FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

TUESDAY, March 23—6 P. M.

The great feature of Wall street to-day was again that mercurial stock, New York Central, which at the close sold freely at 164. Considering that it is just ex-dividend, this is the highest figure it has ever attained. As compared with yesterday it is a rise of ten per cent, an advance ruinous to scores of the "shorts" who sold it during the recent decline. As far as can be ascertained this grand *bouleverse-ment* is the result of a well contrived piece of strategy, originating with those adroit operators, the Erie clique, who, during Friday and Saturday last, made use of the antipathy of the legislative "ring" to Mr. Vanderbilt to induce everybody to "go short" of the stock. They led the movement themselves by freely selling for their own account, but doubtless took care to secretly cover. The street fell into the trap quite easily, especially as a number of brokers who have done business for Mr. Vanderbilt were also among the sellers. The injurious effects of the *pro rata* freight bill which is pending in the State Legislature were magnified to their greatest extent, and the word was given that Central was going down from twenty to forty per cent. An immense short interest was thus developed, which attempted to cover this morning. The opening price of the stock was 155¾, from which it rapidly advanced, under large purchases by those to whom the point was given, on the other hand, that the Jencks suit had been withdrawn, and that the four per cent interest on the eighty per cent scrip was lying in Duncan, Sherman & Co.'s office, ready to be paid on the presentation of the certificates. The excitement among the "shorts" at this piece of intelligence became very great. The fear of a "corner" induced them to cover at immense losses. The "bears" sold at each successive step of the advance, and thus kept up the fight, which is likely to result in a most desperate battle during the ensuing two or three days. From the fact that a number of the members of the Legislature have been seen in Wall street during the past week it is conjectured that the Albany "ring" who were arranging for a grand "break" in Central have been sorely disappointed over the turn which the stock has taken. While they were planning for revenge upon the veteran Commodore he has "twisted" them in a manner which will vividly recall to their minds the fate of their predecessors who were so badly used up in the famous Harlem "corner." To-day, the telegraph informs us, they were in conclave over the *pro rata* bill, while their great enemy was quietly laughing in his sleeve at their futile scheming. The effect of this advance was sympathetic upon the whole market, and prices rose from one to four per cent. Pacific Mail went up to 92 and Rock Island to 133. The Northwestern stocks rose steadily all day, and the common had advanced to 85¼ at the close. Hudson River and Harlem were less buoyant, owing to the fear of *pro rata*. Pacific Mail reacted late in the afternoon. Erie was active in consequence of the positive intelligence given by the President concerning the amount of stock afloat. Opening at 33⅜ it advanced to 36¼, but receded later in the day to 35¼. Jay Gould sent a report to the Assembly to-day of the affairs of the company, in compliance with a resolution passed last week. He reports that the exact amount of common stock outstanding on March 19 was $57,765,300; preferred stock, $8,536,910. The funded debt is as follows:—First mortgage bonds, $3,000,000; second do., $4,000,000; third do., $6,000,000; fourth do., $8,441,000; sixth do., $926,500; Buffalo branch mortgage bonds, $186,400; sterling convertible bonds, $4,844,400. The floating debt of the company is so fluctuating and uncertain from day to day that it is impossible to state the amount accurately.

It will be seen by the Washington telegrams that the Senate has passed the bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to anticipate the payment of the coupons on the government bonds to the extent of six months' interest. The Committee on Banking and Currency had an interview with Mr. Boutwell to-day. A correspondent says that the committee informed the Secretary that an effort would be made to pass the bill for a redistribution of the national banking currency before the close of the session. Mr. Boutwell said if that was done he did not know of any further legislation necessary at this time under that head. He thought, however, that Congress should not adjourn without passing the bill, as it was needed as a measure of relief to the different sections of the country.

Governments were weak and lower to-day, the 62's declining to 118. There is no support whatever to the market. The large dealers, having sold their stocks, are unwilling to replace them except at a concession in prices, while the foreign bankers have all they wish in the amounts recently purchased, the London and Frankfort markets being well supplied, as the daily quotations from those points indicate. Capitalists and the banks desire funds for the period around the 1st of April, and are disposed to sell, while the counter demand is very limited, the smaller buyers wishing to use their money in the various kinds of business which are reviving with the beginning of spring. Prices closed on the street at five o'clock this evening as follows:—United States sixes, 1881, registered, 115⅝ a 116; do., coupon, 116 a 116¼; do., five-twenties, registered, 113½ a 113¾; do., coupon, 1862, 118 a 118¼; do., 1864, 113⅞ a 114; do., 1865, 115¼ a 115⅝; do., new, 1865, 113 a 113¼; do., 1867, 118 a 118¼; do., 1868, 118 a 118¼; do., ten-forties, registered, 104½ a 104¾; do., coupon, 105 a 105¼; currency bonds, 103½ a 103¾.

