CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.—The Board of Health met yesterday afternoon. The Superintendent's report, which was read, states that one hundred and sixty-eight tenement houses, fifty-eight private dwellings, three manufactories and four workshops and stores had been examined by inspectors during the week. Thirty-six tenement houses and one private dwelling were found in a condition detrimental to health. The Board here went into ballot for President for the ensuing year, when Jackson S. Schultz was unanimously re-elected.

THE EXCISE LAW.—The Board of Excise was unable to meet yesterday, owing to the absence of Commissioners Bergen and Swinburne. Superintendent Kennedy, however, presented the names of a large number of licensed liquor dealers, praying that their licenses be revoked, and that thirty-eight of those mentioned be sued for the penalty of $50.

COMMISSIONERS OF CHARITY AND CORRECTION.—The regular meeting of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction took place yesterday. The contract for building a dock on Blackwell's Island was awarded to James D. Leary, at $1 058. Morgan Jones was awarded a contract of plumbing work in the Tombs, for $250. The receipts of the Board for the past fortnight were $77,788, of which $30,000 were from the city treasury. Nothing further of interest came up.

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE POSTAL CAR SYSTEM.—The Post Office authorities expect that the postal car delivery system, under which the mails are carried only on express trains, will go into operation on the Erie Railroad about the 1st of next month. The new system is now in full operation on the Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad, on the route between Washington and Baltimore, and between Washington and Richmond, Va., and efforts are being made to have all the way mail trains on the principal railroads discontinued, and to arrange for the distribution of mail matter by express trains only. The new system embraces the use of the following ingenious but very simple and effective machinery:—At stations where the express trains with postal cars attached do not stop, are upright posts, supplied with cranes for holding the mail bags that are to go on board the cars. The pouch, which is hung on the crane so that it will be very near the passing train, is taken off by an iron arm called a "catcher." This arm is fastened to the side of the mail car over the door, and by means of a lever is lifted out and so diverges that it will clutch the pouch and carry it along. A shorter arm branching from the stem of the main "catcher" is fixed in such position as to fasten the pouch by the motion of the train. Mail bags to be left may be thrown out of the postal car.

THE APPLICANTS FOR PENSIONS.—The semi-annual instalment of pensions to the discharged and disabled veterans and the widows, mothers and orphans of those who fell in the late war or suffered death in the prison pens of the South are now being paid off at the office of Captain Wagner, in the United States Treasury building. From early in the morning until late in the evening a large crowd of these people assemble in the vicinity of the office, take up their position in line, and hobbling their way on crutches or otherwise mutilated, they present themselves for the pension which they have so honorably earned in defence of the Union of the States. In the basement at the southwest corner of the Custom House, on Hanover street, is the office intended specially for women whose male relatives fought and became disabled while fighting beneath "our flag." The battle fields of South Mountain, Antietam, Gettysburg, Coal Harbor, Fredericksburg, &c., all have their representatives, patiently awaiting their turn. Six clerks are employed to attend to the business of paying off the claimants on the nation, the sum paid out annually amounting to over $400,000.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.—A stated meeting of the American Bible Society took place yesterday at half-past three P. M., at which an account of its operations during the past month was given. Proceedings were opened with reading of the Scriptures and prayer by the Rev. Dr. De Witt. From the Treasurer's report it appeared that the receipts of the society for the month had been over $70,000, that a balance of $5,043 above all expenses remained in the hands of the Treasurer. A large number of Bibles, Testaments and parts of the Bible had been gratuitously distributed, chiefly in the States of North and South Carolina, Mississippi and Arkansas. The sum of £50 was voted for the distribution of the Bible in Italy. Forty-six thousand and five dollars and eighty cents were appropriated to foreign work, in Germany, China, Japan, India and elsewhere. Thirty agencies were reported, and one hundred and seventy-one auxiliaries, of which fifty-three were newly organized. At these 3,459 volumes had been sold, valued at $3,259, and 3,315, valued at $1,271, had been gratuitously distributed. An agent was appointed for Mexico, at a salary of $800 per year, and one colporteur continued in Brazil in addition to the agent there. Fourteen new branch societies were recognized in various states. Bibles and Testaments from this society, the French Bible Society and the British and Foreign Bible Society are to be on sale at the Paris Exposition. Notices of legacies to the amount of $9,115 had been received. Messrs. A. R. Walsh, S. L. Blanchard and McKee were elected Vice Presidents of the society, and Messrs. J. A. Brown and D. L. Ross Managers. The printing presses in use being reported as insufficient for the extended work of the society, it was resolved to procure two others at a cost of $5,000 each. New engines, boilers, and belting of improved quality were also ordered to be set up under the supervision of the Publishing Committee, the estimated cost to be $15,000. An old Dutch Bible, of the date of 1777, found in the attic of the North Dutch church at the corner of William and Fulton streets, was presented to the society. It was resolved to hold the anniversary meetings in May next, in Steinway Hall, and notice was given that various speakers had been invited to deliver addresses. The meeting was well attended, and most harmonious in its transactions.

