FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

THURSDAY, August 5—6 P. M.

The first of the August sales of gold was made to-day by Assistant Treasurer Butterfield, pursuant to the order of the Secretary already published. The aggregate bids were $4,400,000, at prices ranging from 135.50 to 136.13. The last bid was made for the entire amount of $1,000,000 announced to be sold, and was of course, being the highest, accepted. This figure reflected the firmness of the premium in the Gold Room, where it opened at 136, early advanced ⅛, whence it reacted subsequently to 135⅞, but speedily recovered, and at noon was 136⅛. This hardening of the premium was likewise accompanied by increased activity consequent upon advices from Europe indicating growing anxiety in the money centres, there, regarding exciting political complications in Spain and Egypt. A decline of ¼ to ⅜ in consols, and disappointment in the expectation indulged in that the Bank of England directors would reduce the rate of discount at their meeting to-day, coupled with rumors of a probable drain of specie from England towards the Continent and a lower quotation for our own bonds abroad, aided to give force and influence to these fears in this market. In the afternoon gold touched 136⅛, but fell off later and closed in the room at 136⅛. Subsequently to the adjournment of the board it receded to ⅛, but rallied again, and at the close of business was 136⅜. The steamer Eagle, for Havana, to-day took out $27,000 in specie. The disbursements of coin interest to-day amount to $116,324.

The following table shows the range of gold during the day and its price at stated hours:—

10 A. M.	136	2 P. M.	136⅛
10:48 A. M.	135⅞	2:50 P. M.	136⅛
11 A. M.	136	3 P. M.	136⅜
12 M.	136⅛	4 P. M.	136⅛
12:10 P. M.	136⅛	5 P. M.	136⅜

Transactions in the loan market were at 5, 5⅛, 6 and 7 per cent for carrying up to Clearing House time. Subsequently 5⅛ and 7 were also paid, and an exceptional transaction occurred at 4 per cent. The report of the Gold Exchange Bank for to-day is as follows:—Gross clearings, $42,136,000; gold balances, $1,802,098; currency balances, $2,665,88 6.

The money market worked to-day without new features, the extreme rates on call loans being 5 and 7 per cent, with the larger number of transactions at 6 and 7, although sufficient occurred at 5 on governments to render them more than exceptional. Prime discounts range from 7 to 9 per cent.

Foreign Exchange is somewhat firmer, and while rates remain unchanged bankers no longer allow the 1-16 brokerage. The late rapid appreciation of bonds in this market in consequence of the government purchases and the growing scarcity of five-twenties thereby resulting, has placed this market in such relation to Europe on some of the issues as to favor shipments hither. It is reported that bonds were bought in Europe yesterday and this morning on New York account, which is not unlikely, in small amounts, and this has had its influence here upon both the exchange and gold markets. Any effort at large purchases, however, upon the same account would soon restore the former relations of the foreign and home markets. These are not, therefore, much apprehended. We quote previous rates as follows:—Sterling, sixty days, commercial, 109¼ a 109¾; good to prime bankers', 109¾ a 110; short sight, 110¼ a 110½; Paris, sixty days, 5.18¾ a 5.13¾; short sight, 5.13¾ a 5.11¾; Antwerp, 5.18¾ a 5.13¾; Switzerland, 5.18¾ a 5.13¾; Hamburg, 35¾ a 35⅞; Amsterdam, 40⅛ a 40¾; Frankfort, 40¼ a 40⅞; Bremen, 78⅜ a 79¼; Prussian thalers, 70¼ a 71¼.

Governments opened this morning with renewed activity, with an advance upon the closing figures of last night in 64's, both 65's and 67's, the other five-twenties and 81's being steady. The ten-forties and currency sixes were strong and still prominent features of the list. At the noon call 62's and 65's were offered at a concession of ⅛, and 64's held ⅛ higher. The other five-twenties were steady, without change. The ten-forties were still in demand and ⅛ higher for the coupon issue, with no offerings of registered at 112⅝ bid. Currency bonds were firm. At the last call 64's, both 65's, 67's and currency bonds were offered at ¼ less. The other issues were without change. The market continued firm at the decline up to the close of business, and closed steady on these issues, excepting '62's and '65's, which fell off another ¼. The currency sixes and '68's reacted and the ten-forties advanced. The '81's were weak at the close. The following were the prices at five o'clock:—United States sixes, 1881, registered, 124⅛ a 125; do. do., coupon, 124¾ a 124⅞; do. five-twenties, registered, 123½ a 124¾; do. do., coupon, 1862, 124⅞ a 125; do. do., coupon, 1864, 123⅞ a 124; do. do., coupon, 1865, 123⅞ a 124; do. do., coupon, new, 1865, 122½ a 122¾; do. do., coupon, 1867, 122⅝ a 122¾; do. do., coupon, 1868, 122¼ a 122⅝; do. ten-forties, registered, 112¾ a 113; do. do., coupon, 116⅛ a 116⅜; currency bonds, 111¼ a 111½.

