FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONDAY, Nov. 29—6 P. M.

The week opened with great excitement in the Gold Room, where the announcement of the programme of Secretary Boutwell for the month of December led to a decline in gold to 121¼, the lowest point attained since September, 1862, when it was on the ascending scale in the earlier days of the war. The weakness of the market ever since the culmination of the "corner," two months ago, has been the occasion of great uneasiness in mercantile circles, particularly among the importers, to whom the fluctuations of gold are of so vital importance. The Gold Room was therefore the scene of great attraction this morning, and the same class of business men who before were interested in the fell machinations of the clique that carried the premium beyond all reasonable bounds were again watching the revolutions of the pointer on the gold index. Then they were concerned because in making payment for goods bought earlier in the season they were forced to buy gold at an immense advance upon the price when their purchases were made. Now they were equally concerned because the decline in gold not only obliterated all margin of profit but encroached upon the original price so far as to threaten serious loss if not bankruptcy. The opening price in the Gold Room was 123, from which it ran down rapidly to 121¼. Here it turned upon the report that Mr. Stewart and other prominent merchants had telegraphed to Secretary Boutwell that if he did not cease his gold sales there would be a panic which would ruin the importers. We give the report for what it is worth. No one in Wall street seemed capable of verifying it, but probably our Washington despatches to-night will give the result of any such application to the Secretary of the Treasury should it have been made. At the same time there was a disposition to buy gold for the purchase of exchange, the combined effect of which was to cause a reaction to 122¾. There was also some covering by the "shorts," the statement of the Gold Bank showing a total of over twenty-one millions of gold cleared on Saturday. The market closed strong at 122¼ a 122½ at half-past five o'clock this evening; but holders are still very sensitive as to the future. The programme of Secretary Boutwell contemplates the sale of eleven millions during the month of December, and as the disbursements of the Treasury on the 1st of January in the payment of the coin interest on the public debt will be about thirty-five millions, and as the banks in this city now hold thirty millions of gold, the prospect is that there will be a glut of the precious metal at the beginning of the new year. The speculative feeling for a rise is a very tame one, and at the same time few have the courage to sell gold "short" after so great a decline. Looking at the market from the Wall street standpoint, it is really weaker than if the speculation was as active when the "bulls" inaugurated their campaign last summer, for the reason that the diminished volume of operations creates less demand for gold. The range of gold since the suspension of specie payments is shown in the following table;—

Year.	Highest.	Lowest.
1862	137	100
1863	172½	122½
1864	285	151½
1865	234½	128½
1866	167½	125
1867	146¼	132
1868	150	132½
1869 (to Nov. 29, inclusive)	165	121½

The excitement and decline in the gold market led to heaviness and a decline in the stock market, holders being greatly perplexed as to the effect which lower gold will have upon their investments, and being inclined to dispose of them, while those who are not interested either way preferred awaiting developments. At the opening prices were not very different from the closing quotations on Saturday except for the stocks which are more immediately the subject of special clique manipulation. Thus Northwest common rose to 76¾ and Rock Island to 106¼, but eventually went off with the whole market when the gold excitement was at its highest. With reference to Northwest, its initial strength was due to the fact that one prominent operator, who was reported to be heavily short, finding it impossible to work adversely to the upward current covered his contracts and joined the two other leading operators who originated the movement, thus bringing the forces of all parties to operate on the bull side. The directors of the road were also in session to-day, but adjourned without taking any action on the question of a dividend, which, however, will come up for definite settlement within a few days. It remains to be seen whether the decline in the cliqued stocks was due to the general weakness of the day or to the beginning of sales in the process of unloading. The question of the effect of lower gold upon the stock market produces great uneasiness among the "bull" cliques, and they would doubtless prefer to be disinterested spectators of the fluctuations that may be expected. The Vanderbilt stocks were weak and heavy. On and after Wednesday, by resolution of the Stock Exchange, the call will be confined to the consolidated stock only. Pacific Mail declined to 51½. The express stocks were strong for American and steady for the others.