LECTURE ON INDIA.—Mrs. Isabella Chapin, missionary to India, delivered a very interesting lecture last evening, before an attentive audience, at the Methodist church, corner Downing and Bedford streets. The subject chosen for the evening was "India," with which the lecturer dealt very ably and pointedly, giving a most entertaining description of the scenery and the products of the country, its public and private buildings, and the manners, customs and religious ceremonies, superstitions and observances of its people. Mrs Chapin was listened to with marked attention from the beginning to the close, and evidently pleased those present, who could not fail to have been both interested and instructed by the pictures and incidents of Indian life so vividly portrayed by the accomplished lecturer.

ROMANISM IN SPAIN.—The Rev. Dr. Howland lectured last night at Lyric Hall, corner of Broadway and Forty-seventh street, upon "Romanism in Spain," the proceeds of the lecture being devoted to the benefit of St. Timothy's church. He described the varied services of the Spanish Church, which he divided into three classes—those of the breviary, the mass and the informal services. The latter were conducted by the laity, and were in the vernacular. The "fraternities," "missions" festivals and churches of the country were graphically described, and the tendency to Mariolatry universal among the people illustrated. The reverend lecturer confined himself to the statement of facts, leaving, as he said, his audience to draw their own conclusions.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—A stated monthly meeting of the members of the American Institute was held last evening. An interesting paper, taking the form of a letter to Mr. Horace Greeley, President of the American Institute, was read. The letter detailed at some length a visit made by B. C. Townsend, of this city, to the horticultural gardens of M. André Leroy, in Angiers, France, and was ordered to be referred to the corresponding secretary. S. H. Maynard read a paper suggesting a plan to raise $500,000 for the purpose of erecting a suitable building to be owned and occupied by the institute. After some discussion the resolution was referred to the Board of Trustees, with instructions to take immediate action.

FATAL RUNAWAY CASUALTY.—Late on Tuesday afternoon Mr. Stephen Van Wart Jones was fatally injured while transacting some business at the foot of Harrison street, North River. It appears that a horse attached to a dray became frightened by the screech of a steam whistle at the pier and ran away, knocking down and running over Mr. Jones, who was so terribly injured that death subsequently ensued at his residence, No. 49 Carmine street. Coroner Wildey was notified to hold an inquest, but was unable to conclude the case, owing to the absence of witnesses. It will be finished on Saturday evening. Deceased was forty-four years of age and a native of this State. Some years ago Mr. Jones was foreman of Hose Company No. 40 of the Volunteer Fire Department.

THE ACCIDENT TO THOMAS CORCORAN.—Coroner Schirmer yesterday held an inquest at the New York Hospital on the body of Thomas Corcoran, the man who died from the effects of injuries received by being run over at the corner of Reade street and West Broadway on the evening of the 7th ult. by one of the cars belonging to Sixth Avenue Railroad Company. The deceased was attempting to get on the front platform of the car, when he slipped and fell before the wheel, which passed over his right leg. The evidence falling to show any blame on the part of either the conductor or driver of the car, the jury rendered a verdict of accidental death, but "Recommend that gates be put on the front platform of all city cars." Deceased was twenty-six years of age and a native of Ireland.

FIRE IN MERCER STREET.—Between five and six o'clock on Thursday morning a fire broke out in the cellar of building No. 121 Mercer street, occupied by Henry Dorsh as a dwelling and furnished lodgings. The flames were confined to the cellar, but the heat and smoke extended up the stairs to the third floor, damaging the building to the extent of $500. It is owned by George Ponsot, and is insured. The damage to Mr. Dorsh's furniture will be about $100; insured for $4,500 in the Tradesmen's and North American Insurance Companies. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

THE NORTHERN SEALING FLEET.

ST. JOHNS, N. F., March 7, 1867.

The greater portion of the sealing fleet, including ten steamers, which sailed from here on the 2d instant, are now jammed in the ice off this port. The weather is very cold.

DECISION RESPECTING INSURANCE COMPANIES IN MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS, March 7, 1867.

The Attorney General of this State has decided that foreign insurance companies cannot combine and do business under one license.

CONNECTICUT POLITICS.

OUR BRIDGEPORT CORRESPONDENCE.

Lively Times Expected in the Fourth Congressional District.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., March 7, 1867.

