FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONDAY, Oct. 25—6 P. M.

The week opened on a very dull state of affairs in the stock market. Prices have not been so quiet and steady any other day since the panic. The only speculative interest manifested was in Lake Shore, which fluctuated between the limits of 91⅝ and 93⅝. The directors made their appearance on the street again to-day, and the "Lake Shore ring" were charged with being heavy sellers of the stock to-day, under which the price declined to the lower of the figures above quoted. The meeting at Cleveland broke up on Saturday after the adoption of a proposition for consolidation with the Wabash road on the terms already specified in this column, which proposition will be submitted to the stockholders of the respective roads for their adoption or rejection. The consolidated share capital of the new corporation will be $42,500,000, and its title the Buffalo, Lake Shore, Chicago and Wabash Railway Company. It is proposed to increase the capital to $50,000,000 by the issue of additional stock, the proceeds of its sale to be devoted to the better equipment of the new line. The books of the Lake Shore Company will close on the 15th prox., to allow the stockholders to vote on the action of the directors as above taken. Whatever was done with reference to a consolidation with the New York Central did not transpire, but it is shrewdly suspected that the Lake Shore directors have stood on their dignity and refused to confess the superior merits of Commodore Vanderbilt as a railway manager. On the other hand, the Vanderbilt party were doubtless dampened in their enthusiasm for consolidation by the discovery that the "Lake Shore ring" have taken care of themselves by various contracts, the perpetuity of which Mr. Vanderbilt was unwilling to sanction in the event of consolidation. The "ring" think they have a magnificent opportunity to "milk the street" with Lake Shore, just as has been done with New York Central, and they cannot forego the temptation. The "ring" are now short of the stock, and will trust to their own efforts to break the price of their own stock. At the Stock Exchange to-day exception was taken to the further call of Pittsburg, inasmuch as the directors have increased the stock fifteen per cent without giving the usual thirty days' notice. Inasmuch as the increase was in the form of a dividend, and not of the character more particularly contemplated by the laws of the board, the call was not suspended, but the matter was referred to the governing committee for adjudication. Outside of Lake Shore the general list was very steady and fluctuated very little. At the last board there was a sharp decline in Chicago, Columbus and Indiana Central, which was offered at 22½. The money market was more active and the rate on call ranged from six to seven per cent, with exceptions at five per cent, the increased activity being due to the fact that the Sub-Treasury sales of gold will drain the banks this week of about a million and a half of currency. It will be seen by a report in another column that General Butterfield has resigned the Assistant Treasurership, but the fact was not known on the street this afternoon up to the close of business. Commercial paper was still without negotiation except at extreme rates, the range of discount being from nine to fifteen per cent for prime acceptances. Foreign exchange closed weak at 109¾ for prime bankers' sixty day, and 109⅞ for sight sterling bills. Sales on the street were made at 109¼ for the former grade. The gold market was feverish on a small volume of business, the general tendency of the speculation being to lower prices. Loans of cash gold were made at six to four per cent for carrying. The receiver of the Gold Bank gave notice to-day that he will on and after to-morrow pay an additional twenty-five per cent of the adjusted claims against the institution, making seventy-five per cent in all that will have been paid the creditors. The range of the gold market was as follows:—

10 A. M.	131½	2 P. M.	130⅞
10:06 A. M.	131¼	3 P. M.	130⅞
11 A. M.	131	3:45 P. M.	130⅞
12 M.	131	4 P. M.	130¾
1 P. M.	131	5 P. M.	130⅞ a 131

The exports of specie at this port last week were as follows:—

Oct. 19—Steamer Hansa, Liverpool—Gold	$24,200
Oct. 19—Steamer Fan-Kee, Hamilton—Silver	2,500
Oct. 19—Steamer Tybee, St. Domingo—Silver	500
Oct. 22—Steamer Eagle, Havana—Silver	200
Gold	105
Oct. 23—Steamer Columbia, Nassau—Gold	211
Oct. 23—Steamer Arizona, Aspinwall—Gold	7,400
Total for the week	$55,166
Previously reported	14,702,820
Total since Jan. 1, 1869	$14,737,936
Same time, 1868	6,087,029
Same time, 1867	2,700,886
Same time, 1866	8,392,249

The government market was very dull and declined with the fall in gold, closing with the following quotations this evening:—United States currency sixes, 107⅝ a 107⅞; do. sixes, 1881, registered, 119⅝ a 119⅞; do. do., coupon, 119⅝ a 119⅞; do. five-twenties, registered, May and November, 114¾ a 115; do. do., coupon, 1862, do., 120¾ a 121; do. do., coupon, 1864, do., 119 a 119½; do. do., coupon, 1865, do., 119⅝ a 119⅞; do. do., registered, January and July, 117¼ a 117½; do. do., coupon, 1865, do., 117½ a 117⅝; do. do., coupon, 1867, do., 117¾ a 117⅞; do. do., coupon, 1868, do., 117½ a 117⅝; do. ten-forties, registered, 107¾ a 108; do. do., coupon, 108 a 108¼.