Gold was very dull and quiet until late in the afternoon, when it became active under fears of a "squeeze" to-morrow. There is a very heavy short interest in the market, and the cliques are said to be intent on making cash gold scarce to-morrow. Loans were made to-day for Clearing House at from five and a half per cent for carrying to flat for borrowing. In the afternoon loans were generally made flat. The range of price during the day was as follows:—

10 A. M.	131	1:12 P. M.	131¼
11 A. M.	131½	2 P. M.	131½
12 M.	131¼	5 P. M.	131¼
1 P. M.	131½	5:45 P. M.	131⅜

The business at the Gold Exchange Bank resulted as follows:—

Gold cleared	$60,402,000
Gold balances	1,471,710
Currency balances	2,223,358

The European steamer took out $10,000 in specie.

Foreign exchange was quiet and unchanged on the basis of 108¾ for prime bankers', sixty days. The nominal quotation was 108¾.

The money market was abundantly supplied at seven per cent, which was the prevailing rate, with few or no exceptions, on all kinds of collaterals. Commercial paper was more active, and for prime double names the rate was ten and eleven per cent, with exceptions both ways at nine and twelve per cent.

Southern securities were dull, except South Carolinas, which advanced about one per cent, owing to the adoption of legislative measures looking to the payment of the next quota of interest.

The following were the closing prices on the call at the last regular board:—Canton, 59¼ a 60; Cumberland, 35 a 37; Western Union, 38¼ a 38¾; Quicksilver, 20¾ a 21; Mariposa, 19 a 19¾; Pacific Mail, 91 a 91¾; New York Central, 160¾ a 160¾; Hudson River, 138¼ a 138¾; Harlem, 136½ a 137; Reading, 91¾ a 92¼; Michigan Central, 117 a 119; Michigan Southern, 96¾ a 96¾; Illinois Central, 139¼ a 140; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 89 a 89¼; Northwestern, 85 a 85¼; do. preferred, 92¾ a 92¾; Toledo, 106¾ a 106¾; Rock Island, 131¼ a 133; St. Paul, 69¾ a 69¾; do. preferred, 79 a 80; Wabash, 67 a 67¼; do. preferred, 78¾; Fort Wayne, 121¾ a 123; Ohio and Mississippi, 33¼ a 33¾.

The following were the closing quotations of the last open board:—Canton, 58¾ a 59¼; Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express, 51 a 51¾; Adams Express, 59¼ a 60; American Express, 41¼ a 41½; United States Express, 56 a 56¾; Merchants' Union Express, 16 a 16¼; Quicksilver, 20¾ a 21; Pacific Mail, 90 a 90¾; Western Union Telegraph, 38¼ a 38¼; New York Central, 160¼ a 160¼; Mariposa, 19¼ a 19½; do. preferred, 34¾ a 35; Hudson, 138 a 138¾; Harlem, 134¼ a 136; do. preferred, 137; Reading, 92 a 92½; Chicago and Alton, 151 a 153; do. preferred, 151¼ bid; Toledo and Wabash, 66¾ a 67¼; do. preferred, 77 a 79; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 69¼ a 69¾; do. preferred, 79¾; Ohio and Mississippi, 33¼ a 33¾; Fort Wayne, 121¼ a 122; Michigan Southern, 96¾ a 97; Illinois Central, 139 a 141; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 88¾ a 89; Cleveland and Toledo, 106¾ a 106¾; Rock Island, 131¾ a 132; Northwestern, 84¾ a 85; do. preferred, 92¼ a 92¾; Bankers and Brokers', 107¼ a 109; Terre Haute, 34¾ bid; do. preferred, 64 bid; Lake Shore, 106¼ a 106¾.

The receipts for customs and the receipts, payments and balances at the Sub-Treasury in this city for the expired portion of the week have been as follows:—

Custom House.	—*Sub-Treasury.*—		
Receipts.	*Receipts.*	*Payments.*	*Balances.*
March 22.. $393,696	$962,417	$855,530	$97,851,329
March 23.. 578,000	1,359,455	447,032	94,763,702

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Tuesday, March 23—10:15 A. M.

