings to be submitted for examination and approval went into effect. Five hundred and sixty-three sets, upon a careful examination, were found to be in conformity with the several provisions of the law, and were approved. In thirty-six sets various defects were discovered, and, consequently, were not approved, but the architects or builders, upon being apprised of the nature of the objections thereto, made the necessary corrections and the same were accepted. Thirty-six sets were found to be so faulty in character that they were wholly rejected. The number of buildings embraced in the plans submitted was one thousand and seventy-four, one thousand and four being for the erection of new buildings and seventy for alterations or additions to houses already erected. The time consumed in performing this branch of the duties belonging to the department is very great, but the benefits derived therefrom are incalculable.

ESCAPE BUILDINGS, CHIMNEYS, WALLS, ETC.

The whole number of dangerous buildings reported and acted upon during the year, including 49 brought over from the previous year, was 331, of which 32 were taken down and 225 were secured, repaired and made safe, leaving 74 cases remaining under the action of the department.

Under operation of this law the whole number of this class of buildings reported since May 1, 1862, is 772, as follows:—

1862	66	1865	155
1863	182	1866	283
1864	88		—
Total			772

	Secured and made Safe.	Taken Down and Removed.	Total.
1862	49	16	65
1863	96	53	149
1864	71	37	108
1865	86	33	119
1866	225	32	257
Total	527	171	698

Leaving under process of removal and carried to account 1867, 74.

In regard to this provision of the law I would state that in many cases in which unsafe buildings requiring immediate attention are reported, the owner or owners of the same are non-residents and cannot be found, or neglect and refuse to comply with the requirements of the law in forthwith making the same safe and secure. Again, too much time is given to these owners to make such repairs. As the law now stands, immediately upon a report being made to this department, citing a building to be in an unsafe or dangerous condition, the owner or owners as aforesaid must be served with a notice containing a description of the premises deemed unsafe or dangerous, requiring the same to be made safe and secure, which said notice shall require the persons thus served to immediately certify his or their refusal or assent to secure or remove the same; and in case of refusal or neglect so to do, or his or their refusal or neglect to secure or remove the same, a survey thereof has to be made, and a jury trial had upon the complaint, and a precept issued by the Court commanding this department to forthwith repair and secure the same. But all this time the lives of passers-by are in constant danger, and the law in this particular should be so amended as to give summary power to the department to make such repairs as will restore the premises to a good and safe condition, and the costs of such proceedings should be made a lien upon the property.

TENEMENT HOUSES.

Of the number of tenement houses examined by the inspectors since June 1st, 1862, 727 were reported by them as requiring fire escapes. The customary notices were issued in all these, and so far as was practicable, served upon the owners of said buildings respectively. In 699 cases the requirements of the law were complied with, and the buildings furnished with proper fire-proof fire escapes, leaving a balance of twenty-eight not yet provided with these necessary appliances. In my last report there were forty tenements remaining unprovided with escapes; these structures belonged almost entirely to non-residents, or were parts of unsettled estates, thus rendering the service of notices, in the manner required by law, a matter of great difficulty and loss of time. Since that date, however, a number of the proper parties to notify have been found, the formal notices served, and in sixteen cases the requisite appliances were placed upon the buildings, leaving twenty-four not yet put up. In these twenty-four cases the necessary legal proceedings are in progress to effect a compliance with the provisions of the act, and being determined to enforce these provisions to the extent of the power vested in me, I have in one instance, when the owner of a building requiring a fire escape disregarded the commands of the notice served upon him, caused him to be arrested upon a warrant issued by one of the police justices of this city, and he is now under recognizances to answer the charge of misdemeanor. Should the result of these proceedings have the desired effect I shall in every case, where the circumstances require it, take the same steps to insure a speedy and complete conformity to the law.

In addition to the 699 buildings furnished with fire escapes under process of the law, the owners of 470 tenement houses have voluntarily placed thereon suitable iron ladders or bridges, thus making the entire number of this class of dwellings furnished with those life saving fixtures amount to 1,169.