Barnum the showman, having become a little frightened about the chances of his success in this Congressional district, has applied to ex-Governor Hahn, of Louisiana, to come to his relief and to make a stumping pilgrimage in Fairfield and Litchfield counties. He promised to defray Mr. Hahn's expenses and to add a per diem amount for loss of time. But Hahn is too old a politician to be coaxed into the wooden nutmeg State for the purpose of attempting to manufacture political capital out of the stock of a showman, and he therefore declined the invitation. He recommended, however, Judge Heistand, of Louisiana, a Southern loyalist. (Who is Judge Heistand?) The Judge hesitated, but Barnum held out large inducements, and the Judge may be expected at the Sterling House, in this place, to-day. What his rhetorical powers are as a stump speaker remain to be seen; and what arguments he will advance to impress upon the people the showman's qualifications for a seat in Congress we shall probably be able to judge in the course of a few days.

BARNUM AND HIS HUMBUGS.

The Woolly Horse.

[From the Life of P. T. Barnum, Candidate for Congress in the Fourth Connecticut District.]

In the summer of 1848, while in Cincinnati with General Tom Thumb, my attention was arrested by handbills announcing the exhibition of a "woolly horse." Being always on the *qui vive* for everything curious with which to amuse or astonish the public I visited the exhibition, and found the animal to be a veritable curiosity. It was a well formed horse, of rather small size, without any mane or the slightest portion of hair upon his tail. The entire body and limbs were covered with a thick fine hair or wool, curling tight to his skin. He was foaled in Indiana, was a mere freak of nature, and withal a very curious looking animal. I purchased him and sent him to Bridgeport, Conn., where he was placed quietly away in a retired barn until such time as I might have use for him.

The occasion at last occurred. Colonel Fremont was lost among the trackless snows of the Rocky Mountains. The public mind was excited. Serious apprehensions existed that the intrepid soldier and engineer had fallen a victim to the rigors of a severe winter. At last the mail brought intelligence of his safety. The public heart beat quick with joy. I now saw a chance for the "woolly horse." He was carefully covered with blankets and leggings, so that nothing could be seen excepting his eyes and hoofs, conveyed to New York, and deposited in a rear stable, where no eye of curiosity could reach him.

The next mail was said to have brought intelligence that Colonel Fremont and his hardy band of warriors had, after a three days' chase, succeeded in capturing, near the river Gila, a most extraordinary nondescript, which somewhat resembled a horse, but which had no mane nor tail, and was covered with a thick coat of wool. The account further added that the Colonel had sent this wonderful animal as a present to the United States Quartermaster.

Two days after this announcement the following advertisement appeared in the New York papers:—

"Colonel Fremont's Nondescript or Woolly Horse will be exhibited for a few days, at the corner of Broadway and Reade street, previous to his departure for London. Nature seems to have exerted all her ingenuity in the production of this astounding animal. He is extremely complex—made up of the elephant, deer, horse, buffalo, camel and sheep. It is the full size of a horse, has the haunches of the deer, the tail of the elephant, a fine curled wool of camel's hair color, and easily bounds twelve or fifteen feet high. Naturalists and the oldest trappers assured Colonel Fremont that it was never known previous to his discovery. It is undoubtedly 'Nature's last,' and the richest specimen received from California. To be seen every day this week. Admittance 25 cents; children half price."

The building where he was exhibited, exactly opposite Stuart's immense dry goods store, was mounted by several large transparencies representing the "Nondescript" in full flight, pursued by the brave Fremont and his hardy handful of soldiers. The streets were also lined with handbills and posters, illustrating in wood cuts the same thrilling event. If the nondescript had made the fearful leap here represented he would have jumped not less than five miles; and if he was alive when he struck on the other side of the valley, I imagine that even the speed of the gallant Fremont's horses would have been inadequate to his capture.

But the *public appetite was craving something tangible* from Colonel Fremont. *The community was absolutely famishing.* They were ravenous. *They could have swallowed anything*, and like a good genius I threw them, not a "bone," but a regular *tidbit, a bonbon*—and *they swallowed it at a single gulp!*

My agent tried "Old Woolly" in several of the provincial towns with tolerable success, and finally he was taken to Washington city, *to see if the wool could be pulled over the eyes of politicians. It was successfully done for several days, when Colonel Benton, ever regardful of the reputation of his son-in-law, caused my agent to be arrested on a grand jury complaint for obtaining from him twenty-five cents under false pretences, and the Senator from Missouri testified that, having no mention of this horse in any of the numerous letters received from his son-in-law, he was sure Colonel Fremont never saw the animal.*

Such testimony could not prove a negative. The complaint was ruled out, and "Old Woolly" came off victorious. *The excitement which Colonel Benton unwittingly produced added materially to the receipts for the succeeding few days. But, always entertaining the greatest respect for "Old Bullion," and out of regard to his feelings, I ordered the horse back to Bridgeport, where in due time he gave his last kick.*

For some time, however, he was turned loose in a field lying on the public road, where occasional New York patrons recognized their woolly friend in his retirement.