$25000 US 6's, '81, cou..	116¼	50 shs West U Tel.....	38
10000 do.....	116¼	200 do.....bet call	38
20000 US 5-20, c, '62.....	113¾	100 Pacific M SS Co.....	86¼
2000 do.....	113¾	10 do.....bet call	90
20000 US 5-20, c, '67.....	112½	50 U S Ex Co.....2d call	54¼
10000 do.....s3	113¼	100 Adams Express.....	59
10000 US 5's, 10-40, cou.	105¾	155 Mer Union Ex.....	16
30000 Tenn 6's, new.....	64¼	25 do.....	16
10000 N C 6's, new.....	57¾	100 N Y Cen RR.....	156¾
35000 do.....	57¾	100 Mil & St P RR.....	69¼
1000 do.....	58	10 do.....	69
5000 Louisiana 6's, l b..	68	100 Hud River RR.....	135¼
3000 N Y City 6's, '87..	98¾	100 do.....	135¾
10000 Alabama 5's, bds.	98¾	100 do.....2d call	139¼
2000 do.....	99	120 Mich Central RR.....	117¼
1000 Hudson, 1st m.....	109¼	100 Mich Southern.....	96¾
1000 Mich So s f bs.....	86¼	100 C, C, Cin & Ind RR..	63
11000 A&TH 2d m pf...	81	5 Mil & St Paul pref..	80
10000 C & NW c c b.....	94¼	100 do.....	78¾
1000 Chic & N W 1st....	91¾	100 do.....b3	79
2000 Great West 2d m..	79	120 N J Central RR.....	110
2000 Pitts, Ft W & Chi 2d	97¼	200 Morris & Es RR.....	86
1000 Mil & St P 6's, 1st m	102¾	200 Pitts, Fort W & Chic.	121
3000 Mil & St P 7 3-10 con	85¾	100 do.....	121¼
1000 Morris & Essex 1st m	100	200 Ohio & Miss RR.....	32¾
5000 Mich Cen 8's, n bs.	119	100 do.....	32¾
10000 Mar Tr 10's, c.....	68	100 Al & Ter H RR.....	36
5 shs Bk of Commerce	122	200 Han & St Jo RR.....	114¼
50 do.....	122¼	200 do.....	115
20 do.....	122½	57 do.....	114
5 Market Bank.....	122	100 H & St Jos RR pref..	113¾
110 Cen Nat Bank.....	110	105 Lake Shore RR...b c	107¼
185 Am Mer Un Exp.2d c	40¾		

Quarter-past Twelve o'Clock P. M.

$10000 US 6's, '81, c..b8	116¼	20000 US 5-20, c, '65.....	116¼
2000 US 5-20, c, '62.....	113¾	125000 do.....	116¾
10000 do.....	113¾	50000 do.....	116¾
30000 do.....	113¾	20000 US 5-20, c, '67.....	113¾
5000 do.....	113¾	116000 do.....	113¾
24000 US 5-20, c, '65, n...	113¼	20000 do.....s3	113¼
40000 do.....	113¾	24000 US 5's, 10-40, cou.	105¾
3500 US 5-20, c, '64.....	114¼	5000 do.....b3	105¾
30000 do.....	114¾	40000 do.....	105¾
10000 do.....	114¼	10000 US 6's, currency..	103¾
10000 do.....b60	114¾	20000 do.....b3	103¾
25000 U S 5-20, c, '65.....	116¾		

Half-past Two o'Clock P. M.

$5000 N Car 6's, new...	57¼	100 shs Penn Coal Co...	213
110000 Tenn 6's, new.b3	64¼	300 do.....	215
2000 Missouri 6's.....	88¾	25 Pacific M SS Co.....	91
2000 do.....	88	300 do.....	91¼
5000 Ohio & Miss 1st m.	96	200 Hud River RR.....	139
3d shs West U Tel.....	38¼	50 Chic & N W RR.....	85¼
200 do.....	38¼	22 N H & Hartford RR.c	202
100 do.....	38¼	200 P, Ft W & Chi RR...	123
50 Quicksilver M Co...	21	100 C, C & I C RR.....	48¼
100 do.....b c, b6	21	100 H & St Jo RR.....	116
200 Mariposa pref.....	35	100 N J Central RR.....	110

STREET QUOTATIONS.

Quarter to Six o'Clock P. M.

Pacific Mail.....	89¼ a 89¾	St. Paul.....	69¾ bid.
West Un Tel.....	38¼ a 38¾	St Paul pref.....	80 asked.
N Y Central.....	163¾ a 163¾	Ohio & Miss.....	33¼ a 33¾
Erie.....	35¼ a 35¾	Northwestern..	85¼ a 85¾
Reading.....	92 a 92¼	Northwestern pf	92½ a 92¾

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

TUESDAY, March 23—6 P. M.

