FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

SATURDAY, Jan. 2—6 P. M.

The figures of the weekly bank statement, showing a very flattering condition of affairs on the part of the respective institutions comprising the associated banks, took no one by surprise in Wall street. The contraction of loans and the hoarding of specie and legal tenders were so visible that a favorable statement was generally expected. There is an increse in specie and legal tenders of nearly $3,000,000. Loans were decreased over two millions and deposits increased nearly the same sum. The totals, as compared with those for the previous week, are as follows:—

	Dec. 26.	Jan. 2.
Loans	$261,342,530	$259,090,057
Specie	17,940,565	20,736,122
Circulation	34,387,114	34,379,609
Deposits	178,504,752	180,490,445
Legal tenders	48,706,160	48,896,421

The differences in the several items are as follows:—

Decrease in loans	$2,252,473
Increase in specie	2,795,257
Decrease in circulation	7,505
Increase in deposits	1,986,693
Increase in legal tenders	190,261

The comparison of liabilities with reserve is as follows:—

Total deposits and circulation	$214,870,054
Legal reserve required	53,717,513
Reserve on hand	69,632,543
Excess	15,915,030

This very favorable statement is doubtless due to the double necessity which the banks were under of also presenting a quarterly statement for the inspection of the Comptroller of the Currency. The increase in the item of specie is attributed to the receipt of gold interest on government bonds; but, as the amount disbursed for this purpose was about $6,000,000, it is evident a large share of it yet remains in the hands of private holders.

The "let up" in the money market which was so confidently expected by operators in stocks did not come. At the outset of business, under a limited demand, the rate on call loans ranged from seven per cent currency on government collaterals, in exceptional instances, to seven per cent coin, and to the same rate with a commission of one-eighth of one per cent per day. A great deal of business was transacted at the legal rate, with the commission added. The market was without excitement, doubtless owing to the arrangement, which everybody seems to have acceded to, of bidding for and offering money in one corner of the Long Room. The selection of a central place where borrowers and lenders may meet seems a curious return to the primitive customs of Wall street; but history is said to repeat itself, and it appears to have done so in this instance. Both parties say it is a great convenience, as it nearly does away with the disagreeable "shinning" which used to prevail. As the Long Room is a close corporation of the members of the two boards it remains to be seen whether the practice will continue. This dulness did not outlast the day. About two o'clock those who had postponed making their preparations came into the market and were anxious inquirers for funds with which to make their accounts good. The rate, under this demand, went up to ⅜ a ½ commission. The relaxation did not come because of the large sums which the various trust and savings institutions are withdrawing in order to meet the January interest. Again, in addition to this interest, many doubtless were taking up the principal for other investments. Money is, therefore, in a shifting condition. It is passing into many private hands in small amounts, but will find its way back again into bank within the week, after which interval its course will be in larger, more general and more visible currents. The flow of currency to the West is of little or no account. The exchanges will turn this way with the cessation of packing operations and the making of payments for goods original in the New York market. The remittances to the South cannot well be expected to fall off, as the statement of cotton receipts for the expired portion of the cotton year shows an increase of 120,000 bales as compared with the same period in 1867-8. The increase must be paid for, at present, by New York. If the fact produce continued activity in money it will be regretted only by the stock gamblers. The demand for currency in the South is one of the healthiest signs of the hour. Its satisfaction will do more for reconstruction than all the bills on the subject now before Congress.

The first business day in the new year was marked by a rather sharp advance in the premium on gold, the price rising from 134¾ to 135¾ during the session of the board. It is only proper to say that this appreciation was not the result of any new distrust in greenbacks, but was purely the sequence of gold "operating." When gold was going down last week it was freely sold by the "bears," while a number of stock houses borrowed the metal on collateral and cashed it for greenbacks, the object being to get currency in the tightness of money. The "shorts" had to cover and the borrowers had to buy back in order to return the loans of metal made them. The needs of both were taken advantage of by the holders of gold, and the premium took an upward turn, advancing to 135¾ at a few minutes after two o'clock, but receding to 135¼ before the close of street dealings. The range in price is shown as follows:—

10 A. M.	134⅞	2 P. M.	135⅜
10:17 A. M.	134¾	2:17 P. M.	135⅛
11 A. M.	134¾	2:30 P. M.	135⅜
12 M.	135	3 P. M.	135¼
1 P. M.	135⅜	4:30 P. M.	135⅛

The rates paid for carrying were 1-16, 3-32, 5-64 and 6-64 in the forenoon, 3-64, 1-32 and 1-16 in the afternoon, and 5-64 and 7-64 to Monday. The gross clearings were $72,564,000, the gold balances $2,875,926 and the currency balances $4,347,650. The steamer took out $100,000 in specie.