MORE OF THE CUSTOM HOUSE DIFFICULTIES.

Card from the Proprietor of the Independent.

OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT, NEW YORK, March 7, 1867.

"The facts regarding the 'general order business' are these:—I found it in the hands of a nephew of one, the partner of another, and the son of another of my predecessors in this office, with certain distributive shares allotted to the proprietor of the *Independent*, a weekly religious newspaper, published in this city, and to other politicians. These facts were presented to me at the commencement of my duties, and I was informed that the profits of the business were legally and properly distributable perquisites of my office."

The foregoing, from the card of Henry A. Smythe, of this date—addressed to the President of the United States—so far as it may be construed as referring to me, or to any other person connected with this office, either directly or indirectly, is, to use plain English, an abominable falsehood. A brother of mine, at the time Mr. Smythe was appointed Collector, was a partner in the general order business in the highly respectable firm of Morie & Co., Water street, East river. The total receipts of that business, as I am credibly informed, barely covered the expenses, and Mr Smythe was early given to understand very distinctly that Morie & Co. would not demean themselves by paying to him or any other person a single dollar to retain it. When Mr. Smythe was seeking the office of Collector he sent for me, through a mutual friend, made an apology for a certain discreditable official transaction of his, and then asked me to go to Washington, and use all the influence I then had with the President, also with the Secretary of the Treasury and members of Congress to secure his appointment and confirmation. I did so, as I have ample proof, have been heartily ashamed of it ever since, and hope all parties will forgive me.

HENRY C. BOWEN.

OBITUARY.

Rev. Bishop Joshua Soule, D. D.

A telegram in the HERALD of yesterday announced the death of this prelate of the Methodist Church, in the eighty-sixth year of his age. The deceased was a native of Bristol, Maine, having been born there on August 1, 1781. In 1798 he was licensed to preach, and in 1804 received the appointment of presiding elder for the Maine district. In 1808 he was a delegate to the General Conference at Baltimore, and drew up the constitution as it now appears in the "Discipline." In 1816 he was elected general agent and editor of the *Methodist Magazine*, and in 1820 was elected Bishop, but declined the position. He afterwards was stationed in New York and Baltimore, and upon his re-election as a bishop in 1824 accepted the position and remained in Baltimore. The death of Bishop Roberts, in 1843, made him the senior bishop of the United States. On the division of the Methodist Episcopal Church he espoused the cause of the Southern portion, and removed from Lebanon, Ohio, to Nashville, Tenn., where he resided until the day of his death. Bishop Soule was a man of fine talent, and was greatly esteemed throughout the country for his amiability of character and open-heartedness. By his death the Methodist Episcopal Church South has sustained a loss not easily repaired.

FIRES IN THE COUNTRY.

OSWEGO, March 7, 1867.

A fire broke out last night in the old Baptist Church on West Second street, the basement of which was occupied by S. A. Webb as a machine shop, the upper part being used as the tabernacle of the Spiritualists. This building was soon destroyed, the flames spreading to the extensive foundry and machine shop owned by John A. King & Co., which was soon destroyed, together with three dwellings on Third street. The loss will reach nearly $100,000, with an insurance of about $35,000. The body of a man was discovered this morning among the ruins. He has not been identified.

CLEVELAND, March 7, 1867.

A large fire occurred last night at Youngstown, destroying property to the amount of $60,000, on which there is insurance of $50,000. The principal sufferers are Packard & Co. and A. Howel. The origin of the fire is not known. The weather is mild, and three inches of snow fell last night.

BUFFALO, March 7, 1867.

A fire occurred this morning at ten o'clock and destroyed the malt house on Pennsylvania street, belonging to H. F. Brigg; loss $40,000. The origin is unknown. A large quantity of wheat and barley was destroyed with the building. Insurance not yet ascertained, but $20,000 is held in companies represented by Fisher & Armstrong, insurance agents of this city.

CLEVELAND, March 7, 1867.

An extensive fire occurred at Toledo last evening, destroying six stores, embracing a loss of $25,000; insured for $16,000 in Eastern companies. The following gentlemen are losers by the fire:—Paddock, hats and caps; Eddy, hats and caps; John Kaufman, boots and shoes; L. Frances, dry goods, and J. Spelman, jewelry.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

THURSDAY, March 7—6 P. M.