BUILDING MATERIALS.—The market for most kinds underwent no change of importance. Eastern spruce was still quite freely sought after, but the business was limited, consequent upon the smallness of the stock; prices were firm, ranging at from $22 to $25 for common to choice sehedules. Laths were firm at $3 75, at which price there were sales of 200,000 to arrive. Lime was moderately dealt in and firmly held at $1 25 for common and $2 for lump. Rosendale cement was in brisk demand and a shade higher, being quoted at $3 75 a $3. Bricks were steady at our last quotations.

COOPERAGE STOCK.—For all kinds the demand was very light, but prices remained steady at our last quotations, viz.:—Sugar shooks, 36 inch heads, $2 40 a $2 80; sugar shooks, 38 inch heads, $3 a $3 15; molasses do., 33 inch do., $2 60 a $2 80; rum do., $5 50; pipe do., $6 50 a $7; box do., $80. Green hoops, 14 feet, $45 a $55; do., 12 feet, $40 a $45.

CANDLES.—The demand for all kinds was without improvement, but prices were unaltered, Western and city adamatine being quoted at 15c. a 23c., sperm at 48c. and patent at 58c.

COCOA was dull, and we heard of no sales; prices were steady, however, at 10½c. a 10½c., gold, for Guayaquil, in bond, and 21c. a 30c., do., for Maracaibo, do.

COFFEE.—Input was in active demand, chiefly speculative, but at lower and irregular prices, the market closing at about 25c. for all kinds for immediate delivery. There were sales of 750,000 lbs., on the spot, at 25c. a 25¾c., and, reported, 3,000,000 lbs., for May to December delivery, at 25c. a 26c.

COFFEE.—Rio was only in moderate demand and prices were rather heavy at the quotations below. Sales 672 bags, to arrive per Mozart, on private terms. We quote:—Rio ordinary cargoes, 8¾c. a 9¼c., gold, duty paid; fair do., 9¾c. a 10¼c.; good do., 11c. a 11½c.; prime do., 11¾c. a 12c.; extremes for lots, 9c. a 13c. Other kinds are still dull and unchanged. We quote:—Java, 31c. a 33½c., gold, duty paid; Ceylon, 17c. a 19½c.; Singapore, 18c. a 20½c.; Maracaibo, 15c. a 19½c.; Laguayra, 18½c. a 17½c.; Jamaica, 14½c. a 15½c. and Costa Rica, Manila and Mexican, 15c. a 18c. Messrs. William Scott & Sons made the stock of Rio to-day as follows:—61,567 bags in New York, 20,500 in Baltimore, 10,000 in New Orleans, 3,000 in Mobile, and 2,500 in Boston.

COTTON.—Receipts, 4,568 bales. The amount of business consummated in this staple was again fair, the demand being chiefly for export, and the market was a shade firmer, though prices were not quotably higher. For future delivery there were sales of 250 bales low middling for April at 27¾c., and 200 do. for May at 28c. We quote:—

	Uplands and Florida.	*Mobile and Memphis.*	*N. O. and Texas.*
Ordinary	25½	25½	25¾
Good ordinary	26¾	26½	26¾
Low middling	27½	27¾	28
Middling	28¾	28¾	29
Good middling	30	31	32

DYEWOODS.—Logwood was in demand, but business was restricted by the small stock. For other kinds, which are in good supply, there was scarcely any inquiry. St. Domingo logwood was quoted at $27, Jamaica do. at $19 50 a $20, gold, and Cuba Tustic at $28 a $29 50, do.

DRUGS AND DYES.—The market for most all kinds was dull, but prices as a general thing were quite steady. There were sales of 100 casks bleaching powders at 3¾c. a 5½c., chiefly at 3½c.; 100 tons soda ash at 2¾c., gold, 125 drums caustic soda at 4¾c. a 4 80-100c. gold, 50 tons sal soda at $1 70 a $1 75, do. Bicarb. soda was quoted at 3½c., gold.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—Receipts, 4,726 bbls. flour, 177 do. and 1,700 bags corn meal, 368 bushels wheat, 8,639 do. corn. The flour market was still dull and prices were nominally unchanged, though holders would have been compelled to grant some further concession in order to sell to any extent. The demand was very light and confined mostly to the regular trade. California flour was dull and nominally unchanged; the sales were about 5,000 bbls. Southern flour was dull and nominally unchanged; sales 375 bbls. Rye flour was steady, with a fair inquiry, the sales being 350 bbls. Corn meal remained steady at our quotations below; sales 250 bbls. We quote:—

