THE STATE CAPITAL.

Prospects of the Commission Schemes.

The Wharves and Piers Bill the Only One Yet Favored.

THE GAS MONOPOLISTS, &c. &c. &c.

ALBANY, Feb. 9, 1867.

There is some talk about a meeting of the Radical General Committee, which took place in your city immediately after the return from Albany of the delegation of fifteen sent up here to advocate the various commission schemes for metropolitan reform now before the Legislature. I have to say in regard to it that the representations there made are simply bosh. It is not the fact that those schemes are in a far way to success. Indeed, it would be nearer the truth to assert the exact contrary. The whole commission business is decidedly in bad odor, and there are remarkable indications of a complete revolution in the feeling of country members on the subject. The general opinion seems to be that the experiment of commissions has been given a very fair swing, and that it has not come up to expectations by a great many degrees. The impelling motive originally was to win over democratic votes by the power of patronage and the attraction of the loaves and fishes. The result has not verified the sanguine hopes entertained of republicanizing New York city—the Gibraltar of democracy. On the contrary, the more commissions say some republicans, the more the incorrigible adherents of the innumerable democratic factions appear to increase and multiply. It is naturally asked why is this? And the answer given by the interrogators themselves is that such schemes are unpopular, and antipathy to them will never be overcome until the crack of doom.

The men who profit by the schemes—those appointed by the Executive to carry out the objects and designs held up in commission bills—contented with regaling themselves with the choice bits thrown in their way, fail to make the necessary capital for their party, and display zeal only in one direction—how they shall perpetuate and increase their personal influence and emolument. Many Republicans, and particularly old stagers, are beginning to express their opinion openly that commissions are humbugs and should be revoked instead of extended, if any action whatever is to be taken on the subject.

There are other influences even more potent at work secretly effecting this sudden change of opinion. The country folks, who heretofore have been free from this species of legislative tinkering with their home affairs, are now threatened with the delightful commission reforms which it was supposed were only suitable for the sink of iniquity, New York city. There are a few projects on foot for commissionizing other cities in the State, and republicans find, therefore, that they have been playing with a two-edged tool, which likely to wound themselves unless they drop it in good time. These intended reforms for the benefit of the virtuous people of the State residing beyond the benighted limits of Manhattan Island have not yet been introduced, but they are maturing in the brains of certain sturdy patriots, and hang, like the sword of Damocles, by a hair over the heads of the trembling republicans.

Another cause is the expected constitutional convention. Some ask of what use is it to establish new commissions for the metropolis if the entire constitution of the State is to be overhauled, and with it of course the municipal affairs of the great city? Is it not better to wait and make one complete job of it, and a better job, too, in view of the fact that many of the best legal minds of the country will be engaged in the deliberations of that body? Others take the ground that it is bad policy to pass any unpopular schemes at this time, because the republican party will need all the capital it can bring to bear on the people should the election for delegates to the convention occur next April. They fear the republican vote will not come out in its full strength then, and that the democrats will stand good chance of getting an equal if not larger representation in the convention.

It is almost idle to hazard a prediction, however, at this early day on the subject of commission. The human mind is so mutable and the consideration that may change republican feeling before the end of the session are so manifold that one can hardly come to any fixed conclusion at present on the subject. But this I may say with safety, that as things now stand the only commission bill that seems to stand any chance of success is that which relates to

THE WHARVES AND PIERS OF NEW YORK.

There is a general impression that it will pass, with some important modifications. It was reported some time ago by the Senate Committee of Commerce and Navigation, but has been taken away from the general body and referred to the select committee which investigated the whole subject last summer in your city, and made an elaborate report a few weeks ago. The members of this select committee, of which Senator Pierson is chairman, intend to study the subject thoroughly, and then shape a bill which they think will meet the public wants. A question of great importance, and one on which there is much diversity of opinion, is that in relation to the regulation of the rates of wharfage. Many Senators and members believe in the policy of raising the rates for the present so as to make them pay existing owners and lessees a fair remuneration; and, indeed, the public sentiment seems to favor this idea. But there are others who believe in leaving that matter to competition, and who complain that rates are already too high, while the fact undoubtedly is they are so low as not to afford any incentive to keep the wharves and piers in decent condition. It is dicult under the circumstances to say what will be the upshot of the controversy on the subject.

A MODEL REPUBLICAN DELEGATION.

I forgot to allude to one fact that has not tended to help very much the advocates of commissions. The republican delegation sent up here to advocate the various schemes showed themselves to so little advantage that instead of doing good they succeeded in inspiring nothing but disgust. They swaggered about here, some of them I mean, like Bowery b'hoys, and a great part of the time were gloriously oblivious to everything but cocktails and potations of stronger ingredients. It was only natural that decent country members should exclaim, "If such be the stuff of which commission men are made we pity the poor people of New York indeed."