The government bond market was dull and a portion of the time drooping under the neglect of investors, whose attention was directed to other matters. In the afternoon the reinvestment demand on the part of those having cash for coupons and a demand from new investors made the market more active for some of the list. The funds which are exchanged for these securities at this season of the year are not extensively released as yet to the public. The closing street quotations at half-past five o'clock were as follows, prices being ex coupon for those payable January and July:—United States sixes, 1881, registered, 109½ a 109¾; do. do., coupon, 111½ a 111¾; 5-20's, registered, 106 a 106⅛; do. coupon, 1862, 111½ a 111¾; do. do., 1864, 107⅜ a 108; do. do., 1865, 108¼ a 108⅜; do. do., new, 1865, 107 a 107⅛; do. do., 1867, 107⅜ a 107⅝; do. do., 1868, 107½ a 107¾; do., 10-40's, registered, 102⅞ a 103⅛; do. do., coupon, 106 a 106⅛. Currency bonds, 99½ 99¾.

The following were the quotations for the border State bonds:—Tennessee 6's, ex coupon, 67 bid; Tennessee 6's, new, 66 a 67; Virginia 6's, ex coupon, 53 a 55; Virginia 6's, new, 55½ a 57¼; Georgia 6's, 78 a 79; Georgia 7's, 90 a 91; North Carolina 6's, 62 a 63; North Carolina 6's, new, 60¼ a 61; Missouri 6's, ex, 89 a 90; Louisiana, old, ex interest, 67 a 68.

The stock market was generally dull, as might be expected after a holiday and before Sunday. Those who had stocks were tenacious of their possession and purchasers were few. During the forenoon and up to one o'clock an easier state of money was so freely discounted that New York Central sold up to 136¾, Pacific Mail to 120½, and Rock Island, which was the feature of the day, touched 121½. How many of these sales were bogus it is difficult to conjecture; but that the cliques are growing desperate there can be no doubt. Rock Island is manipulated by a clique who comprise among their members the original Erie clique. The Central party are tired of holding and would like to get rid of their load. The Erie clique are utterly demoralized. The recent Western investments have only plunged them deeper in the mire. They loudly heralded their achievements of a grand broad gauge through line to Chicago and St. Louis, but the "outside public" failed to see the superiority of the proposed new routes, and Erie is down again between 37 and 38. Curiously enough, the defeat of the democracy is connected with their misfortunes. Under the original programme, which doubted not for an instant the re-election of a democratic Assembly, two high priests of the party were taken into the Erie "ring" for the purpose of running the Legislature in the interest of the road. Misfortunes never come singly. Falling in their plans here they were overwhelmed with a flood of ill luck and are now driven to desperation. The cancellation of some of the overissues of Erie need not surprise the street, while a further dividend of twenty per cent in New York Central may be "declared" at any hour near midnight. The market was most buoyant from noon to half-past one o'clock. The unexpected continuance of stringent money weakened prices later in the day, but the market was steady and firm at the opening figures. Transactions were not numerous, and there were no late sessions of the boards.

The closing quotations of the last open board were as follows:—Cumberland, 35½ a 39½; Adams' Express, 48¼ a 48½; Merchants' Union Express, 14¾ a 15½; Quicksilver, 22¼ a 23¼; Canton, 49½ a 50; Mariposa preferred, 19 a 19½; Pacific Mail, 119¾ a 119⅞; Western Union Telegraph, 33¾ a 34; New York Central, 159⅞ a 160; Erie, 37¾ a 37⅞; do., preferred, 62 a 63; Hudson River, 134 a 134½; Harlem, 131; Reading, 97⅞ a 98; Bankers' and Brokers' 99 bid; Alton and Terre Haute, preferred, 60 bid; Wabash, 59¼ a 59½; do., preferred, 71; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 69½ a 69¾; do., preferred, 89¾ a 89½; Fort Wayne, 113½ a 114; Ohio and Mississippi, 34½ a 34¼; Michigan Southern, 88¼ a 88½; Pittsburg, 84½ a 84¾; Toledo, 101 a 101½; Rock Island, 120¼ a 120½; Northwestern, 82¼ a 82½; do., preferred, 84¼ a 84½; Boston, Hartford and Erie, 20 bid.

The closing street quotations at half-past four o'clock were as follows:—New York Central, 159¼ a 159½; Fort Wayne, 113¼ a 113½; Rock Island, 119⅞ a 120; Northwestern, 81¾ a 81¾; Northwestern preferred, 83½ a 83¾; Toledo, 101½ asked; St. Paul, 69¼ a 70; St. Paul preferred, 88¾ a 89; Ohio and Mississippi, 33⅝ a 33¾; Pacific Mail, 119¼ a 119½.