No. 3 State	$4 60 a	$5 50
Superfine State	5 75 a	5 90
Extra State	5 00 a	6 50
Choice do	6 75 a	7 25
Superfine Western	5 25 a	5 50
Extra do.	6 00 a	8 00
Round hoop Ohio, shipping brands	6 25 a	7 00
Round hoop Ohio, trade brands	7 00 a	9 00
St. Louis low extra	7 00 a	7 75
St. Louis straight extra	7 75 a	8 50
St. Louis choice double extra	9 00 a	10 00
St. Louis choice family	11 00 a	13 00
Southern choice and family	10 00 a	12 50
Southern superfine and extra	6 00 a	9 00
California flour (sacks and bbls)	7 00 a	10 50
Rye flour	5 00 a	7 00
Corn meal, city	4 25 a	4 75
Corn meal, Brandywine	5 00 a	5 10
Corn meal, Jersey	4 25 a	4 50

—There was more inquiry for spring wheat to-day, both for speculation and shipment, though shippers were deterred from purchasing much by the firmness of owners and of freights. Speculators bid $1 40 a $1 41 for choice No. 2 spring in store, but holders generally asked more. The sales (part last evening) were about 70,000 bushels at $1 34 for mixed spring, $1 40 a $1 42 for No. 2 spring in store (moving for shipment at $1 40), $1 42 a $1 42½ for do delivered, $1 60 for amber Michigan in store and $1 50 for common Canada. For California $1 55 a $1 60 was still bid and $1 60 a $1 65 was asked. Corn was in fair demand at about yesterday's figures. The sales were about 50,000 bushels at from 84c. a 86c. for common to choice new mixed Western, closing at 87c. a 88c. for good to choice high mixed, 90c. for old mixed Western delivered, 87c. a 88c. for yellow Western and 88c. a 89c. for for white do. Barley and barley malt were dull and heavy. Oats were quiet but firm, with sales of 35,000 bushels at 73½c. a 75c., in store and afloat. Rye was dull and nominalnt about $1 20 for Western, though small sales, comprising 2,500 bushels, were made at $1 40 for State and Western.

FISH.—The market for dry cod was without activity, and prices were a shade lower, with fair arrivals. The sales were about 500 quintals George's at $7 50. Mackerel were but little sought after, and prices favored the buyer; 400 bbls. were sold at $26 50 for No. 1 bay; $24 for No. 1 shore; $17 50 a $18 for No. 2 do.; $13 a $14 for large do., and $12 50 a $13 for medium do. Smoked herrings were slow of sale, and heavy at 35c. a 40c. for scaled, and 20c. a 22½c. for No. 1. Eastport and Labrador herring were still quoted at $6 a $6 50 per bbl. Pickled fish remained steady at $5 a $5 25 for scaled, and $6 a $6 25 for cod.

PASSIONS were a trifle more active and rates were generally firmer. The engagements were:—To Liverpool, 200 bales cotton at ⅝d., and per steamer 1,800 bales cotton at ½d., 15,000 bushels wheat at 4½d., 500 boxes bacon at 15c. a 17c. 6d., chiefly at the latter rate, 500 tierces beef at 2s. 6d., 200 tierces lard at 15c., 100 tons oil cake at 15s. To London, 1,400 bbls. rosin on private terms. To Glasgow, per steamer, 1,500 bushels corn at 4½d. To Hamburg, per steamer, 100 bales cotton at ¾d. To Bremen, per steamer, 25th inst., 80 bales compressed cotton at ¾c., 15,000 lbs. whalebone at 1c., 500 bbls. shoe pegs at 2c.; 50 hhds. tobacco at 22c. 65. a 25c.; 173 bales do. at 21c. and per steamer 1st April, 2,400 bbls. rosin at 2c. 9d.; 50 hhds. Kentucky tobacco at 17c. 6d. and 22 cases do. at 18c. Per Antwerp 275 bags coffee on private terms. The charters were:—A Russian ship from Philadelphia to a direct port on the Continent, 5,000 bbls. petroleum at 35. An American brig, 2,000 bbls. capacity, to the windward at 40c. Two barks about 240 tons each, from Elizabethport to Boston, with coal, at $1 60. A North German brig, 600 bbls. capacity, to the River Plate. Lumber and measurement goods—A vessel with 500,000 feet timber from St. Mary's to the River Plate, and one with about 250,000 feet lumber from Savannah to the same, on private terms.

HOPS were slow of sale, the demand being mainly confined to the present wants of consumers. About 50 bales were sold at from 5c. to 15c. for inferior to choice.