The gold market has been unsettled to-day, and after opening at 135, or three-eighths lower than the closing price last evening, it declined rapidly to 133¼ a ⅜, but from this point it recovered, and the latest transactions were at 134⅛. Loans were made at 1-64 a ⅛ per cent for borrowing, and afterwards without interest. The downward course of the premium was influenced by the belief that Congress will adjourn next Monday or very soon afterwards, and that all agitation of the impeachment question will terminate with the adjournment. The publication of the February statement of the national debt was also not without effect, showing, as it does, that the Treasury held $207,271,031 in coin on the 1st inst. against $55,736,192 on the 1st of March last year, a gain of $51,534,839. In order to ascertain the amount belonging to the government, however, it is necessary to deduct the total of the gold certificates of deposit outstanding—namely, $18,376,180, which leaves the sum actually owned by the Treasury on the 1st of March, $88,894,851. Heavy lots of gold bought on speculation for a rise were sold out during the morning, and still larger sums were sold "short," and at one time the market was extremely weak. A slight advance in the rates of foreign exchange, however, induced many of the bears to "cover" their contracts; and, the tide having turned, the reaction was assisted by reports from Washington of a rather stormy discussion in the House of Representatives on impeachment. It is generally expected, nevertheless, that the adjournment of Congress will result in a lower range of the premium, and the temper of the market is decidedly bearish.

The total amount of gold certificates issued and redeemed by the Sub-Treasury, together with the balance unredeemed on the 2d instant is thus stated:—

	Issued.	*Redeemed.*	*Outstanding.*
20s	$276,720	$171,900	$104,820
100s	4,867,700	3,146,100	1,721,600
500s	587,000	228,000	359,000
1,000s	22,917,000	19,073,000	3,844,000
5,000s	144,385,000	129,150,000	15,535,000
10,000s	5,000,000	5,000,000	—
Total	$178,533,420	$156,769,000	$21,564,420

Speculation on the Stock Exchange was very languid early in the day, but in the afternoon the prospects of early adjournment of Congress was construed as favorable to an advance in prices, by removing popular apprehensions of impending trouble, and the railway share market experienced a general improvement. There was no noticeable change in the supply of money, although the loans at seven per cent were more numerous than of late, and six, with exceptions at seven, was paid on government securities as well as railway collaterals. First class houses were freely supplied, as a rule, at six, but there were few or no transactions at five as was the case some days ago. The rate of discount for the best grade of commercial paper at sixty days, and three months, remains at seven per cent, and for longer dates 7½ a 8.

At the ten o'clock session of the open board railway shares were steady. New York Central sold at 101⅝ a ¾; Erie, 53¾; Reading, 101; Michigan Southern, 71⅛; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 79¾; Northwestern, 33⅛; do. preferred, 60¼ a ⅜; Rock Island, 93½; Fort Wayne, 93⅞; Atlantic Mail 86 a 87½. At the first regular board the market was dull and without material change as to prices. The steamship shares were firmer, and Atlantic Mail sold up to 87. New York Central closed ½ higher than at the same time yesterday, Erie ⅛, Michigan Southern ⅜, Cleveland and Toledo ¼, Northwestern ½, do. preferred ¼, Fort Wayne ⅛, Pacific Mail 1, Atlantic Mail 8, Quicksilver 1, Canton ¼, Western Union Telegraph 1. Hudson River was ⅛ lower, Reading ⅛, Illinois Central ⅛, Ohio and Mississippi certificates ⅛. Government securities were neglected. Tennessee sixes of the new issue declined ¼. At the one o'clock session of the open board the market continued dull but steady. New York Central sold at 101⅛ (b. 3); Erie, 53¾; Michigan Southern, 70⅞; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 79⅝ a ¾; Rock Island, 93; Northwestern, 33½; do. preferred, 60½; Fort Wayne, 93¾; Atlantic Mail, 86¾.

At the half-past two regular board the speculative feeling was stronger and the tendency of prices was upward. New York Central closed ½ higher than at the first regular board, Erie ⅛, Reading ½, Michigan Southern ¼, Rock Island ⅛, Northwestern ⅛, do. preferred ⅛, Fort Wayne ⅛, Toledo, Wabash and Western ⅜, Atlantic Mail ¼. Illinois Central was ⅛ lower, Western Union Telegraph ¼. Government securities were inactive. At the half-past three open board the improvement made further progress, and New York Central sold at 101⅜; Erie, 53¾; Michigan Southern, 70⅞ a 71⅛; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 79⅞ (b. 3); Rock Island, 93⅜ a ⅝; Northwestern, 33⅜ a ⅝; do. preferred, 61 a 61¼; Fort Wayne, 93⅞ a 94⅛; Atlantic Mail, 88⅜; Pacific Mail, 123 a 124½; Western Union Telegraph, 41⅝. Subsequently the market showed increasing firmness, and at half-past five the following quotations were current:—New York Central, 102 a ⅛; Erie, 54⅛ a ⅜; Reading, 101⅝ a ¾; Michigan Southern, 71⅞ a ⅝; Illinois Central, 115; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 80 a ⅝; Rock Island, 94 a ⅛; Fort Wayne, 94 a ½; Northwestern, 34⅛ a ⅜; do. preferred, 61⅛ a ⅜; Western Union Telegraph, 41⅜ a ⅞; Pacific Mail, 123 a 124; Atlantic Mail, 88⅛ a ¾; Ohio and Mississippi certificates, 26⅛ a ⅛.