Southern securities were dull in the general list, barely steady for the new Tennessees and weak for the North Carolinas. The following were the quotations at the last call of the board:—Tennessee, ex coupon, 61½ a 62; do., new, 53¾ a 54; Virginia, ex coupon, 50¼ a 52; do., new, 53 a 55; Georgia sixes, 83½; do., sevens, 91 bid; North Carolina, ex coupon, 48 a 49; do., new, 37¾; do., special tax, 38 a 38½; South Carolina, new, 67 a 69; Missouri sixes, 87½ a 87¾; do. St. Joseph, 88; Louisiana sixes, 65½ a 69; do. levee sixes, 64 a 64½; do. do., eights, 83; Alabama eights, 92.

The following were the closing prices of stocks at the last session of the Stock Exchange:—Canton, 53¾ a 55; Cumberland, 28½ a 29; Western Union, 36¾ a 36⅞; Quicksilver, 13 a 13½; Mariposa, 8 a 10; do. preferred, 16½ a 17; Pacific Mail, 59¼ a 59⅜; Adams Express, 56 a 56¾; Wells-Fargo Express, 20½ a 21½; American Express, 35½ a 36; United States Express, 55½ a 57; Merchants' Union Express, 9½ a 10; New York Central, 188½ a 188⅝; Erie, 30¼ a 31½; do. preferred, 55; Hudson River, 172 a 173¾; Harlem, 143½ a 144; Reading, 96⅝ a 96¾; Michigan Central, 123; Lake Shore, 92¼ a 92¾; Illinois Central, 139 a 142; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 100½ a 101; Chicago and Northwestern, 71⅝ a 71¾; do. preferred, 84 a 84½; Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, 77 bid; Rock Island, 106¾ a 106¾; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 69¼ a 69½; do. preferred, 81⅝ a 82¼; Toledo and Wabash, 65½ a 66; do. preferred, 75 bid; Fort Wayne, 83½ a 84½; Alton and Terre Haute, 32; Ohio and Mississippi, 26¾ a 27; Delaware and Lackawanna, 110 a 110½; New Jersey Central, 97½ a 97¾; Chicago and Alton, 141½ a 144; do. preferred, 141½ bid; Morris and Essex, 88; Hannibal and St. Joseph, 110; do. preferred, 109 a 110½; Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, 20 a 22½.

The following shows the range of the principal stocks to-day:—

	Highest.	Lowest.
New York Central	189½	187¾
Erie	31	30¼
Harlem	144¼	142
Hudson River	173	171½
Reading	97	96½
Michigan Southern	93⅝	91¾
Pittsburg	100½	99⅞
Northwestern	71⅞	71¼
Northwestern preferred	84½	83⅞
Rock Island	106¾	106½
Milwaukee and St. Paul	69½	69
Milwaukee and St. Paul preferred	81¾	81¼
Pacific Mail	60	58¾

The following shows the results of to-day's business at the Sub-Treasury in this city:—

General balance yesterday	$91,766,638
Gold receipts	718,545
Gold payments	239,882
Gold balance	84,995,262
Currency receipts	524,023
Currency payments	636,364
Currency balance	5,353,036
General balance	90,831,999
For customs (included in gold receipts)	446,000

The earnings of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad for the third week in October were:—

1869	$218,100
1868	217,552
Increase	$548

At an election in the Gold Room to-day to fill vacancies the following gentlemen were elected:—J. B. Hodgskin, Chairman of the Arbitration Committee; T. C. A. Morris, Chairman of the Board of Appeals, and Charles H. Leland, Chairman of the Committee on Powers of Attorney.

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Monday, Oct. 25—10:15 A. M.