The bids at the regular board for the city bank stocks were as follows:—New York, 130; Manhattan, 140; Merchants', 120; Mechanics', 125; National, 108; State of New York, 110; Commerce, 119; Ocean, 110¾; Bank of the Republic, 121; Metropolitan, 138; People's, 135; Shoe and Leather, 115; Corn Exchange, 130; St. Nicholas, 107; Park, 145; Central National, 105¼; Fourth National, 100.

The exports of specie from this port during the week were as follows:—

December 29—Steamer Westphalia, Paris—	
Silver bars	$62,469
Mexican gold	3,100
December 29—Steamer Westphalia, London—	
American gold	1,956
Silver bars	2,200
December 31—Schooner J. S. Moullen, Para—	
American gold	3,000
December 31—Steamer America, Bremen—	
Foreign silver	5,000
December 31—Steamer America, Havana—	
Foreign silver	10,000
Gold bars	31,000
American gold	4,000
January 2—Steamer City of Baltimore, Liverpool—	
American gold	100,000
Total for the week	$222,815

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Saturday, Jan. 2—10:15 A. M.

$50000 US 6's, '81, cou.x	111⅛	10000 US 5-20, c, '65, n.x	107
10000 US 5-20, c, '62..b3	111⅜	7000 do.....c x	107
10000 U S 5-20, c, '64....	107⅛	10000 US 5-20, c, '68..s3x	107⅛
10000 US 5-20, c, '67...x	107⅛	3000 US 5's, 10-40, cou..	105⅞

Quarter-past Twelve o'Clock P. M.

$1000 US 6's, '81, cou...c	111⅛	37 shs Del & Hud Canal	130⅛
10000 do.....b3	111⅜	147 do.....2d call	130
10000 US 6's, 5-20, c, '62 c	111¼	200 Pacific M SS Co.b3.	119⅞
10000 do.....b3	111⅜	50 do.....	119⅜
15000 US 5's, '24, r.....	112	100 Brunswick G Lead..	19
500 US 6's, 5-20, c, '64..c	107⅛	140 Boston Water Pr...	13⅞
1000 do.....	107⅜	25 Adams Express.....	49⅝
2000 US 5-20, c, '65.....	107¼	18 Wells-Fargo Ex.....	24
3000 do.....	107⅜	150 do.....	25
1000 US 5's, 10-40, c...c	106⅛	100 do.....	24¾
1000 do.....	106	100 do.....	24½
4000 US 5-20, c, '65, n.xc	107⅛	10 Merchants' Union Ex	14¾
2500 do.....	107	88 N Y Central RR. b60	159⅞
10000 US 5-20, c, '67. x c. b3	107⅜	50 do.....2d call	159⅞
20000 do.....	107⅜	200 Erie RR.....	38
10000 do.....	107⅜	100 Erie preferred.....	63
11000 US 5-20, cou, '68. xc	107⅛	10 Hud River RR.....	135¼
2000 N Car 6's, new. b c	60	200 Harlem RR.....	135⅛
1000 do.....2d call	60⅛	200 Reading RR.....	98
20000 Tenn 6's, new..b c	66⅝	100 do.....2d call	98
70000 do.....ex 1..b30	67⅛	50 Mich Southern. b t c	88¾
5000 N Y Cent 6's, '83..	90	200 Chic & N W pref....	84⅛
1000 Erie 4th mtg.....	86⅛	68 do.....	85
400 Great West 2d m..	76	300 Chicago & R I RR..	118⅛
16000 Mil & St P 8's, 1st m	103	5 N J Central RR.....	115⅛
4000 C, Cin Ind Cent 1st.	74¾	5 Chicago & Alton RR	147
1000 St Louis I M 1stm bs	86⅝	100 Ohio & Miss RR.....	34⅛
4000 Oil C & Alleg 2d c.	80	100 do.....b60	35
1000 Morris & Es 1st m.	98¼	200 H & St Joseph RR...	90
20 shs Cen Nat Bank..	105⅛	200 do.....	90¼
100 Fourth Nat Bank...	100	100 Chic & G E RR.....	38
10 do.....	101	100 Tol, Wab & West....	59⅛
15 Ninth Nat Bank....	108	300 do.....	59¾
200 West U Tel.....	34	100 Oil Creek & Al..bt c	77
200 Canton Co.....	49½	100 Col, C, C & I C RR..	45
100 do.....	49¾		

REAL ESTATE MATTERS.

Real Estate Notes.

The new Brooklyn Armory, corner of Bushwick boulevard and Stagg street, is to be completed next spring at a cost of $100,000.

A fine estate of 1,500 acres in Caroline county, Va., was recently sold at auction for $5,000, which was less than half the value of the improvements.