THE HAY AND VEGETABLE QUESTIONS.

Mr. James Irving, of New York, has introduced two bills of considerable merit, one to regulate the sale of hay so as to prevent its mixture with sand and wood, and the other to establish a law for the sale of vegetables and eggs, as of meat, by weight. There have been many complaints for years of the scandalous habit of corner grocery men swindling inexperienced purchasers by giving light quantities of vegetables and eggs when sold by number instead of weight. Mr. Irving's bill provides heavy penalties for violations of the laws he has introduced. Both bills meet with little favor from the country members.

ALBANY, Feb. 9, 1867.

The legislative proceedings were not particularly lively, novel or interesting to-day. In the Senate few members were found at their posts and nothing but routine business was transacted.

Quite a number of matters turned up in the Assembly relative to New York city interests. There were bills to extend Fifth avenue, to regulate the railroad travel in Front street (a blow at the inconvenience occasioned by the Belt line), to incorporate the Metropolitan Market Company, to construct a railroad in Spring street, to amend the Excise law, to regulate the affairs of gas companies, and to do an immense amount of other things that will never arrive at maturity. Mr. Littlejohn also introduced a bill to provide for telegraphic communication between Europe and America via the Azores Island. This differs from the scheme of Orton, Leigh & Co., in not demanding exclusive rights for the parties seeking legislative authority.

THE GAS MONOPOLISTS IN DANGER.

The bill respecting the regulations of gas companies will be hailed with delight by gas consumers in New York city when they learn that a strong effort will be made to secure its passage in spite of the power and influence which will be summoned to its defeat by the wealthy metropolitan corporations. Mr. Thomas Creamer has the credit of introducing this bill, which proposes to take care of the rights of the public, so long neglected and scorned by the tyrannical gas monopolists of the metropolis. Should it pass into law it will inaugurate a sweeping revolution in the management of gas companies. Its leading features may be briefly stated. The first section provides that the payments to stockholders annually shall not be more than ten per cent on amount of capital stock actually invested, and that the receipts over and above such dividends and the current expenses shall be divided *pro rata* among consumers paying $20 and upwards for gas during the year. By the second section the president or vice president and secretary of every company will be required to file in the city Comptroller's office an annual statement of their capital, property or assets, value of real estate in their possession, the cash on hand and where deposited, amount of loans made and the securities therefor, the number of feet of service and other pipe laid, number of gas consumers and quantity of gas delivered, with price charged; the expenditure during the year, amount of dividends paid to stockholders and consumers, the compensation paid to officers and employes, the amount and cost of materials for manufacture of gas and of labor thereon, the amount paid for municipal, State and revenue taxes and all other payments and expenses, the liabilities of the company, with specifications of dividends due and unpaid to stockholders and consumers, and the particulars of every other claim and demand against the company.

The other sections give the Comptroller of the city of New York authority to prepare the necessary blanks for these annual statements, and to change their form as he may deem fit from time to time; also to appoint examiners to investigate the affairs of all gas companies and to require such statements as to their condition and operations as he may consider necessary. For violation of sections two and three of the law penalties of $1,000 per month are to be imposed, and the capital stock is to be regulated so as to represent the value of the works, property and cash working capital on the 31st of December every year, the same to be determined by a commission to consist of the Mayor, Comptroller and Corporation Counsel of the city of New York.

PROPOSED COMPROMISE AMONG THE UNDERGROUND PEOPLE.

The war among the underground railroad people seems likely to simmer down to a compromise between the rival interests. Last night it was asserted on good authority that propositions for a union of the conflicting forces had been made and considered rather favorably. As usual in such cases, each side accuses the other of backing down first, before the prospect of general slaughter all round in case of a continuance of the bitter strife that has existed here for the last three days. Vandenbergh's friends claim the peace offering came from Thompson's side, while the latter as strongly assert *vice versa*. Others say the war is only a *ruse de guerre* to prevent new parties from coming into the field, and that at the proper time Vandenbergh, Thompson, Wolf, Wilson and Robinson will be found running the same machine in lucrative harmony. The Thompson men boast they have secured both the Senate and Assembly railroad committees in their favor, and their leader has gone home in good spirits over his pleasant prospects. There is many a slip, however, in these railroad matters "betwixt the cup and the lip," and it is very foolish to indulge in sanguine expectations at so early a stage of the controversy. If I do not mistake the railroad committee during a former session of the Legislature opposed Vandenbergh's scheme, and yet he had influence enough to engineer it through the Assembly and Senate, and only failed of triumphant success by a trick played on Governor Fenton.

AGAINST "DEAD BEATS."