The fall in gold directly influenced the price of government bonds, which gave way at the noon call to the lowest made since last summer. The '67's sold as low as 113¼. The decline is all the more remarkable for the fact that the Treasury contemplates the extensive purchase of thirteen millions of bonds during December. The price in London to-day was 85¼, the advance there being predicated upon the decline in gold here. In the afternoon, with the reaction in gold and under purchases by the short interest, the market rallied strongly and closed with the following quotations:—United States currency sixes, 107¼ a 107½; do. sixes, 1881, registered, 115½ a 115¾; do. coupon, 115½ a 115¾; do., five-twenties, registered, May and November, 110⅞ a 111; do., 1862, coupon, do., 112⅝ a 112¾; do., 1864, coupon, do., 110⅞ a 111; do., 1865, coupon, do., 111¼ a 111½; do., registered, January and July, 113⅞ a 113⅝; do., 1865, coupon, do., 113½ a 113¾; do., 1867, coupon, do., 113¾ a 113⅞; do., 1868, coupon, do., 113½ a 113¾; do. ten-forties, registered, 106½ a 107; do., coupon, 106¾ a 107.

In Southern securities there was a steadier market for the North Carolinas despite a report that the agents here had ceased paying the interest on the special tax bonds, the recent heavy decline being of itself sufficient reason for the reaction. In old Tennessees there was a "break" of several per cent, under renewed assertions that the State will not do anything toward repudiation of the new bonds, fear of which occasioned the heretofore wide difference between the two issues. Otherwise the market was dull and steady.

The fall in gold has blocked the exports of produce, and hence, under a scanty supply of commercial bills and with the demand for exchange arising out of the lower price for gold, the leading bankers advanced their rates for prime sixty day sterling to 109¼ and for sight sterling to 109⅞. The full range of quotations is given below.

The money market was a shade more active toward the close of banking hours, but the demand was fully met at six to seven per cent, according to the character of collaterals. In discounts there was a moderate business done in prime paper, which was quoted at from nine to twelve per cent.

The firm of Lockwood & Co., who suspended in the panic last September, have effected a settlement with their creditors and announce their intention to resume on Wednesday, December 1.

The course of gold during the day is shown in the table:—

10 A. M.	123	2 P. M.	122¼
11 A. M.	122¾	2:30 P. M.	122¼
11:30 A. M.	122	3 P. M.	122⅛
11:36 A. M.	121½	4 P. M.	122
12 M.	121¾	4:30 P. M.	122¼
1 P. M.	121¾	5 P. M.	122¼
1:34 P. M.	122	5:30 P. M.	122¼ a 122½

Holders of gold paid from seven to eight per cent to have their balances carried. The operations of the Gold Exchange Bank were as follows:—

Gold cleared	$21,655,000
Gold balances	888,554
Currency balances	1,152,318

The following were the closing prices of stocks at the last session of the Stock Exchange:—Canton, 50¾; Cumberland, 25 a 27; Western Union, 35; Quicksilver, 13¼ a 14½; Mariposa, 7½ a 8¼; do. preferred, 16½ a 16¾; Pacific Mail, 51¾ a 51½; Boston Water Power, 13½ a 14½; Adams Express, 57½ a 57¾; Wells-Fargo Express, 17¾ a 18¼; American Express, 36¾ a 36¾; United States Express, 53 a 53½; New York Central, 173¼; do. consolidated, 68¾ a 68⅞; do., scrip, 76½ a 76⅝; Hudson River, 154 a 156; Harlem, 130 a 130½; Erie, 27¾; do. preferred, 46 a 48; Reading, 98 a 98¼; Lake Shore, 87¾ a 87⅞; Illinois Central, 131 a 132; Cleveland and Pittsburg, 80 bid; Chicago and Northwestern, 75¾ a 75½; do. preferred, 88¾ a 88½; Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati, 74½ a 76½; Rock Island, 105¾ a 105¾; Milwaukee and St. Paul, 67¾ a 68; do. preferred, 83 a 83½; Toledo and Wabash, 55 a 55½; Fort Wayne, 87 a 87½; Alton and Terre Haute preferred, 58; Ohio and Mississippi, 25¼ a 25½; New Jersey Central, 89⅞ a 90; Chicago and Alton, 149 a 149⅞; do. preferred, 148 a 149½; Morris and Essex, 87½; Hannibal and St. Joseph, 107; do. preferred, 107¼ a 107½; Columbus Chicago and Indiana Central, 21¼ a 21¾. The highest and lowest prices of the leading stocks were as follows:—