In State bonds Tennessees were affected by the unsatisfactory condition of the political situation in that State, and the new bonds went off on the second call and were pressed for sale. North Carolinas, old, also declined. Missouri sixes were firm. The other issues were dull, in sympathy with Tennessees, and barely steady. The following were the prices on the second call:—Tennessee sixes, ex coupon, 61¾ a 62; do., new, 54⅞ a 55; Virginia sixes, ex coupon, 57½ a 58¾; do., new, 61 a 61½; Georgia sevens, 91 a 93; North Carolina sixes, ex coupon, 57 a 57¼; do., new, 50¾ a 51½; South Carolina sixes, 63; Missouri sixes, 87¾ a 88; Louisiana sixes, 70 bid; do., levee eights, 85; Alabama eights, 92½ a 93¼.

In the stock market the Western shares continued to be the leading features, with the St. Paul and Northwestern stocks as the most prominent of the list. Rock Island to-day joined in with the speculative movement in these shares, advancing rapidly from 114½ to 116½. The market opened with a generally buoyant feeling, but during the day developed a reaction, which carried prices down ½ to 1 per cent on the entire list, which was followed, however, by a partial recovery, the market closing strong on the features, although off the highest figures of the day. Northwestern ranged on extreme quotations from 87½ to 88¾ for the common and 97¼ a 98¼ for preferred; St. Paul, 81¾ a 82½ for common and 89¾ a 90½ for preferred. The Vanderbilt shares were weak through the day, on rumors of the postponement of the consolidation scheme for an indefinite period. New York Central upon this report sold down to 207¾. Hudson River 183¾ and Harlem 164, but recovered before the close. In the miscellaneous stock list Pacific Mail sold between 84¾ and 85. The fluctuations in the balance of this list and the expresses were unimportant. The following were the prices on the second call:—Canton, 58¾ a 60; Cumberland, 34¾ a 35½; Western Union, 39 a 39½; Quicksilver, 15¼ a 16; Mariposa, 9; do. preferred, 15¾ a 16¼; Pacific Mail, 84¼ a 84½; Boston Water Power, 15 a 16; Adams Express, 59¼ a 59½; Wells-Fargo Express, 19⅞ a 20¼; American Express, 41 a 42; United States Express, 68½ a 69; Merchants' Union Express, 10½ bid; New York Central, 208½ a 208¾; Hudson River, 184 a 184½; Harlem, 162 a 165¼; do. preferred, 166; Reading, 97¼ a 97⅝; Michigan Central, 131 bid; Lake Shore, 107⅞ a 107¾; Illinois Central, 141½ a 142; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 107¾ a 108; Chicago and Northwestern, 87¾ a 88; do. preferred, 97½ a 97¾; Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, 73 a 75; Rock Island, 116½ a 116¾; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 82¾ a 82¾; do. preferred, 90¾ a 90¾; Toledo and Wabash, 75; do. preferred, 81; Fort Wayne, 153 bid; Alton and Terre Haute, 34 a 35; do. preferred, 59 a 59½; Ohio and Mississippi, 32¾ a 32½; Delaware and Lackawanna, 112 bid; New Jersey Central, 104 a 104½; Chicago and Alton, 165 a 166; do. preferred, 165 bid; Morris and Essex, 88 a 88½; Hannibal and St. Joseph, 124 a 125; do. preferred, 123 a 124; Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, 35 a 35½.

The following were the bids for city bank stocks to-day:—New York, 130; Manhattan, 135; Merchants', 127; Mechanics', 136; America, 142; City, 201¼; Phenix, 110; Tradesmen's, 150; Greenwich, 165; National, 114; Merchants' Exchange, 117; Leather Manufacturers', 183½; Seventh Ward, 112; State of New York, 111; Commerce, 124¼; Broadway, 200; Ocean, 100½; American Exchange, 114; Chatham, 156; Bank of the Republic, 116; Irving, 109; Nassau, 105; Shoe and Leather, 140; Continental, 99¾; St. Nicholas, 114; Importers and Traders', 134; Park, 168; Central National, 110¾; Fourth National, 104¼; Ninth National, 113; Tenth National, 103; Gold Exchange, 138; Bankers and Brokers' Association, 100.

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. Receipts.	Sub-Treasury. Receipts.	Payments.	Balances.
Aug. 2..	$299,645	$1,258,798	$599,614	$93,042,098
Aug. 3..	526,935	993,419	678,084	94,192,874
Aug. 4..	577,324	807,636	905,603	94,640,032
Aug. 5..	758,000	1,050,226	2,005,370	94,016,525

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Thursday, August 5—10:15 A. M.