$12000 US 6's, '81, cou.	120	40 shs Am Mer U Ex	35½
1500 US 5-20, c, '65	119⅝	100 NY Cen RR	189¼
1500 US 5-20, c, '65, n	117⅞	200 do b10	189½
4000 US 5-20, c, '67	117¾	100 Erie RR	31½
6000 do c	117¾	200 Harlem RR	144¼
5000 US 5-20, c, '68	117¾	400 Reading RR	96⅞
1500 US 6's, currency	107¾	100 Lake Shore&MS RR	93¾
10000 Tenn 6's, new	53½	1000 do	93½
10000 do	53¼	500 do	92¾
10000 do	53	100 do	93¼
40000 N C 6's, n..sp tax	38½	19 do	92¾
150000 do	38	46 Panama RR	200
2000 Missouri 6's	87½	100 Chic & N W RR	71⅛
10000 do	87¾	1100 do	71⅛
1000 N Y 7's, b l, reg	108	200 C & N W RR pfd	84
2000 Brooklyn 6's, w i	93	500 Chicago & R I RR	106¼
7000 Jersey City w i	92¾	600 do	106¼
5000 Ala 8's, bonds	91	50 do	106
4000 Cen Pac RR g bds	82¾	200 Mil & St Paul RR	69¼
5000 Chi & N W ex bds	84	200 do	69½
4000 Chic & NW 1st	89	200 Mil & St Paul pf	81¾
2000 T & W 1st m, ex	88	40 C, C & I C RR	78
5000 Alt & T H income	76	100 Tol, Wab & W RR	65⅛
1000 Ohio & Miss 1st m	90	200 P, Ft W & Chi gtd	85½
50 shs Bk of Commerce	124	50 do	85¾
60 Am Exch'ge Bank	116	200 N J Central RR	98
62 Fourth Nat Bank	104¾	126 Morris & Es RR	88
400 West U Tel	36⅞	100 Ohio & Miss RR	27
200 Pac M SS Co	59¾	100 Dub & Sioux C RR	70
20 do b c	60	25 do	109½
20 Am Mer Un Ex	35	100 Col, C & Ind C RR	22¾
50 do	36		

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

$50000 US 6's, '81, c..s3	119¾	$34500 US 5-20, c, '67..b3	117¾
15000 US 5-20, c, '64	119½	40000 do s10	117¼
8000 US 5-20, r, '65	119¾	55000 do b3	117⅞
1000 do	119¾	3500 US 5's, 10-40, c	108½
1000 US 5-20, c, '65, n..c	117¾	25000 U S 6's, cur	107⅞
10000 US 5's, 10-40, reg	108	50000 do	107¾

One o'Clock P. M.

$5000 Va 6's, ex c	50½	100 shs N Y Cen RR	188⅝
5000 do	50	100 Erie RR pref	55
1000 N Car 6's	48	200 Harlem RR	144
10000 N Car 6's, new	38	600 L S & M S RR	92¼
5000 do	37¾	85 do	92
7000 do, special tax	38¾	200 Reading RR	96⅝
10000 La 6's, 1 b	64	200 Clev & Pitts RR	100¾
2000 Cen P RR g bds	82½	100 Chic & Rk I RR	106⅞
100 shs West U Tel..b50	37½	100 do	106½
50 do	37	200 New Jersey Cen RR	97⅞
100 do b15	37	50 Ohio & Miss RR	27
200 Pac Mail SS Co	59¼	100 do	27¾
100 do	59½	200 H & St Jo RR..b c	109¾
14 do	60¼	200 Del, Lack & West	110½
100 Mariposa pf..b c	17	10 Morris & Es RR	88
35 Adams Express	56		

STREET QUOTATIONS.

Half-past Five o'Clock P. M.

West Un Tel	36⅝ a	36¾	Lake Shore	93 a	93⅛
Pacific Mail	59⅛ a	59¾	Northwestern	71¾ a	71⅞
N Y Central	188⅛ a	189	Northwestern pf	84 a	84¼
Hudson River	172 a	173	Rock Island	106⅛ a	106¾
Erie	31 a	31⅛	St Paul	69 a	69¼
Reading	96⅛ a	96¾	St Paul pref	81 a	81¼

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

MONDAY, Oct. 26—6 P. M.

COTTON.—With only moderate offerings, and an improved demand, chiefly for export, the market was firmer, and prices advanced about ⅛c. per lb. At the close, however, the demand was light. The sales were 2,496 bales, including 1,492 for export, 540 for spinning, 247 on speculation, and 216 were in transit. For future delivery the sales were as follows:—100 bales basis low middling for December at 25c.; 100 do. for October at 25¾c.; 200 do. for November at 25c. a 25⅛c.; 100 do. for December at 25⅛c.; 100 do. for February at 26c., and 200 do. for February and March at 26c. We append the closing quotations:—

	Uplands and Florida.	Mobile and Memphis.	New Orleans and Texas.
Ordinary	24⅛	24⅝	24¾
Good ordinary	25⅝	25¾	26
Low middling	26	26¼	26¼
Middling	26¾	26⅞	26¾
Good middling	26⅞	27	27¼