HIDES.—The market was very quiet, there being scarcely any demand, but prices were without alteration. We heard of no sales of moment. We quote:—Dry hides, Buenos Ayres, 25 a 27 lbs., 22c. a 24c.; do., 20 a 22 lbs., 23½c. a 24c.; Montevideo, 21 a 23 lbs., 23½c. a 23½c.; Corrientes, 21½ a 23 lbs., 22c. a 23c.; Rio Grande, 20 a 22 lbs., 23½c. a 23½c.; Orinoco, 21 a 23 lbs., 21½c.; California, 22 a 25 lbs., 23c. a 23c.; Central American, 18 a 21 lbs., 20½c. a 22c.; Matamoros and Mexican, 22 a 24 lbs., 18c. a 20c.; Vera Cruz, 18 a 19 lbs., 21c. a 23c.; Tampico, 20 a 22 lbs., 21c. a 22c.; Bogota, 18 a 20 lbs., 20½c. a 21½c., gold. Total stock March 23, 1869, 30,400 hides.

IRON.—For Scotch pig the market was quiet, but stocks being still light former prices were maintained. There were sales of 240 tons Eglinton, ex ship, at $40. Other brands were quoted at $41 a $42 50. American was only moderately sought, and the offerings being fair the market was scarcely so firm, prices ranging at from $40 to $41 50 for common to good No. 1, and $38 a $40 for No. 2. Sales were reported of 5,000 tons at $38 for No. 1 X and $40 for No. 2 X. 1,500 tons Gray Forge were disposed of at a private price. Of old rails 100 tons were sold at $47. New foreign rails were in fair request, and 2,500 tons were sold for next summer's delivery on terms kept private. English were quoted at $54 50 a $55, gold, and American at $76 a $77, currency. Refined bar was steady at $85 a $90.

INDIGO.—All kinds were dull, the demand being only for small lots, but prices were steady at the following quotations:—Madras, 2c. a $1 10, gold; Manila, 90c. a $1 25, do.; Bengal, $1 70 a $2 25, do., and Guatemala, $1 20 a $1 45, do.

LEAD was in moderate demand and prices were firm. There were sales of 75 tons German, ex ship, at $6 25½, gold. Bar was quoted at 10½c. and sheet and pipe at 12c.

LEATHER.—The market for hemlock sole was quiet, the demand from all sources being light, but, with a small stock, previous prices were demanded. Oak was dull and prices were unchanged. Annexed are the current quotations:—Hemlock—Buenos Ayres, heavy, 27½c. a 29c. per lb.; do., middle, 25c. a 26c.; do., light, 21c. a 23c.; do., California, heavy, 22c. a 23c.; do., middle, 20c. a 21c.; do., light, 19c. a 22c.; do., Orinoco, &c., heavy, 25c. a 27c.; do., middle, 23c. a 24c.; do., light, 20c. a 21c.; do., light, 20c. a 23c.; do., good damaged, all kinds and weights, 20c. a 23c.; do., poor do., 21c. a 24c.; do., in the rough, 35c. a 38c. Oak slaughter, heavy, 38c. a 43c.; do., middle, 38c. a 44c.; do., light, 38c. a 40c.; do., cropped, heavy, 40c. a 42c.; do., middle, 42c. a 45c.; do., light, 42c. a 45c.; do., in the rough, heavy, 38c. a 44c.; do., middle, 38c. a 42.; do., light, 38c. a 44c.; do., heifles, 22c. a 23c.

MOLASSES.—The demand for foreign was fairly active, and a good business was consummated. Prices, however, favored the buyer. New Orleans was dull and unchanged. The sales were 350 hhds., 38 tierces Cuba muscovado at 30c., and 77 hhds., 59 tierces Cuba clayed at the same price.

NAVAL STORES.—Receipts none. For spirits turpentine the market was quiet but firmer, though prices were not quotably higher. There were sales of 35 bbls. (including a small lot to arrive) at 33c. Rosin—Low No. 2 was in active demand for export to Bremen and London at about yesterday's prices, while other kinds were quiet but unchanged in value. The sales were 1,500 bbls. good strained to low No. 2, at $2 52½ a $2 55; 1,100 do. No. 2 at $2 57½, afloat; 509 do. common strained at $2 40; 150 do. No. 1 at $3 75 a $4, and 150 do. extra pale at $6 50 a $7. We quote:—Strained, $2 40 a $2 50; No. 2, $2 52½ a $2 90; No. 1, $3 a $4 25; pale, $4 50 a $5 50, and extra do., $6 a $8. Tar was in better demand and sales were effected of 31 bbls. (provision bbls., to arrive) at $3 75; 100 do. North county, supposed at $2 95, and 400 do. Washington, understood at $2 85.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts, 484 bbls. pork, 100 do. beef, 533 packages cut meats, 1,004 do. lard and 251 dressed hogs. For pork there was some improvement in the demand and a good business was transacted, but there was less firmness in prices, the market closing at about $31 for new mess. For immediate delivery about 2,200 bbls. were disposed of at $30 95 a $31 06 for new mess, $30 75 for old do., $31 25 for city mess and $27 a $27 25 for extra prime. For future delivery 250 bbls. new mess were sold for April delivery at $31, seller's option. Dressed hogs were quiet and scarcely so firm. Western closing at 13¾c. a 15¼c. and city at 14c. a 14¼c. Live hogs were quiet at 11c. a 11¼c., with arrivals of 300 head. Beef was dull and heavy at former prices; sales 100 bbls. at $11 a $16 for plain mess and $12 a $18 for extra do. Beef hams were steady at $25 a $31. Within the range of these prices 100 bbls. were disposed of. There beef continued to rule dull and nominal at $23 a $26 for prime mess and $29 a $34 for India do. For cut meats the market was moderately active at about former prices. The sales were 200 packages at 13c. a 13½c. for dry salted and pickled shoulders, 15½c. for smoked do., 16¾c. a 17c. for pickled hams and 21c. a 21½c. for smoked and bagged do. Bacon was dull and nominal at 16½c. for Cumberland cut, 17½c. for long clear, 17½c. for short do. and 16¾c. a 17c. for short rib. The market for lard remained quiet and heavy, and the sales were confined to about 300 packages at 18c. a 19¼c. for No. 1 to prime steam and kettle rendered. The market for butter was unchanged, being fairly active and firm for the better grades, which were in light supply, but dull and heavy for the low grades, the supply of which was fair. Cheese was only in moderate demand, and prices were generally in favor of the buyer, at prices ranging from 15c. to 22½c.