	Highest.	Lowest.
New York Central	174¼	172⅞
Hudson River	156½	152½
New York Cen. and Hud. Consol.	89¼	87¼
N. Y. Cen. and Hud. Con. Scrip	78	76
Harlem	131	130
Erie	28	27⅝
Reading	99¼	98
Lake Shore	88⅞	87½
Northwestern	76¼	75
Northwestern preferred	89¼	88½
Rock Island	106½	105¼
Milwaukee and St. Paul	69	67¾
Milwaukee and St. Paul preferred	84	83
Ohio and Mississippi	26	25¾
New Jersey Central	90¼	88½
Pacific Mail	53	51½

The following were the closing quotations for foreign exchange:—Sterling sixty days,, commercial, 108¾ a 108¾; good to prime bankers', 109 a 109¼; short sight, 109⅝ a 109⅞; Paris, sixty days, 5.21¼ a 5.16¼; short sight, 5.15 a 5.13¾; Antwerp, 5.21¼ a 5.16¼; Switzerland, 5.21¼ a 5.16¼; Hamburg, 35⅝ a 36½; Amsterdam, 40¾ a 40⅞; Frankfort, 40½ a 41; Bremen, 78⅝ a 79¼; Prussian thalers, 70¾ a 71⅜.

At the close of street business the following quotations prevailed for the Southern list:—Tennessee, ex coupon, 53½ a 54; do., new, 50½ a 50¾; do., five per cent, 40 a 50; Virginia, ex coupon, 48 a 49; do., new 52 a 53; do., registered stock, 43½ a 44½; do., registered, 1866, 51 a 52; do., registered, 1867, 49 a 50; Georgia sixes, 81 a 82; do. sevens, 91 a 92; do, sevens, interest payable in Georgia, 85 a 87; North Carolina, ex coupon, 41 a 41½; do., new, 29½ a 29¾; do., special tax, 28¾ a 29; Missouri sixes, 90½ a 91; do., Hannibal and St. Joseph, 90 a 92; Louisiana sixes, 65 a 66; do. levee sixes, 58½ a 59; do., do., seven per cent, 69 a 70; do., do, eights, 77 a 78; Alabama eights, 94 a 94¾; do. fives, 60 a 62; do. sixes, sterling, 80 bid; South Carolina sixes, 69½ a 70; do., new, 65½ a 66; do. registered stock, 65 a 66; City Memphis sixes, 48 a 49; Atlanta eights, 85 a 87; do. Savannah sevens, 85 a 87; do. New Orleans consols, 72 a 74; do., issued to railroads, 65 a 66; Mobile and Ohio, sterling, 65 a 67; do., eights, 59 a 61; Mississippi Central Railroad, first mortgage, 71 a 72; do., second do., 60 a 62; Memphis and Charleston, first mortgage, 80 a 82; do., second do., 72 a 74; do., stock, 40 a 42; Greenville and Columbia, guaranteed, 61 a 62.

The following was to-day's business at the office of the United States Assistant Treasurer:—

General balance Saturday	$36,181,305
Gold receipts	729,692
Gold payments	162,554
Gold balance	80,480,160
Currency receipts	300,944
Currency payments	573,174
Currency balance	5,756,275
General balance	86,735,493
Customs (included in gold receipts)	338,000

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Monday, Nov. 29—10:15 A. M.