The rise in real estate in Danbury, Conn., has been immense. Two years ago a fine lot on one of the handsomest streets could have been bought for from $400 to $600. Now the price asked for the same is from $1,000 to $2,000. An acre of land in the suburbs was sold a few days ago for $1,800 which could have been bought three years ago for $400.

In the grand list of Vermont for 1868 the several counties rank as follows in the appraisal of real estate:—Windsor county ranks highest, $9,631,661. Rutland next, $9,525,919. The remaining counties rank in the following order:—Windham, Addison, Washington, Orange, Chittenden, Caledonia, Franklin, Bennington, Orleans, Lamoille, Essex, Grand Isle. The whole valuation of real estate, including non-organized towns and gores, is $71,272,113.

Among recent real estate transfers in St. Louis, Mo., are the following:—

James Smith et al. to David P. Rowland, lots 5 and 6, block 13, subdivision of section 16 .... $5,320

John Wacker to Gottlob Elyrmann, lots 21, 22, 23 and 24, block 14, third subdivision of Lauri tract..... 1,000

James J. O'Fallon to Ephraim G. Obear, undivided half of leasehold in block 276, beginning in south line of Chestnut street, between Ninth and Tenth, 85½ feet front by 113 feet deep..... 10,000

Alexander S. Brown to Washington University, 231 65-100 acres in common fields of St. Ferdinand..... 9,192

Peter Brooks to Charles Moran, leasehold 50 feet on Second street by depth to alley..... 9,000

Bernard McSorley to Philip Gredel, lot in block 964, 45½ feet on Nash street by 99 feet to alley..... 2,926

Michael Eichmann to Abraham Mack, lot in block 936, being west ½ of lot conveyed to Wm. Bachmann, 40 feet on south line of Franklin avenue by 144 feet deep..... 5,300

A Virginian paper of a recent date reports the following land sales in Loudon county in that State:—

On Saturday last the house of R. E. Divine, on King street, was sold under a deed of trust, and bought by John W. Hammerley, the trust creditor, for $1,875. The same house sold seventeen years ago for $1,200.

The lot just below the jail, fronting 70 feet, and running back about 200 feet, was sold under a deed of trust for $600, and purchased by Mrs. Charles E. Lloyd. It has on it a small frame house and a frame stable.

To-day the house of Alexander Poland, on West Loudoun street, a good house and lot, was sold for $925, the stable and lot for $225, and the lot on Ayr street, 104 feet front, and about as deep, for $225. Mrs. Poland purchased them all, and there was an evident disinclination to bid against her.

The farm of Alexander Poland was sold to H. T. Harrison for $45 75 per acre. It lies about two miles west of town, contains 221 acres, and has a tolerably good brick house and a good brick barn, with water in all the fields, and little or no wood.

A tract of 182 acres, five miles south of Leesburg, under the Hogback Mountain, was sold for $9 25 per acre. The land is thin, but worth to a man who wants a home $12 per acre. The improvements are indifferent. R. L. Veits was the purchaser.

According to the report of the Superintendent of Public Buildings, the following structures have been completed in Boston during the year:—

Norcross grammar school house, South Boston, cost $75,000; Wells grammar school house, Blossom street, cost $75,000; Lewis grammar school house, ward 14, cost $68,000; primary school house, Charter street, cost $30,000; house for Hose Company No. 1, Salem street, cost $25,000; engine house and ward room in ward 11, cost $38,000; Central Charity Bureau and Temporary Home, Chardon street, cost $123,000. Total, $431,000.

The department has also built an addition to a stable on the Almshouse lot at the Highlands for the use of the Internal Health Department; has purchased the Unitarian church on the corner of Maverick and Bremen streets, East Boston, and fitted it up as an armory for the military companies of ward 1, at a cost of $4,881, and has purchased two lots of land on Newton street for a normal schoolhouse and another in ward 13 for a police station.

The following buildings are in process of erection, but yet incomplete, and each is coupled with its estimated cost:—

Grammar schoolhouse, 14 rooms and hall, ward 12, $100,000; do., ward 9, $100,000; primary school house, 6 rooms, ward 7, $40,000; police station, ward 15, $50,000; hose house, on Church street, for Hose Company No. 8 and ward room for ward 9, $20,000; hose house for Hose Company No. 3, on North Grove street, appropriation $18,000.

The expenses of the year are thus classified:—Public buildings, $159,316 84; county buildings, $14,869 96; grammar school houses, $69,995 43; primary do., $85,836 17. Total, $340,017 40.