The matter of tenement houses has lately very properly elicited much attention from the public, and severe criticism from the press. The recent calamities by which so many lives were destroyed have awakened both to the dangers that surround the people who live in these houses, and when it is considered that nearly 500,000 human beings make their homes in them their safety should certainly excite a reasonable degree of anxiety. These dangers so loudly complained of and so severely condemned have not grown up in our community in a short period; they have existed for many years, and if the public notice is attracted to them only when human life is sacrificed it is not the fault of those officers whose duty it is to report on such matters, but rather from a want of sufficient authority vested in the department. The attention of this department since I assumed its management has been particularly directed to this class of buildings, and the means best adapted to protect the lives of persons residing in them, and it will be seen by my previous reports that I have called the attention of the proper authorities to the insecurity of life in these dwellings. But owing to a want of appreciation of the necessities of the case and a constant opposition on the part of those interested in this kind of property, but little progress has been made and the methods of escape in cases of fire are by no means what they should be. It was not until the year 1860, that fire escapes were directed to be placed upon tenement buildings, and then only upon such buildings as were to be erected after the passage of the act and built to contain more than eight families. In 1861 the act was amended so as to embrace all buildings which contained more than eight families, but this much needed amendment failed to receive the signature of the Governor. In 1862, however, the law was changed so as to compel fire escapes to be placed upon all tenement houses standing alone and over forty feet in height, and which were built to contain or occupied by more than six families above the first story, so that there are at present nearly 1,200 of these fire escapes on tenement buildings, and their practical value is often tested, as is illustrated by the fact that on the night of the 3d of October, 1865, sixty men, women and children made their escape from the roof of the five story tenement house located at No. 195 South street, while the same was on fire, when no other possible means of escape was open to them. By the act of 1865 ladders and scuttles were dispensed with in this class of buildings, and stairs and bulkheads substituted, thus furnishing a direct passage way to the roof, always in order and ready for use at any time. This I regard as a very important change, and it is to be regretted that it only applies to buildings to be erected hereafter and does not reach tenement buildings built previous to June 1, 1865. I am not content, nor should the public be satisfied, with the present means of escape. They are not sufficient, for we are not without instances where lives have been lost in buildings furnished with everything required by law, and some plan should be adopted and put in force by which life will be as secure in these houses as in others. After personal investigation I am convinced that the only safe and secure method is by constructing the hall partitions from foundation to roof of brick not less than twelve inches thick with sufficient ventilating flues for carrying off smoke and preventing suffocation; by making the floor beams of the halls of iron with brick arches turned between them; by requiring all stairs to be of stone or iron and in cases where the lower part of the building is used for business purposes of any kind, the first tier of beams above the store floor should be of iron with brick arches. In such a building life would be secure, health promoted and fires readily extinguished. I am now preparing plans with these points in view and will submit them to the Legislature at an early day in accordance with a request from the Committee on Public Health of the Assembly. If this plan should accord with the judgment of the Legislature, and should it be followed in the erection of tenement houses, it would of course apply only to buildings to be erected hereafter. There are at present a very large number of tenement houses in this city in a very dangerous condition in case of fire and it is very much to be regretted that a provision of this kind cannot reach them also. The only remedy for these existing evils is in compelling the owners to a strict observance of every requirement set forth in the law, with such amendments as may be secured hereafter, and devising some means by which an alarm can be sounded in these houses in case of fire.

During the year 314 tenement houses were commenced, and 249 were completed; these houses, I am happy to state, are generally of a far superior character to those erected in former years, and have been constructed with a greater regard for the safety, health and comfort of those compelled to occupy them. Substantial fireproof fire escapes are put on every building requiring the same, and those exempt by law from such appliances are provided with stairways leading to the roofs.

In addition to the amendments already suggested in connection with these buildings, I am of opinion that the practice of building front and rear tenement houses, six stories high, on one city lot, should be prohibited, unless built fire proof throughout, and the buildings that now are or may hereafter be erected, to contain or be occupied by more than three families, should be provided with non-combustible wood houses, if in the cellars. That the sale and storage of inflammable materials should be prohibited in these buildings, or if allowed, only in such manner and in such quantities as to prevent, beyond all possibility, any danger to life and property.

THE STORING OF COMBUSTIBLES.