$2500 US 5-20, c, '64..... 123⅝
45000 US 5-20, r, '65, n... 122¾
500 do.....small 122¾
10000 US 5-20, r, '67..... 122½
101000 US 5-20, c, '67...s3 122⅞
1000 US 5's, 10-40, c.... 116
75000 US 6's, currcy 111⅝
10000 Tenn 6's, ex c..... 62
30000 Tenn 6's, new..... 55⅛
60000 do.....s60 55
10000 do..... 56⅛
3000 Georgia 6's..... 84
1000 N C 6's..... 57
15000 N C 6's, new..... 51
8000 S Car 6's, new..... 61⅝
40000 Missouri 6's..... 87¾
2000 Ala. 8's, bonds..... 95½
2000 Louisiana 6's..... 71
9000 Pac 7's, gd by Mo. 91⅛
10000 Cen P RR g bds.... 87⅛
20000 do.....bet call 87⅛
1000 C & H I&P RR 7's. 94⅛
2000 Morris&Essexlstm 99
3000 do..... 98¾
11000 P, Ft W & Chi 1st. 102
1000 Pitts, Ft W&Chic 3d 95
1000 N J Central, 1st m 99
1000 Mil & St P 8's,1st m 101
5000 Cleve & Pitts c bds 86
5000 C, C&Ind Cent 1st. 83⅞
2000 N Y & N H 6's, ba.. 96½
35 shs Phenix Bank.... 115
17 Continental Bank.... 109
25 Park Bank..... 108
5 Gen National Bk..... 111
42 Ninth Nat Bank..... 115
200 West U Tel..... 38⅞
400 do..... 39
20 Del & Hud Canal.... 128
26 do.....bet call 126
10 Bank's&Brokers' As 109
400 Pacific Mail SS Co... 84½
100 shs NY Cen RR..... 208⅛
1200 Reading RR..... 97⅛
50 Illinois Cen RR..... 142
200 Clev & Pitts RR..... 108⅛
400 do..... 108
10 do..... 107
600 Chic & N W RR..... 88
10 Chic & N W RR pf.. 98
125 do..... 97½
100 Chicago & R I RR... 115½
600 do..... 116
1200 do..... 116⅛
500 do.....b3 116¼
50 do..... 116⅜
100 do.....bet call 116⅜
200 Mil & St Paul RR.... 82
800 do..... 82¼
50 Mil & St Paul pref.. 90¼
400 do..... 90⅜
20 Nor & Wor RR..... 112
200 Morris & Es RR..... 88⅝
100 Pitts, Fort W&Chic.. 152
500 Ohio & Miss RR..... 32¼
100 Chic & Alton..... 165
100 H & St Jo RR..... 125
10 Chic, Bur & Qy RR. 198
100 Del, Lack & West... 112¼

One o'Clock P. M.

$10000 Tenn 6's, ex c.... 62
10000 Tenn 6's, new..... 55¼
10000 do.....s30 55
10000 do..... 55½
65000 do..... 55
5000 do..... 54¾
1000 N Car 6's..... 57
40000 N Car 6's, n..... 51½
50000 Missouri 6's..... 88
10000 do..... 87¾
1000 Mich So 2d m..... 93½
2000 N J Cen. new bds. 96
2000 Great West 2d m.. 80
2000 Del, Lack & W, 2d m 93½
4000 Tol & Wab 2d m.. 83½
10000 Cen Pac RR g bds. 97
5000 A & T H 2d mpf.. 83
2000 Pitts, FtW &Chi 1st 103
2000 Mich S & I bonds.. 99
20 shs Ocean Bank ... 102
50 West U Tel..... 38¾
100 Quick Min...bet call 15½
100 Lake Shore & M S RR. 107½
1500 do..... 107⅜
100 do.....b10 107⅞
200 do.....b30 108⅛
100 do.....b30 108⅛
100 shs NY Cen RR..... 208¼
1200 Reading RR..... 97⅛
50 Illinois Cen RR..... 142
200 Clev & Pitts RR..... 108⅛
200 do..... 108⅛
100 Hud River RR..... 188⅛
200 Reading RR..... 97⅜
200 Clev & Pitts RR..... 107⅞
200 do.....b5 108
200 do..... 108
300 Lake Shore & M S RR 107⅞
50 do..... 107⅞
100 do..... 107⅞
100 do.....b30 107⅞
100 do.....b30 107⅞
8 C, C, Cin & I RR..... 75⅞
100 C & N W RR..... 88⅛
700 do..... 88⅛
1250 do.....s30 88
37 do..... 88⅛
100 Chic & N W RR pf.. 97⅞
200 Chic & Rk I RR..... 115⅞
200 do.....b60 115⅞
400 do..... 115⅞
150 do..... 115
500 do.....b60 115⅛
200 Mil & St Paul RR.... 81⅞
400 do..... 81⅞
100 Mil & St Paul pf.b10 90⅛
400 do..... 90⅛
100 P, Ft W & Chi RR.... 153⅞
20 N J Central RR..... 104
26 do..... 104⅛
500 Morris & Es RR..... 88⅞
50 N Y & N H RR..... 125
15 do.....s10 134⅞
100 Han & St Jo RR..... 126