COFFEE.—The market for Rio was quiet but steady at our last quotations. Other kinds were dull but unchanged. No sales were reported.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—Receipts, 17,338 bbls. flour, 402 do. and 400 bags corn meal, 138,565 bushels wheat, 114,895 do. corn, 38,794 do. oats, 240 do. rye, 16,410 do. barley and 6,600 do. malt. The flour market ruled quiet but firm at previous quotations. Holders, with only a small supply, were firm. California was dull and nominal. Sales, 11,000 bbls. Southern flour was a trifle more active, but prices were generally heavy. Sales 750 bbls. Rye flour was only moderately active and weak. Sales 275 bbls. Of corn meal we heard of no sales. Prices, however, were unchanged. We quote:—

No. 2 State	$5 00 a	$5 50
Superfine State	5 60 a	5 90
Extra State	6 00 a	6 50
Choice do	6 60 a	7 00
Superfine Western	5 60 a	5 90
Extra do	6 00 a	6 50
Extra Minnesota	6 50 a	7 50
Round hoop Ohio, shipping brands	6 00 a	6 40
Round hoop Ohio, trade brands	6 50 a	7 00
St. Louis low extra	6 50 a	7 00
St. Louis straight extra	7 00 a	7 50
St. Louis choice double extra	7 50 a	8 00
St. Louis choice family	8 00 a	9 00
Southern choice and family	8 00 a	10 00
Southern superfine and extra	6 00 a	8 00
California flour (sacks and bbls.)	6 00 a	9 50
Rye flour	4 85 a	6 25
Corn meal, city	5 40 a	5 50
Corn meal, Brandywine	6 00 a	6 10
Corn meal, Jersey	5 25 a	5 04

—Wheat was more active and 1c. a 2c. higher at the close, full loads of amber winter bringing $1 43 a $1 44. The sales were about 80,000 bushels at $1 38 a $1 45 for red and amber winter, mostly at $1 42 a $1 44, $1 15 for inferior No. 3 spring, $1 38 a $1 40 for No. 1 spring out of condition, $1 38 a $1 47 for poor white, $1 35 a $1 36 for prime old No. 2 spring, $1 50 a $1 55 for white Michigan, $1 45 a $1 46 for amber Tennessee and $1 75 for fancy Delhi. Corn was irregular, firmer for choice and lower for unsound. The sales were about 85,000 bushels at 87½c. a 88c. for Western mixed via canal, and $1 a $1 05 for choice do. received by rail, $1 03 a $1 06 for white and $1 06 a $1 07½ for yellow. Oats were firmer. The sales were 65,000 bushels at 60c. a 63c. including choice lots white at 63c. a 64c. Rye was heavy, with sales of 2,000 bushels at $1 16 for State and $1 05 for Western on the track. Barley was quiet and lower; 3,000 bushels two rowed State were sold at $1 20 a $1 23. Barley malt was quiet; small sales were made at $1 20 a $1 50 for State. The stock of grain in the New York and Brooklyn warehouses October 23, 1869, was as follows:—655,047 bushels wheat, 204,082 do. corn, 130,949 do. oats, 31,700 do. rye, 6,682 do. barley, 71,146 do. malt and 8,957 do peas.

FREIGHTS.—With a limited amount of room on the berth the market continued to rule firm. The chartering business was quiet, but rates were generally firm. The engagements were:—To Liverpool, 22,400 bushels wheat at 9⅝d., 1,000 bbls. flour at 2s. 7½d., and per steamer, 1,500 bales cotton at 9-16d. a ⅝d. and 4,500 bushels wheat at 10½d. The charters were:—Two barks (to arrive), each with about 1,000 quarters grain, to York for orders at 7s. 9d.; a bark to Lisbon with 14,000 bushels wheat at 18c. in shipper's bags; a ship from Mobile with 3,000 bales cotton to Liverpool at ⅞d.; if to Havre, 1¼c.; an American bark with 2,000 bbls. petroleum to Gibraltar for orders at 5s. 6d.; a bark with 1,100 do. to a Spanish port at 6s.; a bark, 2,500 bbls., to Nassau, general cargo, and back with salt, at 13c. 2a schooner, 2,500 bbls., to the Windward, at 60c.; and a bark with 2,000 bbls. petroleum to the Mediterranean and back with fruit on private terms.

GUNNIES were dull and prices were entirely nominal.

HAY.—The market was tolerably active and firm at 65c. a 70c. for shipping, 80c. a $1 15 for retail lots, $1 a $1 05 for long rye straw, and 80c. a 85c. for short do.

HOPS.—The market was quiet, the demand from all sources being light, and prices were not strong. Small sales were made within the range of 15c. a 20c. for new, and 4c. a 9c. for old.