Mr. Reynolds, one of the country members, has introduced a bill making it a misdemeanor for any person to swindle hotel, restaurant, inn or boarding house keepers by obtaining food, drink or lodging without paying therefor. The measure has been suggested by some New York hotel proprietors who have suffered heavy losses by the tricks and ingenious devices of a class of plausible scoundrels, polished in manners but slippery as eels in their manœuvres. It will be a fearful blow at the Bohemians and *chevaliers d' industrie* class should it become a law.

FINANCIAL THEORIES.

Obstacles in the Way of Resuming Specie Payments.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

There are stupendous obstacles in the way of resuming specie payments and maintaining them. They not only exist, but are daily becoming more formidable; and they will continue to increase, with their aggravations, so long as the present theory and policy are adhered to. But a resumption being held to be the chief thing to be desired—the only effectual remedy, a necessity—it is to be sought and aimed at, whatever difficulties may be in the way. They are in some measure foreseen and must be submitted to.

We have now a safe and uniform currency. It is denounced by some as inflated and redundant in quantity, simply because they imagine it to be depreciated. If it is adequate to the enlarged business of the country and the payment of the taxes it is because its safety and uniformity make it everywhere current, so that a given amount will accomplish a far greater amount of exchanges and payments than under the former system. Of national bank and Treasury notes (exclusive of compound interest notes, which, like bonds, do not circulate as currency) we have about seven hundred millions of paper in use. The amount of exchanges and payments effected is probably twice as much per year as at any period before the war. That there is none too much is indicated, not only by its being all employed in discounts, but by a large part of it being issued again and again by discounting on deposits and by temporary loans on call, and also by the prevailing rates of interest out of doors, which range from four to twenty per cent.

The chief obstacle to resumption is the want of coin wherewith to resume. The coin which for years has constantly flowed out of the country in payment of foreign debts, and for which outflow the reason is now as potent as ever, and likely to continue so till the foreign debt is cancelled, must be regained and forced to flow back into the country. It must be forced back at par, and in such quantities that it will freely circulate here at par, and meet and surmount all accruing demands for export.

This obstacle is apparently magnified by the present high price of gold here as a commodity for export. But, according to the prevailing theory, this signifies nothing but the depreciation of our inflated and redundant national currency of paper. According to the theory, if you restore the lost value of the paper that will reduce the price of gold till they both come to their legal and equal value as money. Then you can restore specie payments; the paper, however much depreciated before, will then be worth as much as gold, and they will circulate together as equivalents. Magical and wonderful, this painful and costly result! For it being assumed that the paper, by being too abundant, excessive, inflated, high priced depreciated, lost half its value, caused induced a premium coin out of the country and export; and the rise on gold as a commodity of political economy, is thus prescribed, in the name of suppressing the only currency withdrawing from use and scarce, or more scarce, than gold—have till it is as necessity, flow back, fill the channels of gold will, of impart to what paper remains the value abstraction and had lost.

This process will, of course, and is expected to cause stringency, distress, stagnation and ruin—the more widespread and intense the longer the operation takes. We have tried this mode of remedy on a small scale repeatedly for two or three to five or six years, when our foreign debt was comparatively insignificant. We are now to try it with a foreign debt reckoned by hundreds of millions and debts at home reckoned by thousands of millions.

But we need not enlarge. The public mind is already in a state to be excited and alarmed by a fall of one or two per cent in the price of our national bonds in foreign markets, and by rumors and visions of what may possibly happen. We cannot stand a reduction of the currency. If we go on as we are, living and floating upon credit, our debt will increase and our ability to pay will diminish. If, with nearly five hundred millions of internal taxes and customs last year, we paid (besides one hundred and forty millions of interest) two hundred millions of public debt, we increased our debt to foreigners probably two hundred millions.

But there is a shorter, a practicable and more harmless way of alleviation. We want coin, our own national coin. Why do we not stop the export of it, and set the mints to coining more? Why do we not forbid the sale or passing of it at a premium on its legal rate? Why do we not repeal the fruitless and absurd condition requiring our national currency of paper to be redeemed with coin?

These measures would instantly and essentially relieve us. The risk and danger of excessive imports would fall on the individual importers, which would check them.

NICHOLAS KNICKERBOCKER,
Stock Exchange Building.

The Financial Situation.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 1867.