On this subject the Inspector of Buildings says:—

The Metropolitan Fire Commissioners are authorized, empowered and specially charged with the duties of regulating and enforcing all that portion of the law in relation to the keeping and storing of gunpowder, fireworks and other combustible materials in the city of New York, and are required to examine all stoves and the pipes thereto, boilers, kettles, and also all chemical apparatus which in their opinion may be dangerous in causing or promoting fires, and also the places where ashes may be deposited, and upon finding any of them defective or dangerous said commissioners shall direct the owner or occupant of said premises, respectively, either by a printed or a written notice, to alter, remove or amend the same in such manner and within such reasonable time as they may deem necessary. These provisions, although not as stringent as my judgment dictated they should be, were drawn by me and engrafted into the present Building law. They were, however, during the pendency of the said act in the last Legislature, at the suggestion of the Commissioners of the Metropolitan Fire Department placed under their care and supervision, and as the number of persons comprising that department was amply sufficient to carry the same into complete operation, and the discharge of the duties incident thereto did not require any mechanical knowledge I also considered, and am still of the opinion, that such provisions properly belong to said department, and the same should therefore be stricken from the Building law, as their presence therein is a useless incumbrance to the act and is calculated to mislead and embarrass those of our citizens who may from time to time desire to avail themselves of the protection which said provisions properly disposed of and efficiently enforced would afford.

VENEZUELA.

OUR HAVANA CORRESPONDENCE.

Movements in Favor of a More Centralized Union of the States Composing the Republic of Venezuela.

HAVANA, Jan. 15, 1867.

Our dates from Laguayra are to the 24th of December, and those from Caracoas to the 21st ult.

All the papers are occupied with their domestic affairs, to which they devote extensive articles.

The *Federalista*, in speaking of Aragua, Guarico and Bolivar, says that those States advance on an excellent road to prosperity, that is to say towards unity, in which the present negotiations are likely soon to end.

The Legislature of Guarico has already named its seven commissioners, six of whom are from among its own members, who will come to an understanding with those of Aragua as to the basis of their union. Aragua will do the same, for which purpose the conferences are to take place in Ortiz, in the territory of Guarico. With respect to Bolivar, its President accepts the idea and will submit it to the municipal councils of the districts. Guarico and Aragua will at all events be united.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONDAY, Jan. 21—6 P. M.

This has been a dull day in Wall street, the inclemency of the weather having aggravated the prevailing indisposition to extend operations. On the Stock Exchange the transactions were smaller than usual, even in periods of the greatest stagnation, and a sort of lethargy seemed to creep over business of all kinds. There was an absence of pressure either to sell or to buy, except to a moderate extent, and hence prices fluctuated very slightly.

The gold market was very firm, and, after opening at 136⅝, advanced to 137. Subsequently it reacted to 136¼ and then recovered to 136⅝, the closing quotation. Loans were made without interest and at 3 a 7 per cent for carrying. A telegram from Washington this afternoon announces the passage by the House of Representatives of a bill providing for the public sale of gold after not less than six day notice. The bill, as reported by the Ways and Means Committee, provided, it is stated, that only four day's notice should be given, the amount and time of the sales being left to the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury. It will strike any practical mind, however, that six days' notice is too short, and that the time of selling and the amount to be sold should be strictly defined in the act. The notice should be published at least fifteen days in advance of the sale, and the amount to be sold at any one time should be limited to five millions. Otherwise it is easy to see that speculators may profit by secret information, and that the public will be constantly in doubt as to how much gold the Treasury is going to sell and the time of its sale. The money market, too, will be liable to perturbations if the Secretary is not limited as to amount, and the mere official announcement of a sale of a large amount within six days would be sufficient to create a flurry on the Stock Exchange. The Senate should therefore amend the bill as it stands, and pay no heed to the wishes of the Secretary of the Treasury in this important matter. Our legislators will at the same time do well to remember that there is more danger in selling than in hoarding the Treasury gold, and that neither the customs nor internal revenue receipts will be nearly as large in the future as they have been in the past. The present act should be so amended as to leave the surplus above at least a hundred millions only available for sale. Gold is the cheapest commodity at present purchasable with greenbacks in the United States, and the government will consult its interest best by holding as much of it as possible. By the text of the bill, which is as follows, it will be seen that compound interest notes are to be received, with the accrued interest added, in payment for the coin sold, an excellent provision for preventing monetary stringency arising from the sales:—