HEMP was dull and prices were nominal at 14c., gold, for Manila, 4¾c. a 5¾c. do. for jute, 11½c. a 12c. do. for sisal, and 7½c. a 8c. do. for Tampico, in bond.

MOLASSES.—There were no sales of consequence reported. The demand was light, but full prices were demanded for all grades. Cuba centrifugal and mixed was quoted 37c a 40c.; do. clayed, 45c. a 50c.; do. muscovado, 48c. a 58c. Porto Rico, 50c. a 73c.; New Orleans, 80c. a 95c., and Barbados 65c. a 69c.

NAVAL STORES.—There was but little demand for spirits turpentine, prices for which, however, were unchanged, closing at 48c. a 48½c. for merchantable and shipping lots. The sales were 75 bbls. at 48c. and small lots, in store, at 49c. a 50c. Rosin continued to rule dull, but steady in value. Sales 800 bbls. common at $2 20, 110 do. No. 1 at $3 a $3 25 and 200 do. pale at $5 a $6. We quote:—Strained, $2 20 a $2 30; No. 2, $2 40 a $2 75; No. 1, $3 a $4 25; pale, $4 50 a $5 25; extra do. and window glass, $5 50 a $6 25. Tar was quiet and weak at $2 90 a $3 for Wilmington and $2 62½ a $2 87½ for Washington.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts, 10 bbls. pork, 284 do. beef, 84 do. cut meats and 100 do. lard. There was more demand for pork and prices were firmer in consequence, the market closing strong, with holders generally indisposed to operate except at higher prices. There were sold about 1,000 bbls. at $31 25 for old mess, $33 50 a $34 for city do. and $27 50 a $28 for Western prime mess. No sales for future delivery were reported. Live hogs were quite steady at 9¾c. a 10⅛c., with arrivals of 4,982 head. Dressed hogs were dull and prices were heavy. Beef continued steady, with sales of 75 bbls. at $5 a $12 for plain mess and $12 a $17 for extra do. Beef hams were in limited demand, but held for full prices. A few small sales, amounting to about 40 bbls. were made at $18 a $28, including choice at $23 a $26. Tierce beef was inactive and nominal. Cut meats were quiet, but prices were firm, owing to the small stock. Sales about 65 pkgs. within the ranges of 15½c. a 14¾c. for dry salted and pickled shoulders, 16c. for smoked do., and 21½c. a 22c. for smoked and bagged hams. Pickled hams were quoted at 19 c. a 19½c. Bacon, though quiet, was firm, with sales of 50 boxes long clear at 17½c. The business in lard was only moderate, though prices were steady at about former quotations. The sales were 250 pkgs. at 17½ a 18c. for No. 1 to prime steam, and 18¼c. a 18½c. for kettle rendered.

PETROLEUM.—There was no demand of consequence for crude, which was still held with firmness at 19c.; 18¾c. was bid for small lots, and about 300 bbls. were disposed of at that price. Crude, in bbls., was dull and nominal at 25c. Refined was in fair request for export, but small supply and the high prices demanded checked business. At the close the market was steady at 32¾c. for October and 32¼c. for November. The sales were 250 bbls. at 33¾c., 500 do. at 32¾c., 3,000 do., for the first half of November, at 33c.; 2,000 do., for October, on private terms, and 1,000 do., for November and December, at 33c. Of naphtha there were sold 250 bbls. at 10½c. In Philadelphia the market was firmer, with light offerings. Sales, 1,000 bbls. at 33¼c., 1,500 do. at 33½c., closing at 33¾c.; 3,000 do., for November and December, at 33c., and 2,000 do., for November and December, at 33¼c., closing at 33½c.

RICE was dull and heavy. There were sales of 80 tierces new Carolina at 8¼c. a 9½c.—the latter price for choice; 20 do. old at 8¾c. and 500 bags Rangoon (in bond) on private terms.

STEARINE.—The demand was small and the sales were unimportant. Small lots were disposed of within the range of 16½c. a 18¾c.—the latter price for prime.

SEEDS.—Linseed was dull and nominal at $2 15, gold, duty paid. Grass were dull at former prices.