The Committee on Finance of the Senate has not yet made any final decision on the subject of the proposed issue of the four per cent loan certificates in exchange for the six per cent compound interest notes now held as a part of the reserves of the national banks; and the position taken by the leading New York papers of yesterday's issue may probably cause a change in their views on the subject. A majority of the committee were known to be in favor of the proposition yesterday morning; but it may be different to-day. I am authorized to say that this proposition was not the production of the prominent bankers whose names have been made public in connection with it, but was approved by them as well as by the Secretary of the Treasury. It originated in the Treasury Department, and was intended to meet the difficulty of providing for the compound interest notes, $100,000,000 of which will mature between this and the 1st of January next, and as it is supposed that they would remain in the vaults of the banks except in the emergency of a great scarcity of legal tenders, it would obviate the objection of increasing the volume of active currency, which would apply to the redemption of them with the plain legal tender. As it now, the compound interest notes, with accumulated interest, are inactive in the vaults of the banks, and the object of this plan was to supply their place with a substitute which was also inactive. In short, it had its origin in the office of the Comptroller of the Currency; and was suggested as the best practicable deviation from the present law which would enable the Department to take in the compound interest notes as they mature without disturbing the business of the country to any serious extent. The certificates would, in effect, prevent a sudden and violent contraction of bank loans, which would be inevitable, if they can receive five-twenties only in exchange for the compound interest notes; and, as the law now stands, the issue of loan certificates may be issued to the New York banks, so as to make them, in effect, a part of their legal reserves. This proposition will only extend to all the banks of the country what is now the privilege of the New York city banks which belong to the Clearing House. Hence, it is the best modification of existing laws, which would be likely to prevent a severe contraction. The author of the proposition—the Acting Comptroller of the Currency—seems to be somewhat concerned at the HERALD's having characterized the bill as "a job," and hence the explanations given in the above.

COLLISION ON THE HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD.

Fall of a Huge Mass of Rock Upon the Track.

On Saturday afternoon, at about five o'clock, a huge mass of rock, estimated at twenty tons weight, became detached from the cliffs at the Fort Washington cut, on the Hudson River Railroad, and fell on the track, completely obstructing travel until near midnight, when the obstructions were sufficiently removed from the westerly track of the road to allow of the passage of the several trains that had collected on either side of the rock. After the trains coming south had passed down, a freight train bound to Albany was ordered to switch on to the other track and proceed on its route, while by some mismanagement the Chicago express going south, which had been waiting above, was ordered on. The two trains came in collision at Tubby Hook, and several cars of the freight train were thrown from the track. Both engines attached to the trains were badly damaged, but, strange to say, no one on either the trains was injured. The track was cleared of the damaged cars and engines yesterday forenoon, so that travel was once more resumed. Up to yesterday afternoon the rock had not been removed from the cut, but workmen are employed in ridding the track of the rocky mass, which will probably be effected in a short time.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

SUNDAY, Feb. 10, 1867.

The past week was one of great dulness on the Stock Exchange, especially during the last half, when the advance which had taken place previously was partially lost. The railway share market shows the languor that invariably succeeds such a heavy decline in prices as we have witnessed during the last three or four months, and this will be likely to continue till the ravages of panic are repaired by a sufficient influx of capital from outside sources. Meanwhile the bears manifest very little disposition to operate for a fall, in view of the low basis on which the speculative shares at present rest; while the bulls, feeling their own weakness, have not the temerity to attempt a general upward movement, and are content with small gains and quick turns. At the same time they look forward to an active speculation for a rise during the summer, and it is not improbable that this expectation will be realized and that the spring months will witness a gradual improvement in prices. Just now the money market is as easy as could be desired, although the rate for call loans on railway securities remains at six per cent, with exceptions at seven. The superabundance of loanble capital is, however, indicated by the fact that large balances are left with the leading dealers in government securities at 4 a 5 per cent. This facilitates the carrying of stocks by those who weathered the late storm with a heavy load on their hands, and many of the heaviest losers by the fall will prove to be the most resolute of the bulls in the future; for in no other way have they a chance of retrieving their losses. Pending the general upward movement which is anticipated, outside capital will be flowing into the street to a moderate extent, and stocks will be withdrawn for investment; but the progress of the recovery from this source alone will be necessarily slow, and the immediate signs point rather to continued dulness and lower prices temporarily than otherwise. The old bull combinations have been broken up, but a few fragments are still struggling to keep afloat till the tide rises, with the hope of "getting out" with diminished losses.

Should the bill embodying the substance of the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives against any contraction of the currency during the present year become a law, a very considerable rise in stocks would be inevitable, and to some extent this would be the case if the proposed bill to issue a hundred million of four per cent loan certificates passed. We are informed that the Acting Comptroller of the Currency claims that the proposition to substitute these for compound interest notes emanated from him, and not from the prominent national bank proprietors who conferred with the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject; but be this as it may, there is no doubt whatever that the proposition accords exactly with the views and interests of those gentlemen, as well as of all the national bank stockholders in the country. The objection to paying interest, however, when no interest is necessary is so strong that the bill on this account alone merits defeat. The next strongest objection to it lies in the weakening of the bank reserves to which it would lead; for as the certificates are to be redeemable in legal tender notes on demand or after ten days' notice, and as they may be held by the banks to the full extent of their reserve, the latter would employ nearly the whole of their plain legal tenders in loans and discounts. Thus they would not only keep practically a smaller reserve than they do at present, but their reserve to the extent of the issue of these certificates would yield them interest. Another objection to the bill lies in the embarrassment to which a sudden demand for the redemption of a large portion of these certificates would subject the Treasury, and it may be accepted as more than likely that in the event of the passage of the bill the authorized reserve of fifty millions of greenbacks for the redemption of the temporary loan will have to be encroached upon.