$4000 US 5-20, reg. '62	111¼	300 shs N Y C & H R con	89¾
4000 US 5-20, c. '62	113	200 do	89⅞
1500 US 5-20, c. '64	111	200 do	b60 90
5000 US 5-20, r. '65	111¾	1100 Erie RR	28
14000 US 5-20, c. '65, n.s3	113½	15 Hud Riv RR	154
11000 US 5-20, c. '67..s3	112¾	100 do	155½
59000 do	112⅞	100 Harlem RR	s60 130½
85000 do	s3 114	200 do	131
10000 US 5-20, r. '67	113¾	1400 Reading RR	99⅛
5000 US 5's, 10-40, cou.	107½	200 do	99¼
10000 US 6's, currency	107½	500 L S & M S RR	88¾
4000 do	107¾	500 do	88⅝
10000 Tenn 6's, ex cou	55¾	1000 do	88½
1000 do	55	200 do	b60 89¼
20000 Tenn 6's, n	50	100 Illinois Cen RR	131
4000 do	50¼	100 do	132
25000 do	50½	200 Clev & Pitts RR	81
1000 N Car 6's	41	200 do	80
15000 N Car 6's, new	30½	300 Chic & N W RR	75⅞
10000 do	31	800 do	75¾
2000 do, special tax	31	50 do	75½
5000 do	30¼	600 C & N W RR pfd	89
50000 do	30	200 do	88⅞
20000 do	29½	1500 do	b3 89
10000 Missouri 6's	91	400 do	s3 89
2000 N Y 5's, '74	99¼	100 do	89½
1000 S Car 6's, new	67½	1100 Chic & R I RR	106¼
8000 Brooklyn 6's, w l	92⅞	100 do	c 106⅛
2000 Erie 3d m	85	25 do	106
2000 Cen P RR g bds	91½	100 Mil & St Paul RR	69
4000 U Pac RR 1st m	84¾	100 do	68⅞
3000 T & Wab 2d m	81	100 do	68¾
3000 C & R I & P RR 7's	95½	200 Mil & St Paul pf	83⅞
4000 M & Ea 1st mg	97	100 do	b3 86
15000 Mil & SP 7-10 con	88	200 do	b30 84¼
2000 M & St P 1st, I div	86¼	200 do	84
3000 do	87	200 do	s60 83⅞
6000 Mor & Ea con bds	84	400 Tol, Wab & W RR	56½
5000 Pitts, Ft W & C 2d m	94¾	200 P, Ft W & Chi RR gtd	87¾
6000 C, A & I C 1st m	75¾	100 do	87½
10000 do	75¾	100 do	87⅞
5000 do	76	40 Mich Central RR	129½
30 shs Bk State N Y	108	100 Al & Ter H RR	25
17 Am Exch'ge Bank	110	100 Ohio & Miss RR	26
28 Bank of Commerce	122¾	200 do	25⅞
50 Ocean Bank	75	100 Chic & Alton	148½
50 Cen Nat Bank	107½	300 do	149
100 Quick Mine	14¼	500 do	149⅛
200 do	14	57 Chic, Bur & Q RR	113
2000 do b c	14	700 N J Central RR	90
500 do 2d call	13¾	100 do s30	90⅛
500 Mariposa prf	16½	20 Del, Lack & W	107
1000 Pac Mail SS Co	55	40 Morris & Es RR	87½
100 West U Tel b c	35	100 Bost, Hart & Erie RR	9½
5 Am Mer Un Ex	35½	150 do	10
100 do	35¾	100 H & St Jo RR pf	108
68 do	36	100 do	107½
100 do bet call	36	100 Dub & Sioux C RR	109
100 U S Express Co	52¼	200 C, C & I C RR	21½
5 Adams Express	56	300 do	21¾
10000 N Y C & H R RR c s	28		

One o'Clock P. M.