PETROLEUM.—Receipts, 1,437 bbls. refined. Crude in bulk was dull on the spot, but very active for future delivery, and prices were materially higher. The sales were 25,000 bbls. for April and May delivery at 19½c., the market closing at 18c. a 18¼c. for lots for immediate delivery. Refined was more sought after, but the business was light, being restricted by the smallness of the offerings and the increased firmness of holders. There were sales of 3,000 bbls. standard white at 30c. a 31c.—the market closing at the latter price. In Philadelphia the market opened decidedly firmer, but subsequently became weak, closing firm, however, at about 30½c. a 31c. on the spot, and 31½c. for the balance of the month. There were sales of 5,000 bbls. for the balance of this month at 31c. a 32c., chiefly at 31½c.

RICE.—We heard of no sales of moment. Prices ranged from 8¼c. to 9¾c. for common to prime.

SUGAR.—For raw the demand continued active and with only moderate offerings, prices further advanced ⅛c. per lb., the market closing strong at 12½c. a 12¾c. for fair to good refining Cuba, 12⅝c. a 12¾c. for fair to good grocery do., 13c. a 13¼c., for prime to choice do., and 11¾c. a 12½c. for refining to grocery Porto Rico. The sales were 1,500 hhds., part at 12c. a 12½c. for Cuba and English Islands, and 11¾c. Porto Rico; also 2,800 boxes, part at 12½c. a 12¾c. Refined continued in demand and a further advance in prices was established, the market closing at 17¼c. for hard, 16½c. a 16¾c. for soft white, 14¾c. a 15¼c. for yellow, and 15½c. for extra C.

SEEDS.—Clover was dull, but steady, at 15c. a 15¾c. Timothy was steady at $3 50 a $3 75, while rough flax was in light supply and firmly held at $3 75 a $3 80. Linseed was dull and nominal at $2 25, gold, duty paid. Of Sicily 500 bags were sold at or about $3 10, gold, duty paid.

SKINS.—Deer was moderately dealt in at former prices, the sales being 1,000 lbs. Curacoa, 5,000 do. Angostura, 2,000 do. Santa Juan and 7,000 do. Pueblo Cabello on private terms. Goat were steady in value, with sales of 130 bales Caracoa and 69 do. Payta on private terms. We quote:—Goat—Tampico, 57½c. per lb., gold; Matamoros, 57½c., do.; Vera Cruz, 55c., do.; Buenos Ayres, 42½c. a 50c. per lb., currency; Payta, 50c., do.; Curacoa, 50c. a 52c., do; Cape, 45c. a 50c., do. Deer—Honduras, 40c. per lb., gold; Vera Cruz, 47½c. a 50c., do.; Central American, 45c. a 50c. do. San Juan, 40c. a 42½c., do.; Sisal, 45c. a 47c., do.; Angostura, 30c. a 31c., do.; Para, 50c. a 51c., do.