Be it enacted, That after the passage of this act, whenever any sale shall be made of coin from the Treasury of the United States, public notice of not less than six days shall be given by advertisement in one daily newspaper in each of the cities of Washington and New York, designating the amount to be offered, inviting proposals for any part thereof, naming the place and the hour up to which such sealed proposals will be received, the terms of payment, and when and where such proposals shall be opened. Such proposals shall be addressed to the Assistant Treasurer at New York, and shall be opened by him in the presence of such persons as may choose to attend, at the time designated in the notice, and no proposal shall be considered unless accompanied by a certificate of deposit in the Treasury of the United States of five per centum of the amount of coin bid for in such proposal, which shall be received as part pay for the coin bid for, when the proposal is accepted, or refunded to the party making the same when not accepted, and payments may be received for coin thus disposed of in compound interest notes, with the interest accrued thereon. The Assistant Secretary, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall have the right to reject the whole or any part of such proposals, provided that none but the highest bid shall be accepted; and in case of different bids at the same rate, said bids shall be accepted *pro rata*.

The money market was easy at seven per cent, with exceptions on government securities at six, while the discount line remained inactive at 7 a 8 per cent for the best grade of commercial paper. The statement of the associated banks for the week ending on the 19th inst. shows that they are about two millions stronger in their reserve against deposits and circulation than they were last week, the deposits having decreased $1,317,493, while the specie has increased $751,730. There is an increase in circulation to the trifling extent of $29,825, and a decrease in legal tender notes of $10,984. The loans show the most important change, namely, a decrease of $3,903,265, which indicates the stagnation which has lately prevailed both in and out of Wall street. The totals of the present and previous statements are as under:—

	January 12.	February 19.
Loans	$258,935,488	$255,032,223
Specie	14,613,477	15,365,207
Circulation	32,825,103	32,854,928
Deposits	202,517,608	201,200,115
Legal tenders	63,246,370	63,235,386
Clearings	605,132,063	520,040,028
Balances	26,901,315	23,659,414

The action of Congress upon the currency question is still awaited with great interest and anxiety by the financial and commercial community, and business is suspended to a great extent in consequence. Yet the bankers and merchants of the country take no action themselves to force the subject upon the attention of Congress, and the dullards in both houses are oblivious to the urgent necessities of the nation. The leading financial and commercial men of this city should therefore take the initiative in the matter by calling a public meeting at the Chamber of Commerce or elsewhere, and adopting resolutions embodying their views as to the course Congress should pursue. The necessity of stopping a further contraction of the currency, including compound interest notes, except to a nominal amount per annum as they mature, should be urged, and a reduction of taxation demanded. The expression of opinion on this subject should be sufficiently decided and emphatic to indicate the sentiment of the people at large, and the dangers arising from a perseverance in the present fiscal policy of the country should be distinctly pointed out. If they neglect to do this they will fail to perform a duty which they owe to themselves.

At the early session of the public stock board the market opened with a rather firm tone, and owing to the settlement of the difficulty between the New York Central and Hudson River railways the former advanced to 109⅝ and the latter to 130. Erie sold at 64¼ and Northwestern at 42. At the first regular board New York Central closed ¼ higher than at the same time on Saturday, Erie ¾, Hudson 1½, Reading ¼, Michigan Southern ¼, Rock Island ¼, Northwestern ¾, Fort Wayne ⅜, Pacific Mail 1, Union Navigation ½, Toledo, Wabash and Western ⅛, Ohio and Mississippi certificates ⅛. Government securities were neglected but steady in tone. Seven-thirty notes of the second series advanced ⅛. Tennessee sixes, ex coupon, were ⅛ lower. After the call the board temporarily adjourned upon the announcement of the death of Mr. John P. Duffy, of the firm of H. T. Morgan & Co., and resolutions of respect to his memory were passed. At the one o'clock open board New York Central and Hudson River were lower, selling at 108⅝ and 129 respectively, but the rest of the list remained steady. At the half-past two regular board the market was firm. Erie closed ⅞ higher than at the first regular board, Reading ⅜, Michigan Southern ¼, Cleveland and Pittsburg ⅛, Northwestern ¼. Fort Wayne was ⅞ lower. Government securities were dull, and seven-thirty notes of the second and third series declined ⅛. Tennessee sixes of the new issue were ⅛ lower.