12 M. and 2:15 o'Clock P. M.

$25000 US 6's, '81, c..s15 124⅛
51000 do..... 124⅛
2000 US 5-20, reg, '62.. 124
14000 US 5-20, c, '62..... 125⅛
10000 US 5-20, c, '64..... 124
5000 do.....s3 124
5000 US 5-20, c, '65..... 124⅛
10000 US 5-20, c, '65, n.. 123⅞
35000 do.....b3 123⅞
50000 US 5-20, r, '67..... 122⅞
10000 do..... 122⅞
30000 US 5-20, r, '68.. 122⅞
29000 US 5-20, c, '67 .. 122⅞
100000 do.....b8 123
43500 do..... 122⅞
10000 US 6's, currency. 111⅞
10000 US 5's, 10-40, reg. 112⅛
35500 US 5's, 10-40, c.... 116⅛
140000 do.....b3 116⅛
9000 do..... 116⅛

STREET QUOTATIONS.

Half-past Five o'Clock P. M.

West Un Tel....	39½ a 39¾	Northwestern ..	87¾ a 88
Pacific Mail....	84¾ a 84¾	Northwestern pf	97¾ a 97¾
Wells-Fargo Ex.	20 a —	Rock Island....	115¾ a 116
N Y Central	208½ a 208¾	St Paul.....	82¼ a 82½
Hudson River...	183¾ a 184	St Paul pref	90¼ a 90½
Erie.....	28½ a 29	Ft Wayne.....	153 a 153½
Reading.....	97½ a 97¾	Ohio & Miss....	33¼ a 33½
Lake Shore.....	107¾ a 107⅞		

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THURSDAY, August 5—6 P. M.

COFFEE.—Rio was quiet, but held with firmness at former prices. Maracaibo was in good demand, and a resale of 1,573 bags, ex Spring Bird, was made at 18¾c., gold, duty paid. Of Laguayra 250 bags were disposed of at 17½c., gold, duty paid. Other kinds remained quiet.

COTTON.—The market was quiet, the demand being light, but prices were without alteration. Sales, 939 bales, of which 528 were for spinning, 314 for export and 97 on speculation. For future delivery, however, the market was fairly active and firm, and the following sales were effected:—400 bales, basis low middling, for December at 27c.; 450 do., do., for January at 28½c., and 6.00 do., do., for December, on private terms. We quote:—

	Uplands and Florida.	Mobile and Memphis.	New Orleans and Texas.
Ordinary	27¼	27½	27¾
Good ordinary	29¾	29¾	29¾
Low middling	32	32½	32½
Middling	33⅝	33¾	34
Good middling	34⅝	35	35½

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—Receipts, 14,227 bbls. flour, 53 do. corn meal, 106,792 bushels wheat, 41,717 do. corn, 73,285 do. oats, 930 do. rye, and 980 do. malt. The market for State and Western flour remained quiet and steady, under a moderate inquiry. California flour was almost unsalable. The sales were about 6,000 bbls. at prices within the range of the quotations annexed. Southern flour was dull and unchanged. The sales were about 400 bbls. Rye flour was in fair demand, and held with firmness. The sales were about 350 bbls. Corn meal was steady and firm, with sales of 400 bbls. We quote.—

No. 2 State	$5 00 a	$5 00
Superfine State	6 00 a	6 50
Extra State	6 75 a	7 00
Choice do	7 00 a	7 50
Superfine Western	6 00 a	6 50
Extra do	6 50 a	7 25
Extra Minnesota	7 50 a	9 00
Round hoop Ohio, shipping brands	6 50 a	7 50
Round hoop Ohio, trade brands	7 50 a	8 50
St. Louis low extra	7 00 a	7 50
St. Louis straight extra	7 50 a	8 00
St. Louis choice double extra	8 00 a	9 00
St. Louis choice family	10 00 a	11 00
Southern choice and family	8 00 a	11 25
Southern superfine and extra	6 00 a	8 00
California flour (sacks and bbls.)	6 00 a	9 50
Rye flour	4 50 a	6 75
Corn meal, city	5 50 a	5 75
Corn meal, Brandywine	6 00 a	6 10
Corn meal, Jersey	5 50 a	—