Government, State and miscellaneous shares were dull, in sympathy with the general market during the week, and there is no noticeable feature to record concerning them. There was more activity at the Mining Board than at the regular Stock Exchange, and the transactions in Corydon and Consolidated Gregory were heavy, the former advancing on Saturday afternoon to $9 a $9 10 under a strong demand. Railway shares closed dull at half-past five on Saturday at the folfowing quotations:—New York Central 101½ a ¾, Erie 58⅞ a 59, Reading 104¼ a ⅛, Michigan Southern 74⅞ a 75, Cleveland and Pittsburg 84¾ a 85, Fort Wayne 98¼, Rock Island 98½ a ¼, Northwestern 37¾ a 38, do. preferred 68⅞ a ¼, Western Union Telegraph 44¾ a 45.

The gold market was active, and at intervals strong under the influence of the military government of the South gave an upward tendency to the premium, and after touching 36½ on Monday morning, to 39 on Thursday morning. Subsequently, however, the passage of the bill caused the price to yield slightly, and it closed steady at 137. The market has a very different tone, and every trifling fall brings in strong buying. With more than six hundred millions of American securities held in Europe, at least three hundred and fifty millions of which are in United States bonds, we are necessarily exposed to contingencies calculated to advance the price of gold, while none of the contingencies which threaten us can operate materially, if at all, in the opposite direction. The prospect of a large efflux of foreign travellers during the present year, in consequence of the Paris Exhibition, is looked upon as an element certain to advance the rates of foreign exchange and lead to increased shipments of gold, and the existing commercial indebtedness of the country is larger than it otherwise would have been, owing to the dulness of trade having compelled importers, during the last few months, to defer remittances. Regardless of the fact of gold being commercially cheap or dear, however, every source of political excitement occasions speculative fluctuations, and hence on Saturday the speculators discounted the failure of the military reconstruction bill now before the House. To-morrow or the next day, perhaps, they will discount its passage, either in its present or an amended form. Speculation is generally governed far more by caprice than reason, and this applies particularly to the gold market. The demand for gold for customs duties is on the increase, the receipts at this port for the week having aggregated $2,580,000, while the coin interest on the public debt disbursed by the Sub-Treasury amounted to $206,000.

The foreign exchange market was dull during the early part of the week, but on Friday there was considerable activity and a good demand for bills, under which rates advanced a fraction. At the close bankers' bills on England at sixty days were quoted at 108¼ a 108⅜; at three days, 108⅞ a 109¼; commercial bills, 107⅞ a ⅜; francs at three days, 5.13¾ a 5.15; bills on Berlin, 71⅛ a 72⅛; on Bremen, 78⅛ a 79; on Frankfort, 41 a 41⅛; on Amsterdam, 40⅛ a 41⅛; on Hamburg, 56⅞; on Antwerp, 5.22½ a 5.18¾.

The Isthmus steamer (arrived to-day) brings $788,027 in specie. The amount of treasure brought to this port by each California steamer from San Francisco and Aspinwall since January 1 of this year, and for the corresponding period in 1866, compares as follows:—

	1866.		1867.
January 12.....	$685,619	January 10....	$874,764
January 19.....	802,356	January 20....	531,950
February 1.....	953,288	January 31....	1,075,595
February 9.....	1,453,134	February 10...	788,027
Total.....	$3,894,397	Total	$3,270,336
Decrease this year.....			$624,061

San Francisco papers of January 19 report that there have been unmistakable indications of growing ease in monetary affairs there since the beginning of the year. Money had steadily accumulated, and the amount of capital available for loan purposes was undoubtedly larger than it had been for several months past. Discounts on bank ranged from 1 to 1½ per cent per month, with a large volume of transactions at the former rate. The arrivals of treasure at San Francisco from the interior since the 1st January had been rather above the usual average, exceeding $2,200,000. The total export of specie from San Francisco since January 1, 186[illegible] amounted to.....$2,12[illegible]
Corresponding period of 1866.....1,0[illegible]
Increase this year.....$1,[illegible]

The San Francisco mining share market was quite active, with, however, little or no improvement in the prices of stocks. The product of bullion at the comstock Lode during the year 1866 was $11,[illegible]741. Dividends were declared amounting to $1,794,000, and assessments made amounting to $1,2[illegible]380.