SUGAR.—There was a fair demand for raw from the refiners, and the market was firm at our quotations. The sales were 1,500 bbls. at 11¼c. a 12½c. for Cuba—chiefly at 11¾c. a 11⅞c.; 892 boxes at 10¼c. a 12c. and 5,000 bags Pernambuco at 11½c. Refined was quiet and heavy, at 16c. for hard, 14¾c. a 15½c. for soft white, 14¾c. a 14¾c. for extra C and 13c. a 14¼c. for yellow. We quote:—Inferior to common refining, 10¾c. a 11½c.; fair, 11½c. a 11¾c.; good, 11¾c. a 11¾c.; fair to good grocery, 12c. a 12¼c.; prime to choice do., 12½c. a 12¾c.; centrifugal, bbds. and boxes, 10¾c. a 13½c.; molasses, bbds. and boxes, 10c. a 11½c.; melado, 6c. a 9c. Havana, boxes, Dutch standard, Nos. 7 to 9, 11c. a 11¾c.; do., 10 to 12, 11¼c. a 12½c.; do., 13 to 15, 12½c. a 13½c.; do., 16 to 18, 13¼c. a 14½c.; do., 19 to 20, 14½c. a 15½c.; do., white, 14¾c. a 15¾c. Porto Rico—Refining grades, 11¼c. a 11½c.; grocery do., 13c. a 13¾c.

TALLOW.—The demand was fairly active at about previous prices. There were sales of 175,000 lbs. at 11½c. a 11¾c. for common to choice.

WHISKEY.—Receipts 561 bbls. The market was dull and prices were nominal at $1 21 a $1 21½, tax paid. We heard of no sales of consequence.

EFFORTS TO ABOLISH THANKSGIVING DAY IN MASSACHUSETTS.—A number of clergymen in Massachusetts are signing a petition for presentation to Governor Claflin, praying him not to issue a proclamation for Thanksgiving unless he can initiate measures which will command a better observance of the day as a season of fasting, humiliation and prayer. They say "that they are convinced, by long and close observation, that the annual appointment of the day of fasting, humiliation and prayer by the Governor of the Commonwealth—once, doubtless, a usage which met the convictions and desires of the people of State at large—has gradually been perverted from its original design and professed intent until it has ceased to command attention and respect; that the day set apart by proclamation has fallen into general neglect as a day of religious observance and come to be a day of much license, disorder and excess; that they believe it to have become a source of demoralization rather than of religious or moral impression, and that the discontinuance of the custom of appointing an annual fast would be for the public good.—*Boston Journal, Oct. 25.*

THE GALLOWS.

Execution of John W. Moore at Greenville, Bond County, Ill.—History of the Case—Written and Verbal Confessions of the Murderer—Letters from Moore to His Wife and Child—The Scaffold and the Execution.

[From the St. Louis (Mo.) Republican, Oct. 23.]

Yesterday at Greenville, the county seat of Bond county, in the State of Illinois, fifty miles east of St. Louis, on the line of the St. Louis, Vandalia and Terre Haute Railroad, John W. Moore, convicted of the murder of Mrs. Louisa McAdams, wife of Mr. Jesse M. McAdams, on the 5th day of July last, suffered the extreme penalty of the law by being hanged by the neck until he was dead.

HISTORY OF THE CASE.

John W. Moore, the condemned and executed man, with his wife, lived in a house and on the farm of one John P. Goodson, about three miles south of Greenville. Mr. Goodson was an unmarried man, and made his home with Moore and his wife, or rather they kept house for Goodson, whose father had raised Moore from the time he was a boy of fourteen or sixteen years until he attained his majority. Mr. McAdams owned and occupied the farm adjoining the one on which Moore lived; his house, a frame one of two rooms, being situated about eighty rods to the southwest of Moore's, there being a small branch and grove of timber between the two houses. McAdams and Moore were about the same age, and were somewhat related by marriage—about two years previous to the murder Moore having married a young woman of the neighborhood by the name of Hannah Orme, a sister to John Orme, whose wife in turn was sister to the murdered woman, Mrs. McAdams. Under these circumstances it was natural that a close neighborly intimacy should exist between the two families, and Moore, presuming upon that intimacy and the frank, free, open and honest disposition of Mrs. McAdams (who is said to have been a most amiable woman), and with an unlawful and unholy lust, and in violation of his own marital vows and obligations, sought on the day of the murder to violate her person, and failing in his purpose, in a most brutal and fiendish manner, attempted to conceal that crime by committing a greater one. At the time of the murder Mrs. McAdams was about eighteen years of age, and had been married about one year, while Moore was the father of one child. Moore was a man in whose physical organization the animal predominated, and since his incarceration he has frankly and freely admitted that the control of that element of his nature was his greatest disturbing conflict, and to his inability to control it, or, more directly speaking, to his inordinate and amorous desires, he attributed his unfortunate and deplorable end.