—The wheat market opened firmer for choice, but closed quiet for all kinds. Soft spring was nominal. California was firmer, $1 75 having been frequently refused for choice. The sales were about 110,000 bushels (part last evening) at $1 48 to $1 52 for soft No. 2 spring, $1 54 a $1 56 for ordinary to choice do., $1 62 a $1 65 for common to choice No. 1 do., $1 56 for new Ohio, $1 77½ for California, $1 68 for amber Missouri and $1 70 for do. Tennessee. There was a sale of No. 2 spring at $1 68, but as the wheat was frequently rejected we omit it. There were also transfers of cargoes at $1 57, which we also omit. Corn was scarce and higher. The demand was good and sales were effected of 95,000 bushels, at 76c. a $1 13½ for inferior to prime new mixed Western, $1 06 a $1 08 for prime do. in store, $1 14 for yellow in store and $1 12 a $1 13 for white. Oats were steady, with sales of 30,000 bushels, at 73c. a 75c. for new Southern, 75c. a 76c. for new Western, 80c. a 81c. for old do. and 70c. a 73c. for Jersey. Rye was slow of sale, but steady; Western and State were quoted $1 30 a $1 31. Barley and barley malt still continued to rule dull and nominal.

FREIGHTS were more active and firmer for grain, but quiet, though steady, for other articles. The chartering business was dull, though there prevailed an improved demand for vessels suitable for the petroleum trade. The engagements were:—To Liverpool, 15,000 bushels wheat at 7d., 15,000 do. do. at 7½d., and, per steamer, 60,000 bushels wheat at 6¾d. a 9d. (chiefly at the inside rate), 5,000 boxes cheese at 40s., 250 do. bacon at 52s. and 500 bales hops at ¼d. To Glasgow, per steamer, 15,000 bushels grain at 9¼d. and 1,000 bbls. flour at or about 3s. To London, 200 tons oil cake at 22s. 6d., and, per steamer, 500 bales hops at ½d. The charters were:—A bark to a direct port on the Continent, with 4,800 bbls. petroleum, at 6s. 6d.; a bark to Marseilles, with about 2,500 bbls. crude petroleum, at 5s., and a bark, 288 tons, to Spanish Main and back, on private terms.

GUNNIES continued to rule quiet but steady at 15c. a 17c. for bags and 23c. a 23½c. for cloth.

HEMP remained dull and nominal at 12½c., gold, for Manila, 4c. a 4½c. for Jute, 9½c. a 9¾c. for Sisal, and 7½c. a 8c. for Tampico, in bond. We heard of no sales.

HOPS.—The demand for all grades continued limited, but prices were unchanged, ranging at from 7c. to 15c. for common to choice. Sales about 80 bales.

HAY.—The market was tolerably active at steady prices. Shipping was selling at 60c., retail lots at 90c. a $1 25, long rye straw at $1 40 a $1 50, and short do. at $1 05 a $1 10.

MOLASSES.—The market was very quiet, but full prices were demanded for all kinds. The sales were 134 hhds. Barbadoes on private terms. We quote:—Cuba centrifugal and mixed 55c. a 60c., do. clayed 45c. a 49c., do Muscovado 48c. a 55c., Porto Rico 50c. a 70c., New Orleans 80c. a 95c., and Barbadoes 56c. a 58c. Stock to-day, 10,418 hhds. Cuba, 3,431 do. Porto Rico, 3,486 do. English islands, and 150 bbls. New Orleans.

NAVAL STORES.—For spirits turpentine the market was quiet and prices were without improvement, closing at 42c. a 43c. for merchantable and shipping lots. The sales were 120 bbls. (in lots) at 42c. a 43½c., 30 do. (New York bbls.) at 43c., and 100 do., seller's option, up to the 15th of August on private terms. Rosin—Strained was in improved demand at former prices, while other grades were dull but unchanged in value. The sales were 2,500 bbls. common strained at $2 25; 725 do. good do. at $2 30, 450 do. No. 2, at $2 35 a $2 50, 250 do. No. 1 at $3 50 a $4, and small lots pale at $5 a $6. We quote:—Strained, $2 25 a $2 30; No. 2, $2 35 a $2 70; No. 1, $3 a $4 25; pale, $4 50 a $5 50; extra do. and window glass, $6 a $9. Tar was still quiet, but steady at $2 50 a $2 55 for Washington, and $3 25 a $3 30 for Wilmington. Of the latter 200 bbls. were sold on private terms.