The shipments of specie from this port last week, and during the year to date, compare as follows with those of the corresponding periods in 1865 and 1866:—

	1866.	1866.	1867.
Sixth week.....	$30,753	$739,910	$258,232
Previously reported..	3,258,070	2,827,804	3,190,309
Total.....	$3,023,823	$3,567,714	$3,448,541

The highest prices of the leading stocks sold at the first session of the Exchange on each Saturday of the last four weeks were as follows:—

Stocks.	*Jan. 19.*	*Jan. 26.*	*Feb. 2.*	*Feb. 9.*
Atlantic Mail.....	107	99	100	104
Alton & Terre Haute RR.	38	34	—	33
Alton & Terre Haute pref	—	—	—	—
Boston Water Power.....	—	25	25¾	26
Canton Company.....	46¾	45	44	46
Cleveland & Pittsburg...	89	82¼	84¼	85
Cleveland & Toledo.....	120	119	120	120
Chicago & Rock Island..	99	96¼	96½	99
Chicago & Northwestern.	41¼	36½	37¼	38
Chicago&Northwesternpf	78¾	64½	66¼	68¾
Cumberland Coal.....	—	38½	35	37
Cleveland, Col. & Cin....	111	—	105	105
Delaware & Hudson Canal	145	—	145	147
Hudson River.....	127	122	128¼	131
Illinois Central.....	119¼	112¾	114	114½
Michigan Central.....	106	104	107	109
Michigan Southern.....	77¼	71¾	72	75⅞
Milwaukee & St. Paul....	44	—	38	40
Milwaukee & St. Paul pref	60	54	57½	59¾
Mariposa Mining.....	12¾	10¼	10	—
Mariposa preferred.....	30	24	23	22
New York Central RR...	108¼	101	99¼	102
New York & Erie RR...	63¼	58¾	58	59½
New York & Erie pref...	74	—	72	75
Ohio & Mississippi cer...	26¼	24⅝	25½	25¾
Pacific Mail.....	162	158	159½	160
Pittsburg & Fort Wayne.	97	96	97½	98¼
Quicksilver Mining.....	40	38¾	—	40½
Reading RR.....	102¾	102¼	104¼	104½
Toledo and Wabash.....	42¾	41	—	41½
Western Union Telegraph	46½	45½	44½	45

Government securities were quoted on each Saturday of the past four weeks as follows:—

	Jan. 19.	*Jan. 26.*	*Feb. 2.*	*Feb. 9.*
Sixes of 1881.....	108	107⅞	107⅞	108⅜
Sixes of 1867.....	130	130	130	135
Sixes of 1868.....	128	129	128¼	130
Ten-forties	99⅝	99⅝	99⅞	100⅜
Five-twenties of 1862...	108	107	107⅞	108⅞
Five-twenties of 1864...	105¾	105¾	106	106⅞
Five-twenties of 1865..	105¾	105½	106	107⅛
Five-twenties of '65, new	104½	104¾	104⅝	105¼
7 and 3-10ths, 1st series.	104½	104¾	104¾	105⅛
7 and 3-10.hs, 2d series.	104½	104¾	104¾	105⅛
7 and 3-10ths, 3d series..	104⅜	104⅜	104¾	105⅜

The total foreign imports at the port of New York for the week ending February 8 compare as follows with those of the two weeks previous:—

Week ending	*Jan. 25.*	*Feb. 1.*	*Feb. 8.*
Dry goods.....	$2,520,061	$3,152,844	$2,414,479
General merchandise.	1,143,909	1,055,116	3,314,829
Total	$3,663,970	$4,207,960	$5,729,308

The imports of dry goods for the week compare as under:—

For the Week.	1865.	1866.	1867.
Entered at the port..	$757,549	$4,741,870	$2,414,479
Thrown on market..	853,296	4,271,487	2,755,728
Since Jan. 1.			
Entered at the port..	$3,108,184	$20,510,961	$14,343,351
Thrown on market..	3,567,499	18,785,129	11,653,171

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

SATURDAY, Feb. 9—6 P. M.

ASHES.—Receipts, none. The market for both pot and pearl continued dull and prices were nominal at $8 25 a $8 50 for the former and $11 25 for the latter.