Among recent real estate transfers in this State are the following:—John Pullis to Homer Benedict, fifty acres of land in Greece; consideration, $4,500. Jane F. Shearman to Edward A. Tuttle, lot 160 West avenue, near Frances street; consideration, $5,000. James M. Whitney to Henry L. Fairchild, part of lot 45 Varnum street; consideration, $3,407 61. L. J. Lacy to John G. Neafie, a lot in the village of Scottsville; consideration, $3,500. Henry Pullis to John Pullis, five acres of land in Greece; consideration, $1,600. Sophia Meinke to Adam Brick, ten acres of land in Parma; consideration, $1,200. Elizabeth M. Stewart to Joseph Reddinger, sixty-six feet front on Henry street, being lots 78 and 79; consideration, $1,020 33.

The following were the transfers of real estate in Cayuga county December 30, 1868:—Silas Samson to Matilda C. Sampson, fifty acres in the town of Sterling; consideration, $400. Marla H. Waldo and others to George H. Gilfers, lot on west side of Lewis street, Auburn; consideration, $450. Manly T. Treat to Morton Hosford and others, one-half of fifty-seven acres, situate on lot No. 14, in the town of Conquest; consideration, $1,200. E. A. Thomas to Dan Hayden, lot situate on Holley street, Auburn; consideration, $1,250. Edwin Snyder to Edwin Snyder, lot, situate in the town of Geneva; consideration, $300.

Real estate is active in the river towns in this State. Late transfers in Sing Sing include the purchase by N. W. Pike of the former residence of F. C. Burrhus, at the corner of Highland avenue and Ellis place, for $9,000. Professor T. H. Doernickle has purchased of G. J. Barlow the house and lot on the corner of James and Edward streets in this village for $4,000.

The following are among recent real estate sales in Boston, Mass:—H. C. Morse, for $13,500, has purchased the elegant estate on the north side of Newton street, belonging to Hezekiah W. Howe. It is just west of Columbus avenue. The lot includes 2,200 square feet of land. The estate No. 25 East Castle street, between Harrison avenue and Washington street, has been disposed of by Mr. Bonney for $5,000 to Faist Nordensheid. Mrs. Davis, for $8,500, has purchased the Pepper estate on Hollis place—a three story brick house beside or back of the Unitarian church.

Mrs. Hayden, for $13,500, has purchased from Joseph Sherer a brick store and dwelling house on the southeast side of Columbus avenue, extending back to Appleton street, the lot containing 1,697 square feet of land.

Official Transfers of Real Estate Yesterday.

TRANSFERS IN NEW YORK CITY.

Ashland place, Perry st, n s, 90.11 ft e of Waverley place, 22.8x94.1 .... $19,000

Boulevard, s w corner 81st st, 76.5½x103.3 35,000

Bayard st, s s, lot No 29, Bayard farm, 16.8x49.9 .... —

Bayard st, s s, lot No 31 Bayard farm, 16.8x49.9 10,000

Bayard st, s s, lot No 31, Bayard farm, 16.8x49.9 .... —

Bayard st, n s, lot No 29, Bayard farm, 16.8x49.9 10,000

Catharine st, s w corner Henry, 19x99 34,000

Columbia st, No 14, 2x55 7,000

3d st, n s, 60 ft w of 1st av, 20x84 9,200

Eldridge st, e s, lot 786, Delancey estate, 25x87.6 14,000

Madison st, e s, 128 ft s of Rivington st, 20.8x100 7,200

12th st, s s, 142.7 ft e of av B, 24.7x103.3 22,110

16th st, s s, 254.4 ft w of Union place, 26x106.5 (deed dated 1857) .... Nom.