At the half-past three open board prices advanced a fraction, and a more hopeful feeling prevailed among the bulls. New York Central sold at 108⅝; Erie, 64⅝; Michigan Southern, 78⅛; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 89⅛; Reading, 103⅛; Illinois Central, ex dividend, 115½; Northwestern, 42⅝;—preferred, 79⅛ (a. 3); Mariposa preferred, 30⅛ a ¼. During the remainder of the afternoon there was no material change, and at half-past five the market closed steady at the following quotations:—New York Central, 108⅝ a ¾; Erie, 64⅝ a ¾; Reading, 103 a 103⅛; Michigan Southern, 78¼ a ⅜; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 89¼ a ⅛; Rock Island, 99¼ a ⅜; Fort Wayne, 96⅜ a ⅝; Northwestern, 42⅛ a ¼;—preferred, 79 a 79¼; Western Union Telegraph, 46¼ a ½. Compound interest notes were quoted thus:—June, 1864, 116¼ a 117; July, 110¼ a ½; October, 114¾ a 115; December, 113¾ a 114; May, 1865, 111⅜ a ⅝; August, 110¼ a ¾; September, 110¼ a ⅝; October, 110 a 110¼.

There was little or no business of importance transacted in foreign exchange, and rates were nominally unchanged. Bankers' bills on England at sixty days were quoted at the close at 109¼ a ⅜; at three days, 110¼; commercial bills, 108⅝ a 109; bills on Berlin, 72¼ a ⅜; on Bremen, 78¼ a 79; on Frankfort, 41⅜ a ⅜; on Amsterdam, 41¾ a ⅝; on Hamburg, 36¼ a ⅜; on Antwerp, 5.18¾ a 5.16¼.

Mining stocks were dull, and Corydon was the firmest of the Colorado shares. At the first board Corydon closed 15c. higher than at the same time on Saturday, selling at $6 60. Consolidated Gregory Gold was 50c. lower, selling at $13 15 (a. 3). At the second board Consolidated Gregory Gold closed 10c. higher than at the first board, selling at $13 25 (a. 3); Gold Hill 10c., selling at $4 40, Knickerbocker Gold was 15c. lower, selling at $2 85.

American securities were quoted thus in London on the dates mentioned:—

	Jan. 15.	Jan. 16.	Jan. 21.
United States 5-20's	72¾	72¾	72⅝
Erie	44⅝	45	45⅛
Illinois Central	81½	81¼	81½

Albert H. Nicolay sold this day at public auction the following securities:—

52 shares Mechanics' National Bank 117¼
100 shares National Citizens' Bank 130
40 shares Kings County Insurance Company 85
10 shares Ocean National Bank 104
30 shares Nassau Bank of New York 108
11 shares Sterling Silver Mining Company 11

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Monday, Jan. 21—10:30 A. M.

$17000 U S 6's, '81, reg.	107¾	75 shs NYCenRR.2d cl	108⅞
16000 US 6's, 5-20 con '62	108	400 do	108⅝
20000 US6's,5-20,c,'65,n i	104½	1500 Erie RR	65⅛
3500 U S 5's, 10-40, cou.	99⅝	500 do	65⅞
23000 T n, 7 3-10..2d ser	104⅛	100 Hudson River RR	128½
2000 do...3d series	104½	500 Reading RR	102⅝
4000 Tenn 6's, ex cou.	65	300 Mich So & N Ia RR	77⅛
20000 Tenn 6's, new	64⅝	50 do	78
6000 Brooklyn 6's w 1	95	400 Clev & Pitts RR	89⅛
50000 Ohio & Miss cer.	28⅛	200 do	89
30000 do	28	100 Chic & NW RR	42
1000 Chic & N W 1st m	88	500 do b15	42⅛
12000 Tol & Wab 2d m.	75	700 Chic & Rk Is RR	99
12000 C & NW con c bds	83	200 Tol, Wab & West R	42⅛
5000 Great W RR 2d m	69⅛	100 Pitts, FtW & ChRR	96⅞
100 shs Q'silverM Co.s10	60	100 do	96⅞
100 Boston WaterPower	27	800 do	97
500 Union NavigationCo	10⅞	200 do	97⅛
200 SoAm N& MarRRCo	115⅛	50 do	97⅞
20 Western Union Tel.	46	100 do b30	97⅛
150 Pacific M SS Co.	161	100 do b30	97⅞
200 N Y Central RR Co	109	100 Chic & Alton RR	107⅛
200 do	108⅞		

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

MONDAY, Jan. 21—6 P. M.

ASHES.—Receipts, 4 packages. The market was nominally unchanged in every respect.