TOBACCO.—Kentucky was in improved demand, both for export and the home trade, and previous prices were realized. The sales were 275 hhds. old crop at 10c. a 11c. and 150 do. new do. at 7c. a 13c. Seedleaf was more sought after, and sales were effected of 700 cases 1868 crop Connecticut, and 70 State fillers on private terms. Havana was sold to the extent of 300 bales at 85c. a $1 05, currency, duty paid, and 38c., gold, in bond. Annexed are the current quotations:—

Kentucky.	*Light Leaf.*	*Heavy Western and Charlotte.*
Lugs, per lb	6c. a 7½c.	8c. a 8½c.
Common leaf	7½c. a 8½c.	9c. a 10½c.
Medium leaf	9c. a 11c.	11c. a 12½c.
Good leaf	11½c. a 12½c.	12c. a 14c.
Fine leaf	12c. a 14c.	14½c. a 16c.
Selections	14½c. a 16c.	16½c. a 18c.
Seedlea.		*Old Crops.*
Connecticut and Massachusetts fillers		8c. a 12½c.
Wrappery lots		18c. a 45c.
Fine wrappers		50c. a 65c.
New York State fillers		7½c. a 9c.
Average lots		12c. a 22c.
Wrappers		18c. a 40c.
Pennsylvania and Ohio fillers		7c. a 7½c.
Average lots		9c. a 20c.
Wrappers		12c. a 35c.

TIN.—Straits were in fair demand, and quoted at the close at 32½c. a 33c., gold. Sales were made of 2,500 slabs, part at 32½c., cash, and 300 do. to arrive in Boston at 32c. Banca, though firm, was firm at 35½c. a 36c., gold, and English was steady at 31½c. do. Plates were moderately dealt in, but quite steady in value. The sales were 300 boxes I. C. coke at $7 62½, gold, and 2,000 do. assorted charcoal on private terms. We quote:—I. C. charcoal, $8 75 a $9; I. C. coke, $7 a $8; coke terne, $6 12½ a $6 25, and charcoal do., $8 a $8 37½—all gold.

WOOL.—The amount of business doing in fleece is very light, there being scarcely any demand from any source, but the market is firm for all descriptions, holders manifesting a disinclination to sell except at full previous prices, viz.:—Fleece—Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia—Saxony, 63c. a 70c.; full blood, 60c. a 67c.; three-fourth do., 50c. a 52½c.; one-half do., 43c. a 45½c.; one-fourth do. and common, 31c. a 33½c. Michigan and New York State—Full blood, 55c. a 57½c.; three-fourth do., 48c. a 50c.; one-half do., 41c. a 43c., and common, 31c. a 33c. Western—Full blood, 55c. a 57½c. according to grade and condition. Pulled is only in moderately active demand, but firm at the prices previously current. Both Texas and California are in fair demand, but the scarcity of desirable grades materially restricts business. Prices are steady at former quotations. For foreign the market is dull, though there is rather more inquiry for carpet descriptions which are in light stock and held firmly. The sales are 70,000 lbs. fleece at 68c. a 57c., including 1,200 X Michigan at 49c., scoured at 80c. a 90c., 15,000 XX Ohio at 55c. a 57c., 2,800 Western at 48c., a small lot fine do. at 50c. a 52c., also 40,000 lbs. pulled at 35c. for No. 1, 46c. a 50c. for super, and 62c. a 68c. for extra, 15,000 lbs. California at 37c. for spring clip, and 37c. a 38c. for fall do., 8,000 lbs. Texas at 30c. a 35c. Of foreign the sales are about 250 bales Donskoi on private terms.

WHISKEY—Receipts 338 bbls. The market was dull at 95c. tax paid, at which price there were a few small sales

THE PRESIDENT AND REPEAL.

The President's Interpretation of the Tenure of Office Law.

[Washington (March 20) correspondence of the Chicago Tribune—Washburne.]

One of the Western Senators who called on the President this morning to talk about the question now uppermost in the Senate asked him what he wanted done. "I want the Tenure of Office law repealed," he said. "But what if repeal cannot be carried?" asked the Senator. "The people trusted me and elected me to an office I did not seek. Now, cannot the Senate trust me to administer the government?" answered the President. To this the Senator responded that he thought the Senate entirely willing to trust the present President, but believed the law a wise one and one that ought to be kept on the statute books. The President replied that he thought and believed the country thought it was made to restrain Andrew Johnson, and as the purpose for which it had been passed was accomplished he didn't see why it should be kept longer standing. The Senator said he was for repeal, and hoped no trouble would grow out of antagonism if it was not repealed. The President answered:—"I want it repealed, but if Congress decides against me I shall go on and execute it. I have nothing to do but recommend the policy. If Congress don't adopt it, then I must execute the laws they make." The Senator said he would like to know how the President interpreted the law, to which the President said:—

"I have consulted my Cabinet on that point. We read it over carefully. The law is not one thing at one time and another thing at another time; it protects the office holders all the while against both the President and the Senate, and I don't see how they can be turned out at any time except for cause. I can ask the Sen