16th st, n s, 254.4 ft w of Union place, 26x105.6 55,000

18th st, n s, 350 ft w of 5th av, 25x84 36,000

20th st, s s, 191.8 ft e of 10th av, 16.8x91.11 12,858

27th st, n s, 533.4 ft w of 10th av, 77.9x98.9 30,000

28th st, s s, 145 ft e of 4th av, 20x98.9 18,500

30th st, n s, 208.6 ft e of 11th av, 16x31.6 3,500

46th st, n s, 133.4 ft 2d av, 33.4x100.5 9,225

50th st, n s, 149 ft e of 1st av, 20x90 18,725

50th st, n s, 113.6 ft e of 2d av, 18.6x100.5 18,000

55th st, n s, 306.3 ft w of 8th av, 18.9x100.5 23,250

57th st, s s, 175 ft e of 11th av, 18.9x25 4,500

75th st, n s, 159.7 ft to Broadway, 158.10x50.2 8,600

76th st, n s, 100 ft e of 10th av, 102.2x298.2x102.9x295.9 50,000

76th st, n s, 450 ft w of 2d av, 75x102.2 10,200

113th st, n s, 125 ft w 11th ave (grant) 1,000

120th st, s s, 100 ft e 9th ave, 25x100.11 2,350

124th st, n s, 297.6 ft e 6th ave, 37.6x100.11 9,000

124th st, n s, 360 ft e 6th ave, 50x100.11 8,000

127th st, n s, 125 ft e 6th ave, 50x99.11 5,500

142d st, p s, 100 ft e 8th ave, 100x200 14,000

Madison st, s s, 172.6 ft w Clinton st, 24x96 12,000

2d ave, e s, 80.5 ft n, 52d st, 20x70 19,000

2d ave, w s, 25 ft n 7th st, 25x100 20,000

2d ave, w s, 50.4 ft s 58th st, 25x100 34,000

3d ave, s w, cor 86th st, 100x100 85,000

8th ave, s e, cor 52d st, 21x80 30,000

10th ave, n w, cor 185th st, 53.4x100 1,800

MARINE TRANSFERS.

The following is the statement of marine transfers at this port from the 29th to the 31st ult., inclusive:—

Date.	Class—Name.	Tonnage.	Share.	Price.
Dec. 29	Schooner Eagle	169.00	1-32	$391
Dec. 29	Schooner E. R. Burnett	251.64	1-16	500
Dec. 30	Steamer Alida	53.90	1-4	1,100
Dec. 30	Steamer Alida	53.90	1-4	1,100
Dec. 30	Steamer Madison Holmes	159.81	1-8	2,250
Dec. 31	Canal boat Marion	190.00	Whole	3,000
Dec. 31	Barge Stella	98.25	Whole	2,300
Dec. 31	Barge Franklin	158.40	Whole	2,000
Dec. 31	Steamer Lulu	892.24	Whole	4,000

OUR GRAIN INTEREST.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 31, 1868.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

DEAR SIR—We have read in this morning's edition of the HERALD your article entitled "Our Grain Interest." We were much interested in your comprehensive statements and general correctness of the same in regard to the great interests that you so fully allude to. We were at the same time much surprised at the very great error that you had fallen into in regard to flour mills and the milling interest of our Eastern cities, particularly of New York and environs, stating that "formerly a single mill would easily turn out from 800 to 1,000 barrels per day, the same establishment now manufacturing but between 400 and 500 barrels;" also predicting that "the Western interest would eventually swallow up completely that of the Eastern, being only a question of time," &c. As we are quite sure that your intention is to state facts in regard to all questions of such large local importance as is the milling interest in New York and adjacent cities, we cannot quietly lay aside your paper after reading the above mentioned article without giving you a few facts, which we hope will convince you that your statement in regard to mills and milling interest in Eastern cities is diametrically opposite the reality. It is true with milling, as in all other branches of business, that occasionally parties inexperienced embark largely into it, building large mills, and from the want of a proper knowledge of the business, and not from the want of business, gradually find their business reducing and finally make a failure of it, while practical men who have taken up the business for the past fifteen or twenty years have, without exception, succeeded almost beyond expectation. Our own experience will, in a measure, verify this statement. We built in Williamsburg, sixteen years ago, the Williamsburg City Mills. Starting with a capacity of 150 barrels per day we soon found that our business required more facilities, and we increased its capacity to 200 barrels per day. This soon was too small, and we purchased two years later the Brooklyn City Mill, at the foot of Fulton street, Brooklyn, and rebuilt the same, giving it a capacity of 500 barrels a day. Soon finding that inadequate for the amount of business that we could do, we commenced and built the Atlantic Flour Mills, at Hamilton avenue, Brooklyn, with an easy capacity of 1,000 barrels per day, frequently turning out much more than that amount. The above mills are all in constant operation to their fullest capacity, and at all seasons of the year, being able to successfully compete with flour manufactured at the West and sent to New York to be sold. These facts we are sure of, and we believe our experience to be the same as all other really practical men who have engaged in the business. We could give many facts connected with the advantages that our city mills possess that would clearly prove that, while you intended to be correct in your statement, you have been grossly misled.

Knowing that you are always quick and ready to set aright questions of such importance as the above we take the liberty to address you somewhat fully upon the subject, hoping that you will at an early date through your valuable paper do so, after fully satisfying yourself from other sources of the correctness of our statement. F. E. SMITH & CO.