BREADSTUFFS.—Receipts—1,634 bbls. flour, 98 bbls. and 138 bags corn meal, 1,125 bushels corn and 1,150 bushels oats. A more active demand prevailed for State and Western flour, and prices, although not quotably higher, were a shade firmer, the market closing with more buyers than sellers at the appended quotations. The sales cover 7,000 bbls. For Southern flour the demand was quite moderate, yet prices were very firm, closing with an upward tendency. The sales comprise 200 bbls. Rye flour was steady but quite slow of sale. The transactions were confined to 150 bbls. at from $6 50 to $8, according to quality. Corn meal was neglected, and the only sales we heard of were 100 bbls. Brandywine on private terms. We quote:—

Superfine and Western	$9 40 a 10 50
Extra State	10 50 a 11 50
Choice State	11 60 a 12 40
Common to medium extra Western	10 50 a 11 90
Extra round hoop Ohio	11 90 a 12 40
Western trade brands	12 60 a 14 15
Common Southern	12 75 a 14 00
Fancy and extra do	14 00 a 17 00
Rye flour (superfine)	6 50 a 8 00
Corn meal, Jersey	5 00 a 5 15
Corn meal, Brandywine	5 25 a —

—In the absence of transactions the wheat market was entirely nominal; sellers were anxious to realize at the current prices, but there was no desire manifested to accept lower figures. For corn there was a fairly active demand and an advance of 1c. per bushel was established; the sales cover 75,000 bushels, including one load mixed Western (in store) check to-day at $1 17; also mixed Western, in store, at $1 18⅝; mixed Western at $1 20, afloat, and new yellow Jersey at $1 15. A fair demand prevailed for oats and the market ruled a shade firmer, with sales of 25,000 bushels, mostly at 62c. a 65c. for Chicago and Milwaukee, and 63c. a 70c. for State. Rye was held at firmer prices; but, with a limited demand, no decided advance was established. The sales comprise 5,000 bushels at $1 13 for Canada West in bond; at the close $1 16 was refused. Barley and malt were neglected and nominal. No sales of consequence were reported.

COTTON.—The demand for this staple was less active, and a decline of fully ⅛c. per lb. was conceded, the market closing dull, with a downward tendency. The transactions were confined to 320 bales. We quote:—

	Upland.	Florida.	Mobile.	N. O. & T.
Ordinary	31	31	32	32
Low middling	33	33½	33½	34
Middling	34¾	35	35	36
Good middling	36	36	37	37

COFFEE rules steady and firm. Beyond the sales last noticed, we heard of 500 bags Rio, ex Guiding Star, on private terms.

FREIGHTS were a shade firmer. The engagements were:—To Liverpool, 21,000 bushels corn, at 5⅜d.; 7,000 do. barley, at 5½d.; and, per steamer, 14,000 bushels corn at 7d.; 300 boxes bacon at 25s.; 300 bales cotton at ½c. a 19-16d. To London, 7,500 bushels corn at 6d.

Hops were unchanged in every respect. Sales 40 bales, at 35c. a 65c. for new crop American.

MOLASSES remained quiet but firm. We heard of a sale of 100 bbls. New Orleans on private terms.

NAVAL STORES.—Spirits turpentine ruled exceedingly quiet, but prices were not essentially changed, holders generally demanding 69½c. a 67c. We heard of no sales of moment. Rosins were dull and quite nominal. Common was quoted at $4 25, without business. The only sale we heard of was 100 bbls. No. 2 at $4 70.

OILS.—Fish oils were dull but steady, at our last quotations. Linseed was unchanged, with jobbing sales at $1 20 a $1 22.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts 1,675 bbls. pork, 57 do. beef, 129 packages cut meats, 341 do. lard, and 1,001 dressed hogs. For pork there was a good demand, and prices ruled in favor of the seller. The transactions, cash and regular, were 5,000 bbls. at $21 75 a $21 87 for new mess, closing at $21 50 cash, with a continued upward tendency; $19 80 a $19 95 for old mess, closing at $19 87 cash, and $16 75 a $17 for prime; also, for February and March delivery, 3,000 bbls., seller's and buyer's option, at $21 50 a $21 75. The beef market was moderately active and steady, with sales of 500 bbls. at $12 a $13 for new plain mess and $22 a $23 for new extra mess. Beef hams were neglected. We note sales of 300 bbls. at $28 50 a $33 50. Bacon was dull of sale and nominal in value; 250 boxes were disposed of at 10½c. for Cumberland cut, 10⅞c. a 11c. for short rib, and 11½c. for short clear. Cut meats were quiet, but steady. The sales were 400 packages at 8⅝c. a 9½c. for shoulders and 10c. a 12c. for hams. Dressed hogs were firmer; sales at 8⅝c. a 8¾c. for Western and 9c. a 9½c. for city. The transactions in lard comprise 950 packages at 12½c. a 13c. for old and 13c. a 13½c. for new. Butter and cheese were in moderate demand and firm at our previous quotations.