OILS.—Linseed was quiet, but steady at 98c. a $1 01, in casks and bbls. Other kinds were dull, but unchanged in value.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts, 235 bbls. pork, 461 packages cut meats and 75 do. lard. The market for pork continued to rule dull, the demand still being only for small lots to supply the present wants of the trade, but prices were unchanged, closing at $32 12½ a $33 25 for new mess. The sales were only about 600 bbls., at $32 12½ a $32 25 for new mess, $33 25 a $33 50 for city do., $33 50 for thin mess, $29 75 a $30 for Western prime mess, and $38 50 for extra prime. For future delivery we heard of no sales. Live hogs were dull and prices were nominal at former quotations. The arrivals were 2,771 head, all for slaughterers. Beef was moderately active and steady in value, the sales being 150 bbls., at $8 a $12 for plain mess and $13 a $16 for extra do. Tierce beef was dull, with small sales, within the range of $15 a $23 for prime mess and $25 a $30 for India do. Beef hams continued in moderate demand and steady in value. The sales were 100 bbls., at $26 a $30 for Southern and Western. Cut meats continued in fair demand and with a small stock the market was very firm at former quotations. Sales were made of 270 packages, within the range at 14½c. a 14¾c. for dry salted and pickled shoulders, 16c. a 17c. for smoked do., 18c. a 19c. for pickled hams, and 20c. a 22c. for smoked and bagged do. Bacon was freely sought after, but business was restricted to a considerable extent by the high prices demanded. Sales were made of 250 boxes ice cured, part at 16½c. for long rib and 15¾c. for Staffordshire. Lard was more sought after and more firmly held. The sales were 1,350 packages at 17¾c. a 20¼c. for No. 1 to prime steam and kettle rendered, including 500 packages for September at 19¾c., seller's option, and 250 do. for all the year at 20¼c., buyer's option. Butter—Western was slow of sale, and, with a fair supply, prices were heavy. State was in light stock, in good demand, and very firmly held, while fresh pail was scarce and held with firmness. Cheese was in fair demand, both for export and the home trade, and prices were firmer, as will be seen by reference to the quotations appended. We quote:—

NEW CROP BUTTER.

State firkins, full yellow	per lb. 37c. a 40c.
State firkins, light colored	34c. a 36c.
Western reserve firkins, full yellow	35c. a 37c.
State, half firkin tubs, good to extra	38c. a 40c.
State, Welsh tubs, good to prime	33c. a 37c.
Western tubs, fair to good	31c. a 34c.
State and Western, common	19c. a 12c.

NEW CROP CHEESE.

Factories, extra	15¾c. a 16c.
Factories, fair to good	14c. a 15c.
Factories, common	10c. a 12c.
Factories, skimmed	7c. a 11c.
Farm dairies, extra	14c. a 15½c.
Farm dairies, fair to good	12½c. a 13½c.

PETROLEUM.—Crude in bulk was in improved demand and prices were steady at 17½c. a 17¾c. The sales were 600 bbls. at 17½c., and 4,000 do. on private terms. Crude in bbls. was quiet but steady at 23½c. Refined was decidedly more active, the demand being partly for export, and with only moderate offerings the market was firmer and prices appreciated to the extent of about ⅛c. per gallon, closing at 32¾c. for spot, and about 33½c. for the last half of this month. The sales were as follows:—500 bbls. standard white (730 test) at 32c., 500 do. (in bulk) at 28½c., 500 do. prime white f. o. b. at 32½c., 360 do. standard white (to fill vessel) at 32¾c., 1,500 do. at 32c., 4,000 do. at 32¼c., 1,000 do. at 32½c., 4,000 do. for the last half of August at 32½c., 6,000 do. for the last half do. at 32½c., 1,500 do. for the same delivery on private terms, and 1,000 do. for September also on private terms; also 5,500 gallons, in tins, at 37¾c. Naphtha was quiet at 9½c. a 10c. In Philadelphia the market was dull, but firmer, the closing prices being 31½c. a 31¾c. for spot and 32½c. for the last half of August. Sales 1,000 bbls. for August at 32½c.

RICE.—There prevailed a fair jobbing demand for Carolina at steady prices, and sales were made of 120 casks at 8¾c. a 9¼c., the latter price for prime.

SUGAR.—The market for raw continued fairly active, and full prices were prevalent. The demand was chiefly from refiners, and the sales were 1,300 hhds., at 11¼c. a 11c. for Cuba, 11¾c. a 13¾c. for Porto Rico, and Demerara on private terms; also 671 boxes at 11¾c. a 12c. Refined was in good request and firmer, hard selling at 15½c., soft white at 15c. a 15½c., extra C at 14½c., and yellow at 12¾c. a 14½c. We quote:—Cuba—Inferior to common refining, 10¾c. a 11c.; fair do., 11¼c. a 11½c.; good do., 11¾c. a 11¾c.; fair to good grocery, 11¾c. a 12¼c.; prime to choice do., 12½c. a 13c.; centrifugal (hhds. and boxes), 10½c. a 13¾c.; molasses (hhds. and boxes), 10c. a 11¾c.; melado, 6c. a 8¾c. Havana—Boxes D. S. Nos. 7 to 12, 11½c. a 11¾c.; do. do. 10 to 12, 12c. a 12½c.; do. do. 13 to 15, 12½c. a 13¼c.; do. do., 16 to 18, 12¾c. a 13¼c.; do. do. 19 to 20, 14½c. a 15½c.; do. white, 14½c. a 15½c. Porto Rico—Refining grades, 11½c. a 11¾c.; grocery do., 12c. a 13½c. Messrs. C. Amans & Co. made the stock to-day as follows:—231,284 hhds., 146,781 boxes, 149,454 bags and 1,309 melado.