BOLD ROBBERY BY A HACKMAN.—Thursday evening William Irish, a young man, came to Hartford from Holyoke, Mass., to attend the ball of the Young Men's Social Club in American Hall. During the evening, as he was going home with his girl, he was stopped by John Golden, a hackman, who demanded one dollar of him in payment of fare. He had never employed Golden, and didn't know him, but rather than have a controversy in the presence of the girl he paid the money over. Golden, evidently satisfied that he had got a subject to work upon, subsequently went to the hall, and when Irish came out seized hold of him and led him to Murphy's drinking saloon, on Market street, where he secured him in a back room and robbed him of all his money and clothing, leaving nothing upon his person but pants, shirt and boots. Thus stripped the innocent youth, after something of a struggle, escaped and ran up State street, where he was discovered by officer Wright, who took the case in hand, and soon after arrested Golden and lodged him in the station house. He was too much under the influence of liquor to be taken before the police court yesterday, and will be brought up to-day.—*Hartford Courant, Jan. 2.*

NEW WAY OF GIVING PARTIES.—The Lowell *Courier* says that a new plan of giving large parties, without trouble to housekeepers and damage to furniture, carpets, &c., is coming into vogue in that city. It is to take a hall where there is ample room for dancing, laying out refreshments and furnishing the accessories of a regular party, and inviting friends there. The plan is considered an excellent one, and is likely to be extensively adopted. Several such parties have been held, and those who have given them are delighted to be able to get up the next morning and find their domestic arrangements undisturbed.

DEPARTURES YESTERDAY.

LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW AND DERRY—Steamship Europa—L L Platt, Joseph Platt, Hamilton; R Hawley, Detroit; Wm Clatworthy, Penn Yan, N Y; Mr Hogg, Alex Laird, Miss Margaret Laird, Glasgow; E Robinson, Eleazer Gill, Miss Elizabeth Gill, Brooklyn; James Thorbshaw, Mrs Thorbshaw and child, Wm Mansfield, Josiah Jewell, Neil Young, J C McLahan, Robt Cairnes, New York, and eight others in the steerage.

SAVANNAH—Steamship Montgomery—Mrs Louisa Newton and three sons, Eldon Ordway, Otis Brett, Wm N Rogers, Isaac Newton, Samuel Newton, Fred Nazer, D M Gilman, Mr and Mrs H F Styles and daughter, Miss E Tickner, H D Crane, Mr Johnson, D Demarest, Bernard Gray, F H Holt, Thos J McCormack, C Davidge and wife, S D Armstrong, T Murphy, Mrs J R King, Saml Rogers, Mrs Ellen Rogers and three children, A McNaughton and son, John Norris, Thomas Norris, Samuel Norris, Robt Warner, J R Ancerman, L and E Robinson, T Robinson, Dennis Shortsleeves and wife, F Baker, G Johnson, W Mason, J H Hopkins, A Mood, G Dolphin, R Paxton, wife and two children.

SAVANNAH—San Salvador—Mr and Mrs Glover, J L Bromer, Dr and Mrs L A Palmer, Mr and Mrs R W Archer, James McCraken, Miss H E Twogent, Mrs Wolff, George Corson, Mr and Mrs T Carroll, Abraham Meserole, William Jarvis, A Adams, Mr and Mrs H L Hilyer and infant, Mrs Judge Fisk and infant, George Harrison, R Barton, O Reed, W B Perkins, H L Lee.

NEW JERSEY.

Jersey City.

MARSHAL ELLIS' REPORT.—During the month of December 157 persons were committed to the city prison, of whom 98 were charged with drunkenness.

ALLEGED ATTEMPTED ARSON.—Yesterday afternoon a painter named John Roche, about twenty-five years of age, was arrested for breaking the windows in and attempting to set fire to the building at the corner of Wayne and Washington streets. He was committed to prison to await trial.

OPPOSITION TO THE RAILROAD MONOPOLY.—The Jersey City and Hoboken Horse Car Railroad Company, having been prevented from running to the ferry, have placed two stages on the line to compete with the horse railroad monopoly. Many business men, both in Jersey City and Hoboken, have suffered in consequence of the practical extinction of the Hoboken line by the monopoly, who carried all their measures through the Common Council Committee. The Martha Institute of Hoboken has lost many of its pupils who belong to Jersey City.

Hudson City.

ANOTHER INSTANCE OF MISPLACED CONFIDENCE.—On Thursday last Mr. Isaiah N. Evans, proprietor of a tin warehouse, sent his driver, a young man, with his horse and wagon to Water street, New York, giving him twenty dollars to purchase some iron. The driver departed at two o'clock in the afternoon, and that was the last heard of him, the horse or wagon in Hudson City. Inquiries were made in New York, and it was ascertained that the fellow left that city with his booty.