$4000 US 6's, '81, reg	115¼	$12000 US 5-20, c, '65, n	113
500 US 6's, '81, c	114¾	500 do	113⅛
10000 do	115	3000 do c	113⅛
13000 do	115¼	11000 do	113½
10000 do	115⅛	7000 US 6's, cur'cy	107¼
18500 US 5-20, r, '62	112¾	45000 US 5-20, c, '67..s3	113¾
65000 U S 5-20, c, '64	110¾	40000 do c	113¾
2000 do	110¾	140000 do	113¾
10000 do s3	110¾	7500 do	113½
3000 do	110¾	700 do small	113
21000 US 5-20, cou, '62	112½	10000 do	113⅛
2000 US 5-20, c, '65	111	15000 do	113¼
13500 do	110¾	2600 US 5-20, c, '65	113⅜
6000 do	110⅝	10000 do	113½
9000 do	111	2000 US 5's, 10-40, c	106⅛

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

$2000 Tenn 6's, ex c	53¾	100 shs Harlem RR	s60 130
10000 do bet call	54⅛	800 do	130
1000 Tenn 6's, n	50¼	400 do	b30 98¾
10000 do	50¾	1500 do	98¾
61000 N C 6's, n	30	300 do	b c 98½
27000 do, special tax	29¼	800 Lake Shore & M S RR	87⅞
10000 do	29	500 do	b10 87⅞
15000 Missouri 6's	91	800 do	b3 87⅞
25000 La 6's, l b	58¾	100 do	s.b c 87⅞
6000 Ala 8's, bonds	94	500 do	88
4000 N Y Cen 6's, '83	89	600 Chic & N W pref	88¾
1000 C, C & I C 1st m	75⅝	200 Cleve & Pitts	79
200 shs Canton Co	51	6200 do	79⅞
300 West U Tel	35	500 do	80
200 Gu'nsilver Min Co	14	100 Illinois Central RR	132
100 Pac M SS Co	b60 52	100 Chic & N W RR	75¾
100 do bet call	51⅞	1100 do	75⅛
100 Adams Ex	57¾	100 Chic & Rk I RR	b30 106
25 do	57⅞	500 do	105⅞
55 Am Mer U Ex	36¾	400 do	105½
100 do	36⅛	300 do	105⅝
100 do	36¼	200 do	106¼
230 do	36¾	300 Mil & St Paul RR	68
100 Wells-Fargo Ex	18	600 Mil & St Paul pf	83¾
25 U S Express	53¾	100 Tol, Wab & West	55½
450 do	53½	100 New Jersey Cen RR	89¾
100 N Y C & H R con	88½	500 do	b30 90
100 do bet call	88¾	100 do	90
100 do	88¾	600 do	b3 90
20000 N Y C & H R c sp	76½	100 P, Ft W & Chi gtd	87¼
10000 do	76⅝	50 Chicago & Alt pref	149
100 N Y Central RR	173¼	30 Morris & Es RR	88
100 do b call	173⅛	500 Ohio & Miss RR	25½
300 Erie RR	27¾	20 H & St Jo RR pf	107¾
100 Hud River RR	155	100 do	107
1000 Reading RR	98¾		

STREET QUOTATIONS.

Half-past Five o'Clock P. M.

West Un Tel	35 a 35¼	Northwestern	75¼ a 75¾
Pacific Mail	51¼ a 52	Northwestern pf	88¾ a 88¾
N Y Central	172¾ a 173	Rock Island	105¾ a 105¾
N Y Cen con stk	68¾ a 69	St Paul	67¾ a 68
N Y C con scrip	76¾ a 77	St Paul pref	83 a 83¾
Erie	27¾ a 27¾	Ft Wayne	87 a 87¾
Reading	98¾ a 98⅞	Ohio & Miss	25¾ a 25⅞
Lake Shore	87¾ a 87¾		

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

MONDAY, Nov. 29—6 P. M.

COFFEE.—For Rio there was a moderate demand at steady prices, and sales were made of 587 bags ex steamer Merrimac and 403 do. ex Doris Broderson on private terms. Other kinds were dull, but unchanged in value; 500 bags Laguayra were sold at 18¼c. a 18½c., gold, duty paid.