BREADSTUFFS.—Receipts, 2,947 bbls. flour, 122 do. and 1,911 bags corn meal, 7,150 bushels corn, 4,925 do. oats. The market for State and Western flour ruled lower and somewhat irregular, though at the decline an improved demand prevailed, the sales footing up 5,900 bbls. at the revised quotations annexed. Southern flour ruled dull and heavy. Sales 200 bbls. For rye flour a moderate demand prevailed at essentially unaltered prices. Sales 330 bbls. at $7 a $8. Corn meal was dull at $5 50 for Brandywine, $5 25 for Marsh's celebrated, and $5 20 $5 25 for Jersey. We quote:—

Superfine and Western.....	$9 15 a 10 10
Extra State.....	10 45 a 11 25
Choice State.....	11 30 a 12 00
Common to medium extra Western.....	10 35 a 11 50
Extra round hoop Ohio.....	11 10 a 12 00
Western trade brands.....	12 05 a 13 40
Common Southern.....	10 90 a 13 20
Fancy and extra do.....	13 25 a 16 00
Rye flour (superfine).....	7 90 a 8 00
Corn meal, Jersey.....	5 20 a 5 25
Corn meal, Brandywine.....	5 25 a —

—The demand for wheat was moderate, being confined to the immediate wants of millers; but the market ruled firm. The sales were only 15,000 bushels, at $2 12 for No. 3 Chicago spring, $2 90 for amber Jersey, $2 15 a $2 23 for No. 2 Milwaukee club, $2 50 a $2 54 for No. 1 do., $2 95 a $3 05 for amber State, $3 25 a $3 for amber Western. The market for corn ruled dull and scarcely as firm. The sales were 35,000 bushels, at $1 13 in store and $1 14 afloat for Western mixed. Oats were in moderate demand at previous prices. Sales 20,000 bushels at 69c. a 70c. for State, and 61c. a 64c. for Chicago and Milwaukee. Of rye, which was scarcely as firm, 6,000 bushels were sold at $1 20 for Western in store, $1 25 for Canada free, and $1 30 for State. Barley was dull. We have only to report sales of 9,000 bushels Canada West in bond in store at 94c. Barley malt was dull and nominal.

COTTON.—The market opened firm, with a fair business in progress, but closed quiet and weak at the appended quotations, at which sales were effected of 1,500 bales. We quote:—

	Upland.	*Florida.*	*Mobile.*	*N.O.&T.*
Ordinary	30	30	31	31
Low Middling.....	31⅝	31⅝	32	32½
Middling	33	33	34	34
Good Middling.....	34	35	35	35

COFFEE.—The market for Rio ruled strong, with a moderate demand. Sales of 4,505 bags, per Queen of the Fleet, on terms kept private.

FREIGHTS were quiet but firm. The engagements were:—To Liverpool, 500 bales cotton, at ¾d. a ⅞d.; 200 tierces lard, at 27s. 6d., and, per steamer, 23,000 bushels corn, at 8d.; 100 boxes bacon, at 25s., and 400 tierces lard, at 25s. To Antwerp, 1,600 bags coffee, on private terms. To Bristol, 120 tons oil cake, 150 tons measurement goods and 30 do. heavy goods, on private terms. To London, 300 bbls. spirits turpentine, on private terms.

GUNNY BAGS ruled firmer, 22c. being freely offered and refused.

GUNNY CLOTH ruled dull, with no transactions to report.

HEMP remained quiet, though firm, at previous prices.

HOPS ruled quiet. We heard of sales of 35 bales at 35c. a 65c. for new crop American.

MOLASSES.—The market was more active, the demand being chiefly for distilling purposes, and full prices were realized. The sales were 670 hhds. Cuba clayed at 42c. a 43½c., 73 do. Cuba muscovado at 42c., and 198 do., English Island on private terms.

NAVAL STORES.—The market for spirits turpentine ruled heavy, with only a moderate business transacted. Sales 190 bbls., in shipping order, at 65c., and 131 do., merchantable order, at 67½c. Rosins—Common was generally quoted at $2 for grades remained steady, the market, however, ruling quiet. The sales were quite unimportant, being confined to 50 do. Wilmington strained at $4 12½ a $4 25 and a small lot at $4 50. Crude turpentine ruled steady, the market, however, ruling quiet. The sales were quite unimportant, being confined to 50 do. Wilmington strained at $4 12½ a $4 25 and a small lot at $4 50.