WHISKEY.—Receipts, 546 bbls. The market was tolerably active and full prices were obtained. The sales were 310 bbls. at $1 10½ a $1 11, tax paid.

WEST POINT.

Report of the Board of Visitors.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 5, 1869.

The Board of Visitors appointed by the President to attend the annual examination at the United States Military Academy at West Point in June last have submitted their report to the War Department, and it will be laid before Congress at its next session. The Board was composed of Judge Charles H. Warren, Massachusetts; General John Eaton, Jr., Tennessee; General David Hunter, United States Army; General W. O. Gresham, Indiana; Hon. B. F. Loan, Missouri, and Presidents Anderson, of the Rochester University, New York, and Stanton, of Miami University, Ohio. By law it was made the duty of the Board to examine into the discipline, instruction, police, administration, fiscal affairs and other concerns of the Academy, and full reports upon each of those subjects are made.

The system of discipline prevalent at the Academy is very highly commended. The personal freedom so necessary to the development of strong, self-reliant characters is not imperilled by unwise restraint. Yet the personal knowledge of the Superintendent respecting the habits, conduct and capacity of officers and cadets is surprisingly minute, and, without being oppressive or tyrannical, and consequently repulsive, is made to exercise a constant and powerful influence over both. The main purpose of the Academy—to train young men to be safe and successful officers—is ever kept in view and never subordinated to other ends. No oppression exists on the part of officers, or sense of degradation on the part of the cadets, but a strict and rigorous discipline, justly but kindly enforced, commands even from its subjects cordial obedience. To every duty well performed a value is attached, while acts of neglect and disobedience are charged to the offender, to count against him in the future. The habitual use of the language, forms and routine of the military service imparts to the future officer, while still a cadet, much knowledge of a part of his future duties. The principles of nationality, love of country and of high personal honor are carefully nurtured, and insure to the country patriotic and honest as well as able officers. The list of offences exhibits a gratifying freedom from malicious disobedience or moral turpitude—carelessness being the principal offence known, now that the skilful and persistent efforts of the authorities have all but obliterated the former offences of occasional intoxication and persecution of new cadets. The Board was pleased with the long-existing practice of reporting the conduct and class standing of each cadet monthly to his friends, but would have been glad to find more evidence that the labors of the academic authorities were seconded by influences from home, and that no cadet is allowed to fail below the measure of his abilities for want of such inspiration, made doubly necessary by his long separation from his family. The introduction and gradual extension of the system of enlarged privileges as a reward for good conduct is declared to be working very well.

Instruction at the Academy is carried on under general direction of the Superintendent and the special supervision of the professors, assisted by army officers distinguished for their attainments in the special branches they are severally detailed to teach. The division of the classes into sections, each in charge of an assistant—the professor proceeding from section to section, imparting the benefit of his riper knowledge to both teachers and the taught—produces a uniformity of attainment not otherwise possible; and is declared to be one of the best featu es in the system. The blackboard illustrations and recitations of the cadets command high praise and attest their scientific comprehension of their subjects and the faithfulness and ability of their instructors. A marked deficiency in elegance and even facility of utterance was, however, found to exist; and more training in logic, composition and criticism is considered exceedingly desirable. This and other deficiencies are charged to the low standard of qualifications for admission, which is asserted to be two years of study below the average of colleges and universities in our own country and in military schools abroad, and to the necessity of devoting the cadet's limited time at the Academy to the studies especially appertaining to his intended profession of arms. While praising the attainments of the cadets in foreign languages, the Board thinks that equal attention should be given to our own. The suggested remedial measures for existing deficiencies are embraced in written as well as oral examinations; short courses of lectures upon physical geography as connected with military operations, and hygiene, as connected with the care and preservation of troops in the field, and historical studies as a means of education. The standard of admission should also be raised to correspond in some degree with the standard of other educational institutions at home and abroad. Constant additions to the scientific apparatus are advised and the collections of illustrations of natural history. Zoology and mineralogy being found to be very far below what is required, a plan for their enlargement and improvement is recommended for adoption. Competitive examinations as the basis of appointment to the Academy are also suggested. The separation of the chaplaincy from the professorship of ethics, as an act of justice to both those important offices, now languishing from their enforced union, is recommended by this Board, as it has been by all their predecessors for many years. The study of the course of ethics has long been distasteful to the cadets, and this important branch has fallen far below its standard; but it is believed that the reorganization proposed would revive and make it popular. The Board consider the proposition made to abolish it altogether as inadmissible, but its useful continuance is regarded as dependent upon reorganization. In drawing it is advised that more time be given to draw from nature by the eye and less time to mechanical copying. In practical instruction of all kinds, and both of a military and civil character, gratifying proficiency was observed. An interesting chapter of the report is devoted especially to the signal and telegraph drill; the application of these auxiliaries to military operations and the almost wonderful combinations of one with the other, as illustrated by the cadets, exciting the admiration of the Board. The police of the grounds and buildings, with the exception of a want of underground drainage, is pronounced, after general observation, confirmed by minute examination, to be excellent in every respect.