COTTON.—The demand for this staple from all classes of buyers was slight and but little business was consummated; the offerings were fair and prices receded ¼c. per lb., the market closing weak at the reduction. The sales were 1,553 bales (including 190 to arrive), of which 625 were for export, 471 on speculation and 397 for spinning. For future delivery the business was large and the sales were as follows:—450 bales basis low middling for November, at 24⅝c. a 24¾c.; 25 do. for December, at 24⅝c.; 300 do. for January, at 24½c.; 200 do. for January, at 24¾c.; 100 do. for do., at 24⅝c.; 200 do. for do. at 24⅞c. a 25c.; 400 do. for February, at 24¾c.; 350 do. for March, at 24⅞c. a 25c.; 100 do. for April, at 25c.; 200 do., f. o. b., at New Orleans, at 23½c. 150 do. strictly good ordinary Texas for December at 24¾c.; 150 do. do. for January, at 24½c., and 150 do. do. for February, at the same price. We append the closing quotations:—

	Uplands and Florida.	Mobile and Memphis.	N. Orleans and Texas.
Ordinary	23¾	23¾	23⅞
Good ordinary	24½	24¾	24¾
Low middling	24¾	25	25¼
Middling	25½	25⅝	25¾
Good middling	25⅞	25⅞	26

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—Receipts, 26,101 bbls. flour, 807 bbls. and 200 bags corn meal, 258,523 bushels wheat, 38,517 do. corn, 339,441 do. oats, 176,885 do. barley and 1,500 do. malt. The flour market ruled a shade firmer, and some sales were made at an advance of 5c. a 10c. At the close, however, the market was quiet at Saturday's prices. The sales were about 17,000 bbls. Southern flour continued in good demand and higher prices were realized for the low grades, which were most sought after. Sales 2,500 bbls. Rye flour was steady, with sales of 375 bbls., while corn meal was dull and heavy. We quote:—

No. 2 State	$4 25 a $4 50
Superfine State	4 65 a 5 00
Extra State	5 25 a 5 50
Choice do	6 00 a 6 50
Superfine Western	4 65 a 5 00
Extra do	5 25 a 5 50
Extra Minnesota	5 50 a 6 75
Round hoop Ohio, shipping brands	5 25 a 5 50
Round hoop Ohio, trade brands	5 75 a 6 50
St. Louis low extra	6 00 a 6 50
St. Louis straight extra	6 50 a 7 00
St. Louis choice double extra	7 25 a 7 75
St. Louis choice family	7 75 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 50 a 6 00
Corn meal, city	5 00 a 5 25
Corn meal, Brandywine	5 25 a 5 50
Corn meal, Jersey	4 75 a 5 00

The favorable news from Liverpool with regard to the wheat market was counteracted by the large decline in gold, and prices were 1c. a 2c. lower. The sales were about 70,000 bushels at $1 03 for unsound No. 2 spring, $1 15 for sound do., $1 29 for No. 2 do., $1 33 a $1 36 for small lots red and amber Western, $1 35 for amber Virginia, $1 45 a $1 52 for white Western, $1 25 for Illinois winter, and $1 38 a $1 41 for red Western. Corn was firm, with a good demand, the sales being 65,000 bushels at $1 10 a $1 11 for prime mixed, in store and afloat, $1 05 a $1 09 for common to good, $1 12½ a $1 14 for white and yellow, and $1 a $1 03 for yellow Jersey. Oats were in demand and firm. The sales were 50,000 bushels at 64c. a 65c., including a few small lots inferior at 62c. a 63½c. Rye was quiet, but firm, with sales of 2,000 bushels at $1 17 for State and $1 18 a $1 05 for Western. Barley was only moderately dealt in and lower, the sales being 17,000 bushels at $1 25 a $1 28 for Canada West, $1 03 a $1 05 for two-rowed State and $1 19 for four-rowed do. Barley malt was dull and nominal. The stock of grain in the New York and Brooklyn warehouses November 27, 1869, was as follows:—3,566,659 bushels wheat, 853,018 do. corn, 1,106,861 do. oats, 39,671 do. rye, 263,553 do. barley, 70,805 do. malt, 11,882 do. peas.