OILS.—For linseed the demand continues quiet, equal to about $4. Of oil ruled firm: the sales were 125 bbls. Wilmington at $2 75, and comprising 12,000 gallons American at $1 25. Crude petroleum ruled quiet, with more demand, and the market closing firmly at $1 27. Other kinds ruled dull at unchanged prices, reported in our last.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts, 94 bbls. pork, 50 bbls. and 10,000 lbs. meats, 1,299 kegs lard, and 2,232 dressed hogs. Pork ruled heavy, with more doing, and closing at $25 for prime, mess and $25 a $26 for prime mess for March, and $26 for June. Prime mess pork was sold at $25 a $25 25, and seller's option, March, at $25 50. Beef ruled heavy, with more doing, and closing at $9 50 a $10 75, and superior at $28 25. Prime mess and $25 a $26 for prime; also for future delivery, 1,500 bbls. for February and March at $20 87 a $21, seller's and buyer's option. Beef was moderate demand and prices lower; sales 150 bbls. at $17 a $19 for new extra mess, and $12 a $18 for new plain do. Beef hams were firmer, with more doing, the sales footing up 60 bbls. at $32 a $36 for Western. 500 tierces India do. sold at $32 for prime, mess and $35 a $36 for prime. Cut meats remained firm. Sales 530 packages at 10½c. a 13c. for hams and 8½c. a 9½c. for shoulders. Of bacon we have sales to report of 320 boxes at 10½c. a 11½c. for Cumberland cut and 11½c. for short ribbed. The lard market ruled dull and lower prices were accepted. Sales 600 tbls. at 11½c. a 11¾c. Dressed hogs were scarcely as firm at 10½c. for City and 9¾c. a 9½c. for Western. Butter was unchanged. Cheese was steady at 12c. a 20c. according to quality.

PETROLEUM.—The market for crude remained dull and prices were nominal at 16½c. We heard of no transactions of importance. Refined also ruled dull, but firm at 33c. a 35c. for standard brands. In Philadelphia sales were made of 500 bbls. primes straw to white at 28½c. and 500 do. prime white at 29c.

RICE was firm, quiet at previous prices.

SUGAR.—There was but little doing in the market, though previous prices were without decided change. The sales were 161 hhds. including Cuba muscovado at 10½c. and Martinique private terms. Refined was in fair demand and firm at 13½c. for soft yellow, 14c. a 14½c. for soft white, and 15c. for standard brands.

STARCHES were in demand. Sales 40,000 lbs. at 10½c. a 12c., also 30,000 lbs. at 8½c. a 10c.

TALLOW.—The market was dull and scarcely as firm. Sales 45,000 lbs. at 11½c.

WHISKEY.—Receipts 90 bbls. We have only to report the sale of 50 bbls. Western in bond at 33c.

TELEGRAPHIC MARKET REPORTS.

CINCINNATI, Feb. 9, 1867.

Flour unchanged but firm; superfine $9 75 a $10 25 for winter and $9 25 $9 75 for spring; trade brands $11 25 a $13 and fancy $14 25. Wheat quiet but unchanged; $2 40 for No. 1 spring, $2 60 for winter; but at the close 2c. a 3c. below these prices. Corn dull and nominally lower; receipts 2,500 bushels; ear, and shelled 65c. in elevators and 70c. in sacks. Oats quiet; 51c. for No. 1 and 52c. in sacks. Rye 2c. lower; $1 22. Cotton dull and held more firmly; at the middlings could not have been bought to any extent. Receipts for the week 6,618 bales, and from 1st of September 164,030 bales, against 113,872 bales in corresponding time last season. Whiskey firm, with sales at $2 28. Provisions generally unchanged, with a moderate order demand for bulk shoulders at 9½c. and hams at 11½c. All packed bacon at 9½c. for shoulders, 12½c. for sides, 12½c. for clear rib and 12¾c. for clear. Meats—Sales of 60 bbls. at $20 50, and lard at 12½c. for kegs and tierces. Cheese firm at 16c. a 16½c. Butter scarce and firm for Central Ohio, and 35c. a 38c. for Western reserve. Eggs very scarce and cannot be bought below 40c. Linseed oil unchanged. Linseed oils $1 32 a $1 34. Groceries ruled steady, with fair selling. Exchange firm at par and no premium seen. Money market unchanged.

CHICAGO, Feb. 9, 1867.

Provisions continues dull, with prices somewhat easier. Mess pork is sweet pickled hams lower; lard 11½c. a 11¾c.; steady, with fair request. Flour is steady and firm; sales at $7 40 a $7 90, closing at $7 75 for spring extra at $9 50 a $10 75, and superfine at $8 25. Wheat is fairly active without any material change; No. 2 is $2 22½, and No. 2 at $1 87½ a $1 89½ for winter fresh receipts. At the close market prices were nominally at $1 87 a $1 87½ for winter receipts of No. 2. Corn is steady; the speculator's demand has advanced 3c., closing at 82c. a 82½c. for No. 1, and 70c. for No. 2. Oats are firm for No. 1, and 40c. for No. 2. Receipts, 7,000 barrels flour, 10,500 bushels wheat, 22,000 bushels corn, 22,000 bushels oats, 180 hogs. Shipments, 6,500 bbls. flour, 16,000 bushels wheat and 2,000 bushels corn.

MILWAUKEE, Feb. 9, 1867.

Flour dull, firm; $1 95 for No. 2. Wheat quiet but firm; sold No. 1 at 48c. for No. 1, 45c. for No. 2. Provisions dull and prices lower. Receip