The foreign exchange market was firm under a demand for bills, stimulated by the decline in gold. Bankers' bills on England at sixty days were quoted at the close at 108⅝ a ¾; at three days, 109⅛ a 109⅜; commercial bills 108 a 108⅛; francs at sixty days, 5.17⅝ a 5.22½; at three days, 5.13¾ a 5.15; bills on Berlin, 71⅝ a 72; on Bremen, 78 a 78⅝; on Frankfort, 40⅝ a 41; on Amsterdam, 40¾ a 41⅛; on Hamburg, 37⅛ a 38⅜; on Antwerp, 5.22½ a 5.20. A brisk demand for United States bonds in Europe is anticipated by most of the foreign bankers as one result of the adjournment of Congress without doing anything towards impeachment, and considerable amounts are now being bought for exportation on this theory, which is favored by the extreme abundance of money and the low rates of interest current there.

Mining shares were active but irregular. At the first board Consolidated Gregory Gold closed $1 15 lower than at the second board yesterday, selling at $10; Davidson Copper 5c., selling at 90c.; Smith & Parmelee 15c., selling at $5 85. Quartz Hill was 5c. higher, selling at $4. At the second board Consolidated Gregory Gold closed $1 45 higher than at the first regular board, selling at $11 45; Smith & Parmelee 10c., selling at $5 95. Columbian Gold and Silver was 45c. lower, selling at $2 45.

The statement of the national debt for the month of February shows that the total amount less the cash in the Treasury decreased $12,585,859 between the 1st of February and the 1st of March; but if we exclude the amount in the Treasury at each of these dates the debt shows an increase of $4,813,750. The volume of legal tender notes has been reduced to the extent of $5,191,464, and this feature of the statement is commented upon in terms the reverse of complimentary to the judgment and policy of the Secretary of the Treasury. It is argued that a contraction of the currency at present is damaging to the material interests of the country and calculated to aggravate the depression which for some time past has prevailed in all departments of trade. The secret manipulations of the public securities involved in the present method of funding have been going forward actively, the Treasury having sold $44,809,500 of five-twenty bonds during the month, and bought $30,888,050 of seven-thirty notes. The reduction of the total debt, exclusive of the amount in the Treasury, since the 1st of March, 1866, has been $131,086,110. The totals of the two statements are:—

	February 1.	*March 1.*
DEBT BEARING COIN INTEREST.		
Five per cent bonds	$198,091,350	$198,091,350
Six per cent bonds of 1867 and 1868	15,779,441	15,679,141
Six per cent bonds, 1881	283,745,250	283,745,400
Six per cent 5-20 bonds	910,029,500	954,839,000
Navy pension fund	12,500,000	12,500,000
Total	$1,420,145,541	$1,464,855,191
DEBT BEARING CURRENCY INTEREST.		
Six per cent bonds	$12,922,000	$12,922,000
Three year compound interest notes	143,064,640	141,308,830
Three year 7-30 notes	653,686,100	632,798,050
Total	$819,672,740	$787,028,880
Matured debt not presented for payment	$15,791,454	$14,576,689
DEBT BEARING NO INTEREST.		
United States notes	$381,427,090	$376,235,626
Fractional currency	28,743,733	29,514,722
Gold certif's of deposit	19,992,980	18,376,180
Total	$430,163,803	$424,126,528
Total debt	$2,685,773,539	$2,690,587,289
AMOUNT IN TREASURY.		
Coin	$97,354,603	$107,271,031
Currency	45,069,187	52,552,368
Total	$142,423,791	$159,823,399
Amount of debt less cash in Treasury	$2,543,349,748	$2,530,763,889

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

THURSDAY, March 7—10 A. M.