FREIGHTS.—The market was dull, the offerings being light, and rates generally favored shippers. For petroleum vessels for charter there was an increased demand, but at rather lower rates. Other kinds of tonnage were but little sought after and obtainable at comparatively low rates. The engagements were:—To Liverpool, per steamer, 7,500 bushels wheat, at 10d.; 750 bales cotton, at 9-32d. a 5-16d., mostly at the inside rate; 600 bbls. flour, at 2s., and 250 boxes bacon, at 80ls. To London, 600 bales hops, at ¾d. The charters were:—A Danish bark, 347 tons, to Elizabethport, thence to Rio, with coal, at 25s.; a bark to Gibraltar, for orders, with 2,300 bbls. petroleum, at 5s.; a North German brig to Vigo direct, with 1,400 bbls. do., at 6s.; a bark from Philadelphia to the Mediterranean, with 2,000 bbls. petroleum, at 5s. 6d. a 6s. 6d.; a North German ship from Philadelphia to Antwerp, with 5,500 bbls. petroleum, at 5s. 6d.; a North German ship from Philadelphia to the North Sea, with about 5,800 bbls. petroleum, at 5s.; a bark from the same port to a direct port on the Continent, with 4,000 bbls. petroleum, at 5s., and a small vessel to the windward on private terms.

GUNNIES were dull, and prices were nominal at 16c. a 17c. for bags and 19½c. a 21c. for cloth.

HEMP was dull and nominal at former prices. No sales were reported.

HOPS.—The market was extremely quiet, there being scarcely any demand; but holders were firm in their views, demanding full previous prices. New crop was quoted 15c. a 28c. for common to choice, and old crop 5c. a 12c. according to quality, with sales of 60 bales within the range.

HAY.—A moderately active demand prevailed at steady prices, shipping selling at 65c.; retail lots, 80c. a $1 15. Long rye straw, $1 a $1 05; short do., 80c. a 85c.

MOLASSES.—The market was dull, the demand for all kinds being light, and prices were heavy, though no lower; 50 hhds. common Cuba were sold, part at 30c. We quote:—Cuba centrifugal and mixed, 30c. a 34c.; do. clayed, 32c. a 40c.; do. muscovado refining, 36c. a 45c.; do. do. grocery do., 45c. a 55c.; Porto Rico, 50c. a 70c.; Barbados, 56c. a 58c.; New Orleans, 78c. a 85c.

NAVAL STORES.—The market for spirits turpentine was still dull, there being no demand except for small lots, and prices were a trifle easier, closing at 45c. a 45½c. for merchantable and 46c. a 46½c. for shipping lots. The sales were confined to about 75 bbls. at 45½c. a 46c., mostly at the inside price. In rosin the business was still dull, the aggregate sales being only 500 bbls., at $2 55 for No. 2 and $3 a $5 for No. 1 and pale. We quote:—Strained, $2 15 a $2 20; No. 2, $2 30 a $2 75; No. 1, $2 87½ a $3 87½; pale, $4 a $4 25; extra do. and window glass, $5 37½ a $8 25. Tar was dull and nominal at $2 80 for Wilmington and $3 50 for Washington.

OILS.—Linseed was dull and heavy at 92c. a 95c. in casks and bbls., while other kinds were dull, but unchanged. No sales.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts, 114 bbls. pork, 661 do. beef, 433 packages cut meats, 102 do. and 300 kegs lard. The market for pork was extremely quiet, there being no demand except for small lots, and prices were heavy and nominal. The sales were confined to about 400 bbls., at $33 37½ for old mess, $31 50 for sour and musty mess and $33 a $33 50 for city mess. For future delivery we heard of sales of 500 bbls. mess for January at $30 and 500 do. sellers' option, six months, at $33. Dressed hogs were dull and lower, city selling at 13½c. a 13¾c. Live hogs were lower, closing at 10c. a 10¾c. for common to prime. The arrivals were fair, being 6,171 head. Beef was quiet but steady in value, the sales being 50 bbls., at $4 a $12 for plain mess and $12 a $17 for extra do. Beef hams, though quiet, were steady in value. Small sales were made within the range of $31 a $33 for Western. Tierce beef was steady, with sales of 200 tierces, at $26 a $28 for prime mess and $30 a $31 for India do. Bacon was dull, and prices were entirely nominal at former quotations. For cut meats the market was dull, the demand being light, and prices favored the buyer. Small sales, amounting to about 70 packages, were made, at 12c. for pickled shoulders and 17c. a 17½c. do. for hams. The market for lard was quiet, there being but little demand, but former prices were maintained. The sales were 300 packages at 15c. a 19½c. for No. 1 to prime steam and kettle rendered.