This unholy attempt upon the purity and virtue of Mrs. McAdams, as above stated, was made on Monday, the 5th day of July, and the marks on the floor of the room (which was an uncarpeted one) where the struggle took place gave evidence of the strength with which she resisted his lecherous purpose. She wore at the time of the occurrence a pair of high-heeled boots, with nails in the heels, impressions from which were clearly indented in the floor for distances of three feet in different directions. Failing in his purpose, and fearing the result of the exposure with which she threatened him, Moore became alarmed and left the house and went to his own home, and, as seems by his confession which is published below, told his wife that a neighboring woman was sick and desired her to go over. After she left he gathered his clothes together with the purpose of fleeing from the country, but thoughts of his wife and child prevailed over this purpose and he abandoned it and went into his wheat field to open out some shocks to dry from the rains. While engaged in this work and considering the crime of which he had just been guilty, he determined to go back and see Mrs. McAdams and by some means prevail upon her to hush the matter up and conceal his baseness from her husband, the church (Moore being a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and had been connected with the Sabbath school) and the neighbors. Seeing him returning towards the house, and fearing, as is supposed, another assault, Mrs. McAdams started to flee across a field in the direction of her sister's, Mrs. Orme. Anticipating her object to be to give information of what had transpired, he gave chase, and, overtaking her, committed the foul and hellish murder for which he was yesterday executed. On catching his victim he struck her several times with his fist, felling her to the ground, and then drew his knife and stabbed her several times in each side and also on the back of her neck and head, then turned her over on her back and cut her throat, which finished his bloody deed. He then returned to his own wheat field, threw down some shocks, reset them and went back to the body of his victim to see if she was dead, and finding her spirit had flown he went after his own wife and told her that Mrs. McAdams was dead in the field. Returning to his home he mounted a horse and started to where some of their neighbors were engaged in a harvest field to give the alarm that Mrs. McAdams had been murdered. The first man to whom he imparted the fearful intelligence, however, was Mr. John P. Goodson, the man on whose farm he lived, and the next the men engaged in the field to which he had started.

As may be well supposed the intelligence spread like wildfire, and it was not long before the mangled remains of his victim, as her body lay stark and stiff in death on the spot where she had fallen—a martyr to woman's virtue and chastity—was surrounded by large numbers of the neighbors. A justice of the peace was summoned to act as coroner, and not until after his arrival was her body removed to the house, and in the identical room where, a few hours before, she had successfully resisted his base assault, the solemn rites of an inquest were held, Moore in the meantime being present, taking an active part in the proceedings, and a part of the time holding a lighted lamp over the remains of her whom he first attempted to foully pollute and subsequently murdered.

Among other witnesses introduced on the occasion, Moore was sworn to testify, and on oath stated that "on that afternoon, on passing the house, he had noticed Mrs. McAdams on the porch washing and a strange man sitting by the well; that after he arrived at home and had gone into his wheatfield to open out some shocks of wheat he heard a scream in the direction of the house of McAdams as of some one in great distress. Presently he heard another scream, and then he started to run over. When he reached the house he found both Mrs. McAdams and the strange man gone, the one from the house and the other from the well. He then supposed she might have been hallooing to frighten some unruly stock from the wheat field, and went out and climbed up on the fence and peered over in the direction where her body was found, and discovered the corpse lying upon the ground."

During the progress of the inquest Moore and one or two others had been stripped of their clothing, which was closely examined for stains of blood, and on the right sleeve of Moore's shirt a small stain was discovered. Previous to this some slight circumstances had aroused suspicion against Moore, and Sheriff Wafer took him down to the fence from which he had testified he had seen her body, and, going to the spot where the murder was committed, threw down a few sheaves of wheat, covered them with a coat and returned to the position Moore had designated, but found that neither they nor a human body could be seen therefrom. Some boot tracks had in the meantime been found in the door yard, one of which had been secretly covered up, and the boots that Moore was known to have worn that day were next obtained from his house, their shape and dimensions compared with the track so concealed, and found to be identical, and he was placed under arrest and lodged in the Greenville jail on Tuesday, the 6th day of July. When Moore was arrested and searched a common two-bladed pocketknife was found upon his person, the larger blade of which was about three inches in length, and from the point of which a small particle had been broken off, as if it had recently been in contact with some hard substance. Even after his arrest and until the Saturday following Moore protested his innocence, and so respected had he previously been that but few seemed willing to believe him guilty.