PETROLEUM.—Both crude and bonded remained quiet, the inclemency of the weather restricting transactions somewhat; but the market ruled steady and firm, with small sales of the former at 20c. a 20½c. Bonded was held at 31½c. a 32c. for standard white, and 30c. a 30½c. for prime light straw to white, with small sales. In Philadelphia sales were made of 2,000 bbls. prime light straw to white, for March, at 30½c., and 2,000 bbls. do. (Israelite), 31c., buyers' option.

RICE was quiet, but steady, at 10c. a 10½c. for Carolina.

STRAWS was quiet. Sales 35,000 lbs., at 9⅞c. a 11⅞c.

TALLOW was steady, but quiet. Sales 100,000 lbs., at 11⅛c. a 11⅝c.

WHISKEY.—Receipts, 98 bbls. No business of consequence was consummated in this article. Prices were entirely nominal.

MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

Married.

ESTABROOKE—HALEY.—On Saturday, January 12, by the Rev. Dr. Foss, EDWARD M. ESTABROOKE to ARCHIE M. HALEY.

STANTON—HUGHSON.—On Tuesday, October 16, by the Rev. H. O. Canfield, at his residence, CHARLES STANTON, of New Orleans, to Miss ELLA A. HUGHSON.

SYBYTZKI—QUIN.—On Saturday, January 19, by the Rev. James Millett, at the residence of the bride's sister, CARLOS SYBYTZKI to BESSIE SPARROW QUIN, all of this city.

Died.

ARMSTRONG.—On Sunday afternoon, January 20, at two o'clock, MARY TOOLE, wife of John Armstrong.

Funeral will be this (Tuesday) afternoon, at two o'clock, from 162d street and Tenth avenue.

BOWHON.—On First day morning, January 20, HENRY C. BOWHON, in the 70th year of his age.

His relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral, from his residence, Bay Side, Flushing, L. I., on Fourth day, noon, at twelve o'clock. Carriages will be in attendance at Flushing to meet the 9:30 train from Hunter's Point.

BRADY.—On Saturday evening, January 19, Mrs. REBECCA BRADY, aged 74 years.

The relatives and friends of the deceased, also those of her sons, George W. and Benjamin F., are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this (Tuesday) afternoon, at one o'clock, from her late residence, 265 West Twenty-third street, without further notice.

BOWEN.—On Sunday, January 20, after a short illness, CHARLES W., only child of Charles W. and Virginia Bowen, aged 4 years and 6 months.

The funeral will take place on Wednesday afternoon, at two o'clock, from the residence of his parents, 357 East Forty-ninth street. The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

BOWEN.—On Saturday, January 19, HENRY BOWEN, in the 28th year of his age, of consumption.

The funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 37 Spring street, New York city, this (Tuesday) morning, at eleven o'clock.

BURNS.—Suddenly, on Sunday, January 20, ANN BURNS, in the 54th year of her age.

The friends of the family and those of her brother, Bartholomew Conley, and also those of her sister, Bridget Egan, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this (Tuesday) afternoon, at one o'clock, from her late residence, No. 90 St. Mark's place.

CUSICK.—On Sunday, January 20, JAMES CUSICK, aged 28 years, a native of Kilbegan, Westmeath, Ireland.

The funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 240 Mott street, this (Tuesday) afternoon, at one o'clock, to Calvary Cemetery.

Irish papers please copy.

DEMAREST.—On Sunday morning, January 20, DAVID DEMAREST, chorister of the Bedford street Methodist Episcopal church, in the 64th year of his age.

His relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, this (Tuesday) afternoon, at half-past one o'clock, at the Bedford street Methodist Episcopal church, corner Bedford and Morton streets.

DIETERICH.—Suddenly, on Saturday, January 19, GEORGE M. DIETERICH, in the 58th year of his age.

His relatives and friends, and those of his