$1000 U S 6's, 5-20 reg	105½	50 sh Pacific Mail	119⅝		
$6500 Tr n, 7-3-10, 1st c	105	200 N Y Central RR	101⅛		
4000 Tenn 6's, new	62¾	100 do	101⅛		
7000 Tenn 6's, ex cou	62	300 do	101⅛		
25000 Missouri 6's	90	200 Erie RR	53¾		
10000 Ohio & Miss cer	23¾	100 do	53¾		
25000 do	23¾	100 do	53¾		
10000 Mich Sou & I ist	90	200 do	53¾		
1000 do	90¼	100 do	53¾		
4000 Ill Central bonds	109½	100 Hudson River RR	136⅛		
1000 Chic & Alton inc b	91	100 Mil & St Paul pref	53¾		
45 shs Bank of Com	115½	200 Reading RR	101		
20 Bank of Republic	114	200 do	101⅛		
40 Fourth National Bk	104¼	400 do	101		
14 Metropolitan Bank	124	100 Mich So & N Ind RR	71⅛		
40 Union Trust Co	110	100 do	71		
50 Manhattan Gas Co	170	100 Ill Central RR	114⅛		
46 Del & Hudson Canal	145	100 do	114⅛		
100 Wells, Fargo Ex	57⅛	10 Clev, Col & Cin RR	99⅛		
112 Pa Coal Co	150	800 Chic & N W RR	85⅛		
34 West Union Tel	41	100 do	85⅛		
100 do	41⅛	50 do	85⅛		
100 do	41⅛	200 Chic & N western pfd	60		
100 do	41⅛	500 do	60⅛		
100 do	41⅛	100 do	60⅛		
200 Canton Company	44⅛	300 do	60⅛		
100 Quicksilver Mg Co	36	200 do	60⅛		
800 Atlantic M SS Co	87	20 Stonington RR	90		
100 do	86⅛	250 Cleve & Tol RR	116⅛		
200 do	86	200 do	116⅛		
100 do	86⅛	200 do	116⅛		
100 do	87	1600 Chic & Rk Is RR	86		
200 Ashburton Coal Co	9½	200 do	92⅛		
100 Boston Water Pr	24⅛	100 Tol, Wab & West RR	34⅛		
200 Pacific Mail SS Co	119	200 do	34⅛		
100 do	119⅛	1200 Pitt, Ft W & Ch RR	93⅛		
1000 do	119	200 Alton & T Hau RR	30⅛		
10 do	119⅛	27 Mar & Cin 1st pfd	25		

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THURSDAY, March 7, 1867.

BREADSTUFFS.—Receipts, 881 bbls. flour, 1,010 bags corn meal, 14,660 bushels corn and 3,150 do. oats. The demand for State and Western flour was limited, but holders were unwilling to grant concessions in order to effect sales, and prices at the close were firm. The sales comprise 4,500 bbls. at the appended quotations. Southern flour was dull but steady, with sales of 250 bbls. Rye flour was in fair demand and full prices were realized. The sales cover 500 bbls. at from $7 to $8. Corn meal was inactive but steady. We note sales of 200 bbls., including Brandywine, at $5 50 and calorie at $5 25. We quote:—

Superfine and Western	$8 50 a	9 75
Extra State	9 85 a	10 70
Choice State	10 85 a	11 40
Common to medium extra Western	9 80 a	10 75
Extra round hoop Ohio	10 60 a	11 50
Western trade brands	11 55 a	12 50
Common Southern	10 20 a	11 50
Fancy and extra do	11 90 a	16 50
Rye flour (superfine)	7 00 a	8 00
Corn meal, Jersey	5 00 a	5 15
Corn meal, Brandywine	5 40 a	5 50

Wheat was neglected, and prices had a downward tendency. The sales were about 3,000 bushels, at $2 05 for No. 3 Milwaukee and $2 30 for No. 2 Milwaukee. Corn was dull and 2c. lower, closing at $1 07 a $1 09 for mixed Western in store and afloat. The transactions comprise about 75,000 bushels at $1 07 for mixed Western in store, $1 10 a $1 10½ for do. afloat, and $1 08½ for Western yellow in store. Oats were slow of sale and nominal at a slight decline. We note sales of 25,000 bushels at 59c. a 62c. for Western and 63c. a 70c. for State. Rye was inactive and heavy; sales were made of 5,000 bushels Western at $1 11 a $1 15. A more active demand prevailed for barley; sales amounted to nearly 46,000 bushels, at $1 65 a $1 75 for State and $1 18 a $1 21 for Canada West, duty paid. Malt was inactive, 2,000 bushels State realized $1 35.

COTTON.—Under the decline in gold, and the unfavorable cable advices from Liverpool, the market ruled heavy and fully ⅛c. lower, and even a further concession was granted in some instances. The demand, however, was slightly more active in the sales footing up 2,500 bales. The market closed dull and entirely nominal at our quotations. We quote:

	Upland.	*Florida.*	*Mobile.*	*N.O.& T.*
Ordinary	25	2[illegible]	26	27
Low middling	28	28½	29	29
Middling	30	30½	31	31½
Good middling	32	32	33	34

COFFEE.—The market for Rio ruled steady, though we heard of no transactions. Other kinds ruled dull and nominal.