The Superintendent's administration of the varied concerns of the Academy, zealously aided by his staff officers, is as highly commended by this as by former Boards of Visitors. In commenting upon this branch of their inquiry the Board express an opinion adverse to the displacement, unnecessarily, of any officers in the more responsible administrative posts.

The fiscal affairs of the Academy are reported upon very favorably. Purchases of supplies seem to have been judiciously made at seasonable times, and consequently at reasonable prices, and the accounts have been kept with scrupulous exactness.

The cadets' hospital is large enough for the ordinary wants of the Academy, is well kept, but needs more light and a better system of drainage than cesspools beneath the building.

The library contains some 23,000 volumes, chiefly scientific works, pertaining to the studies pursued at the Academy, but with a judicious infusion of biographical and historical works. To enable it to keep up with the wants of the age yearly appropriations are needed, and $3,000 is suggested as the appropriation for the current year. A good catalogue is much needed, and one has been prepared without any cost to the government, and its publication, at a cost of $1,000, is advised.

In conclusion, the Board express their opinion that however nearly the Military Academy may have met the wants of the past, it does not, in view of our national growth, the place we have taken among the nations, and the progress made of late years in the science and art of war, meet the requirements of the present as the one military school of a great nation, and that it should be raised to a standard unsurpassed abroad. They therefore recommend that the Academy be greatly enlarged, the number of pupils greatly increased and two separate courses of study pursued—one in a general class for all the cadets, the other in a special class formed by selection of the best material from the other class—the general class to be limited to a thorough comprehension of the elementary principles of the art of war; but the special class to be limited only to the boundaries of knowledge upon that subject. Other changes are suggested as dependent upon the adoption of this proposed basis of reorganization, reaching, among other things, to a return of a portion of the graduates in each year to civil life and to an entire change in the system of promotion in the army.

As the result of their investigations the Board find that, considering existing obstacles, wonderful results have been attained under the present organization; that many defects in that organization can and should be remedied; but that the time has come for a new organization altogether on a greatly enlarged plan.

THE BOSTON TRAGEDY.

Additional Particulars—Arraignment of the Murderer.

[From the Boston Post, August 5.]

Since the publication in yesterday's *Post* of the account of the terrible tragedy at the South End on Tuesday night new facts have come to light, which clear the sad affair of much of the mystery which at first enveloped it. The scene of the murder is a four story brick dwelling house, situated at 1,266 Washington street, about midway between East Dedham and East Canton streets, and on the east side of the street. The tragedy occurred shortly after ten o'clock, and created the most intense excitement in the neighborhood. The police were first apprised of the affair by Dr. Alvah Hobbs, the husband of the murdered lady, running breathlessly into the Fifth police station on Dedham street and crying that his wife was shot. Sergeant Hartshorn was quickly despatched to the scene, and upon arriving at the house found that the victim of the assault, Mrs. Katie Hobbs, was dead and her body lying upon a sofa in the parlor. Her murderer, Major Thomas L. White, stood in the middle of the apartment, holding in his hand a revolver, with which the deed was committed. This instrument is one of the Smith & Wesson manufacture, its barrel six inches in length, having six chambers for powder and ball, two of which were emptied. He surrendered to the officer at once without any show of resistance, and quietly accompanied him to the station house. White, it now appears, had been stopping with the Doctor some days, and was under treatment for a lung disease. The facts of the shooting are substantially as given in our issue of yesterday.

After Major White's arrest the question was put to him by an officer of the station house as to the cause of the dreadful act, when he replied that there was no cause to justify what he had done.

The deceased was a lady of many accomplishments and was widely known. She was about thirty-five years of age and had been the wife of Dr. Hobbs about twelve years, their union during this time having been of the most tender and affectionate character. Before her marriage she had acted in the capacity of housekeeper in his family. Her maiden name was Miss Katie Sylvester. She was twice married, first to a Mr. Laurie, with whom she lived for some time in Ann place. Mutual disagreement having sprung up between them she was afterwards divorced and remarried to Dr. Hobbs. The latter has also been twice married, having been divorced from his first wife, who is still alive and residing in this city.

Major Thomas L. White is a Canadian, about thirty years of age, and came to this city in 1856 and entered the law office of B. S. Treanor to enter the study of law. Subsequently he pursued his studies at the office of Messrs. Burt &