ANOTHER RAID ON A LAGER BEER SALOON.—Only a few days ago a lager beer saloon at West End was entered by roughs, who broke the windows and furniture and assaulted the proprietor. On Friday evening the lager beer saloon of Jacob Weber, at the Five Corners, was entered in a similar manner by two men named James Boucher and William Bourke, who first tried to provoke the proprietor to resistance, and failing in this they smashed everything within their reach. Weber throttled one of the roughs and was in the act of thrusting him out of doors when he was struck in the head with a glass tumbler, which inflicted a deep wound. Warrants were issued by Recorder Aldridge yesterday for the arrest of Boucher and Bourke.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS.—The result of the recent meetings of taxpayers in the City Hall is the adoption of twelve amendments to the city charter to be applied for at the next meeting of the Legislature. By the terms of the change the city is required to pay one-third the cost of paving streets, Commissioners of Assessment shall be appointed for three years, the Street Commissioner shall be elected by the Common Council, the Commissioners of Appeal in cases of taxation will be abolished, the action of the Fire Commissioners in cases of appeal is made final, the clause prohibiting the Common Council from borrowing more than $4,000 in any one year is stricken out, property seized by the police shall be sold by the Common Council, and the Common Council obtain power to fill sunken lots, making the expense thereof a lien on the property whether of residents or non-residents.

A MAN BURIED IN A SNOW BANK.—During the prevalence of the snow storm on Friday evening a poor man named Edward Dalton, who is employed as a porter in a grocery store in Hoboken, was on his way to his home in Hudson City, and in ascending the hill about 300 yards from the junction of the two lines of horse railroad he was so blinded by the falling snow that he stepped off the road and tumbled down a snow pile which covered the rocks. The fall was not more than twenty feet to the first ledge of rocks, but he was almost entirely imbedded in the drift. He remained for some time insensible, but in the meantime he must have struggled violently, for one sleeve of his coat was torn almost to shreds. He would in all probability have remained in that position till he perished but for the violent and incessant barking of a dog, which yelped and ran wildly about as if being attacked. The driver of a wagon happening to pass at this time went to the brow of the ledge, and observing that the snow was torn up descended slowly till he reached the man, who was groaning, though almost inaudibly. He dragged him out and took him on his wagon to the residence of Mr. Schaffer, on Hoboken avenue, where he was properly cared for.

Communipaw.

THE STOCK YARDS.—During the year 1868, there were received at the stock yards, 75,226 cattle, 500,546 hogs, 267,315 sheep and 12,971 horses. There were slaughtered during the same year, 12,379 cattle, 490,319 hogs, and 276,293 sheep. Within the past week there arrived 93 cars, containing 689 cattle, 4,499 hogs and 2,633 sheep.

Harrison.

LOCATING A DOCK.—A commission consisting of six chosen freeholders from each of the counties of Hudson and Essex assembled at Taylor's Hotel, Jersey City, yesterday, and proceeded to Harrison to select a suitable position for a dock on the banks of the Passaic. They chose a spot near the grounds of Messrs. McLave, at whose suit the plan was projected, which will occupy five hundred feet along the river. Among the assembly were General Halstead and Director James Lynch.

Newark.

ADMITTED TO BAIL.—The man John Lynch, charged with an atrocious assault and battery on one Matthew Kiteen on Thursday night in a barroom in William street, was yesterday admitted to bail in the sum of $1,000. Kiteen having recovered considerably from the effects of his wounds.

RECOVERY OF A VALUABLE HORSE AND SLEIGH.—On New Year's day Matthew Keedon, a coachman in the employ of Mr. J. H. Bates, of No. 23 Park place, disappeared with a valuable mare and sleigh, the former worth $1,200. The authorities were notified and yesterday the mare and Matthew were found in the vicinity of Waverley. The sleigh was subsequently found in Newark. Keedon was lodged in the city prison and held on a charge of grand larceny.

ANOTHER ALLEGED COUNTERFEITER ARRESTED.—Yesterday an alleged counterfeit operator named Sylvester Jones was arrested in Jersey City by detective Nettleship and another officer and brought to this city for examination. He is charged with being a wholesale dealer in the matter, and it is thought the arrest will prove much more important than now appears. Fifty dollars in bogus notes were found in the prisoner's possession. He is held.

BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

SEIZURE OF A WHISKEY STILL.—An illicit distillery in Little street, near John, was seized yesterday morning by the internal revenue officers, and transferred to the custody of the United States Marshal.

STABBING AFFRAY.—Neil Ward was stabbed in the head during an affray in the barroom of Timothy Spellman, at the corner of York and Main streets, on New Year's night. A man named Edward Jones is said to have stabbed Ward, but he made his escape and has not as yet been arrested.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER IN THE EASTERN DISTRICT.—The Christians of the various denominations of the Eastern District will assemble for prayer in Dr. Wells' church, corner of South Third and Fifth streets, every afternoon during the present week. Services will commence at half-past four o'clock.

AN EXTENSIVE BURGLARY.—On Friday night it was discovered that the watch case manufactory of Wheeler, Parsons & Co., Nos. 42 and 44 State street, had been burglariously entered the night previous. The proprietors on making an investigation found that upwards of $5,000 worth of gold and silver watch cases had been stolen. The police were inform