FREIGHTS were quiet. The engagements were:—To Liverpool, 800 bales cotton at ⅝d. a 7-16d.; 100 tierces lard at 30s.; 250 do. lard on private terms; and, per steamer, 1,000 bales cotton at ⅝d. a 11-16d.; 100 tierces beef, do. To London, per steamer, 5,000 bushels barley on private terms; 1,000 boxes cheese at 50s.; 47 boxes bacon, 45s.; 116 bbls. pork, 6s.; 280 tierces beef, 8s. a 8s. 6d.; 10 tons lard, 50s.; 80 cases tobacco at 5s.; 130 ⅝ boxes do. 3s.; 20 hhds. do. at 40s.; and 100 tons measurement goods at 40s. a 50s. To Bremen, per steamer, 150 bales cotton at 15-16c. and 50 do. domestics at 50c. The charters were:—A brig to Rio, flour and other merchandise, a 80c., gold, per bbl., or per 6 cubic feet; a schooner to the south side Cuba, in ballast, and back with about 600 hhds. molasses under deck, at $4 50; a British bark to Marseilles, petroleum, and one from Philadelphia to the United Kingdom, Continent, or to the Baltic, 1,600 bbls. petroleum, on private terms.

GUNNY BAGS ruled dull, but steady at 22½c.

GUNNY CLOTH remained unchanged at last quotations.

HEMP.—Manilla was firmly held at 12c. gold, though we heard of no transactions. Other kinds also ruled dull.

HOPS.—The demand was moderate, owing to the inclement weather. Sales only 40 bales, at 30c. a 50c. for new crop American.

MOLASSES ruled dull, but steady in value. We heard of no important sales.

NAVAL STORES.—The market for spirits turpentine ruled firm, with a moderate demand. The sales comprised 300 bbls. in merchantable order, at 71c. Rosins were quiet, though values were not essentially unchanged. Common was quoted $4 12½ a $4 25. The sales were 750 bbls. No. 2, at $4 50 a $5; 250 do. No. 1 at $6 06½ a $6 50, and 250 do. strained at $4 25. Tar was dull and nominal.

OILS.—Linseed was more active, but at slightly easier rates. Sales 25,000 gallons, on the English point at $1 35. Crushed seed prices $1 35 a $1 37. Fish oils remained dull, but steady, at previous quotations.

PETROLEUM.—Crude ruled dull and heavy and quite nominal at 16c., in bbls., for regular gravity. The only transactions we heard of were 1,000 bbls., in bulk, 40 a 47 gravity, on private terms, and 250 bbls., in bulk, 48 a 50 gravity, at 17c. a 17½c., in prime shipping order. Bonded ruled dull and lower; 27c. was the nominal price for standard white, with small sales at this figure. In Philadelphia sales were made of 1,000 bbls. standard white at 27½c. and 2,000 do. do., for all the year, at 28c.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts 104 bbls. pork, 78 do. beef, 813 pkgs. cut meats, 1,667 bbls. lard and 519 dressed hogs. The pork market ruled rather more steady, though the demand was light. New mess closed at $22 10 for Western. The sales for immediate delivery comprise 3,000 bbls., including new mess at $21 87 a $22 12½; old do. at $20 50 a $21 12, prime at $17 00 a $17 25 and prime mess at $19 75 a $20 50. For delivery in March and April, seller's and buyer's option, 3,000 bbls. new mess were disposed of at $22 a $22 25. The demand for beef was moderate at unchanged prices. The sales were 425 bbls. at $17 a $20 for new extra mess, and $12 a $18 for new plain do. Of beef hams, sales were made to the extent of 220 bbls. at $35 a $38 50. Bacon was heavy, and but little doing. The sales were confined to 400 boxes at 12¾c. for long cut hams, and 10c. a 10½c. for Cumberland. The demand for cut meats was moderately active, at about former prices. Sales 300 packages, at 11½c. a 13¾c. for hams, and 9c. a 11c. for shoulders. Dressed hogs ruled steady at 10½c. a 11c. for city, and 9¾c. a 10c. for Western. There was but little activity in the lard market, and lower prices were accepted. Sales were limited to 350 bbls., at 12¾c. a 13¼c. for new, and 11¾c. a 12¾c. for old. Butter was dull at 22c. a 35c. for State, and 12c. a 20c. for Western. Cheese ruled dull and heavy at 14c. a 19c. for common to prime.

RICE was dull, and we heard of no sales. We quote Carolina at 10½c. a 10¾c.

STEARINE.—We only heard sales of 39,000 lbs., at 11c. a 12½c.; also 9,000 lbs. grease, at 8½