On Wednesday, the 7th of July, Sheriff Wafer got on track of a man answering the description of that given by Moore of the one he stated he saw sitting by McAdams' well, and, following the trail to Woodburn, in Macoupin county, he arrested a man by the name of Dixon, and on Friday, the 9th of July, returned with him to Greenville and lodged him in jail also; but on Saturday, the 10th of July, Moore sent for Rev. N. M. Powers, of the Methodist Episcopal church at Greenville, to whom he made the following

WRITTEN CONFESSION:

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS:—

Know all persons that I, John W. Moore, arrested on suspicion for the murder of Louisa McAdams, do this day acknowledge and confess that I did do the horrible deed of which I have been accused; that I hereby make confession to the fact, and pray that no violence will be attempted, but that I may be dealt with according to law. I also desire that all ministers of the Gospel will come in and pray for me, and all Christians are requested to come in and talk with me and pray for me. If there is any forgiveness for such an awful crime I sincerely and earnestly desire it and shall pray for it. JOHN W. MOORE.

Upon this confession of guilt Dixon was discharged from custody, but has since been proven to be a horse thief, and disposed of by being sent to the State Prison.

Subsequent to this written confession Moore made a

VERBAL CONFESSION

to Sheriff Wafer, which appeared in the Greenville *Advocate* of the 16th of July, and was as follows:—

On last Monday afternoon, July 5, he went to look at his wheat, and returning stopped at the house of Jesse McAdams, went into the porch, talked with Mrs. McAdams awhile, went into a back room, took up a book, and after looking at it awhile called to Mrs. McAdams, asking her whose book it was. She came into the room to see the book, and told him whose it was, when he laid his arm around her neck and (in his own words) "asked her if she liked to be hugged, when she tried to get away from me, but I, without scarcely thinking what I was doing, threw her on the floor, and after a little struggle, failing in my purpose, I let her up." Realizing immediately what he had done he begged her to say nothing about it, but she refused, saying she would tell what had happened. He then offered her money to say nothing about it; she still refused his offer. He then went home, revolving the matter in his mind on the way, and concluded that he would be obliged to leave the neighborhood. Arriving at home with that conclusion he requested his wife to go to a neighbor's, in order that he might get his clothes and leave without being obliged to disclose to his wife what he had done. After his wife had gone he, in his meditation, realized what it was to leave his wife and child, his home, and all that he had concluded to go to Mrs. McAdams' again and see if he could not persuade her to say nothing about his conduct, or buy her silence, and accordingly returned to the house. As he approached the house Mrs. McAdams seeing him coming, started in a run across the field in the direction of her sister's. He, seeing her thus leaving with the evident intention of giving information of what had occurred, immediately gave chase, and in the excitement of the moment the thought that her death alone would cover up his shame, took possession of him, and in a fit of desperation committed the fearful crime.

The manner in which it was done he explains to be, that upon catching her he struck her with his fist several severe blows, felling her to the ground, then drew his knife and stabbed her in each side several times and also on the back of the neck and head—this being done as she lay on her face, probably stunned by his blows—he then threw her backward on to her back and cut her throat. He represents her at the time he cut her throat as being exhausted and apparently unconscious.

He then went to his field, some quarter of a mile away, threw down some shocks of wheat and reset them, then went back to the body to see if life were extinct, and, finding her dead, went after his wife, told her that he had found Mrs. McAdams dead in the field. He then got his horse and started for a harvest field not far from his house to inform the hands of her condition, and on his way met Mr. John P. Goodson, to whom he related the fact that she was dead, and then rode on to the field and gave the alarm to the men there at work.

MOORE COMMUNICATES HIS SENTENCE TO HIS WIFE.

After Moore had been sentenced and taken back to jail he wrote a letter to his wife, of which Sheriff Wafer preserved a copy, as follows:—

SEPTEMBER 29, 1869.

DEAR HANNAH—I now pen you the news that I hate to have to inform you of, but hope you will not take it to heart nor grieve. I received my sentence to-day to be hung on the 22d day of October. It is just and I expect to meet it like a man. May God Almighty bless you both, dear woman and child, take care of you and save us at last for His name's sake. Please write, accept my love and pray for me. From your unworthy companion, JOHN W. MOORE.

HIS CONDUCT WHILE IN PRISON

was very exemplary, and from the day he made his confession he seemed reconciled to the condition he had brought upon himself, and to be fully aware of the enormity of the crimes, as he had committed two. After his sentence he sought to prepare himself against the day when his spirit should be ushered into the presence of his Maker, and has been daily counselled and advised by Rev. Mr. Powers, of the Methodist Episcopal church; Rev. Mr. Frazier, of the Presbyterian church; Rev. Mr. Longley, of the Congregational Church, and good Christian men of other denominations, and on Thursday afternoon last the ministers named above administered to him the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and to a late hour that night he was engaged with them and others in supplication and prayer. To all with whom he conversed he expressed a willingness and a readiness to die. He assured them that he felt within his own heart that his peace was made with God, and that he was anxious to go to His presence.