PETROLEUM.—With free offerings and no demand except for small lots, the market for crude in bulk was dull and heavy and prices depreciated to the extent of 1c. per gallon, closing at about 18½c. The sales were about 400 bbls at 19c. a 19½c. The market for refined was quiet, heavy and unsettled and prices were fully 1c. per gallon lower, the decline being caused by the heavy fall of gold. The demand from all sources was light and holders were generally anxious to realize. The sales were as follows:—3,000 bbls. for November at 31½c., 1,000 do. for do. at 31¾c., 500 do. at 31¾c., 500 do. at 32c., 1,000 do. for the first half December at 32¼c. and 500 do. for do. at 32½c., the market closing at 31½c. a 31¾c. for spot and about 32¼c. for December; also 1,100 cases at 36½c. a 38½c., according to brand. Of naphtha there were sold 100 bbls. at 11c. and 500 cases at 18c. In Philadelphia the market was dull and prices were decidedly lower, sales being made as low as 31¾c. for November. There were sold 1,000 bbls. for November at 31½c., 500 do., deliverable to-morrow, at 31½c.; 2,000 do., for December, at 32¼c.; 500 do., for do., at 32c. (closing at 32¼c. a 32½c.), and 2,000 do., from December to March, at 32½c.

RICE.—Carolina was steady, with sales of 75 casks at 7c. a 7½c. for common to prime and 7¾c. for choice. Rangoon was dull and nominal.

SUGAR.—The market for raw was still dull, the demand being very light, and with holders generally anxious to realize, prices were heavy and fell 1¼c. lower. The sales were 100 hhds. at 11¾c. Refined was but little sought after and lower, the market closing at 15¼c. a 15½c. for hard, 14½c. a 14¾c. for soft white, 14c. a 14½c. for extra C, and 13¾c. a 13¾c. for yellow. We quote:—Cuba—inferior to common refining, 10¾c. a 10¾c.; fair refining, 11c.; good refining, 11¼c.; fair to good grocery, 11½c. a 11¾c.; prime to choice grocery, 12c. a 12½c.; centrifugal, hhds. and boxes, 10¼c. a 12¾c.; molasses, hhds. and boxes, 10c. a 11½c.; melado, 5½c. a 9c. Havana—Boxes, D. S., Nos. 7 to 9, 10½c. a 11½c.; do. do., Nos. 10 to 12, 11½c. a 11¾c.; do. do., Nos. 13 to 15, 12½c. a 13c.; do. do., Nos. 16 to 18, 13½c. a 14½c.; do. do., Nos. 19 to 20, 14½c. a 14¾c. Porto Rico—Refining grades, 11¼c. a 11½c.; grocery grades, 11½c. a 13½c.

SEEDS.—All kinds were dull and nominal at our last quotations, no sales were reported.

STEARINE.—There was but little demand and that was mostly for small lots, which sold at 17c. a 18c. for common to prime in hhds. and tierces.

TALLOW.—The demand was light and prices were heavy, though 1c. a 1½c. lower than last week. The sales were 40,000 lbs., at 10¼c. a 10½c. for common to prime.

WHISKEY.—Receipts, 450 bbls. The demand was more active and a fair business was consummated, but at lower prices. Sales 470 bbls. at $1 05 a $1 07, the market closing at about $1 05.

THE OLD "FISHY" STORY.

The Great Sea Serpent—Interviewing the Man Who Saw the "Snaix"—A Mariner's Yarn.

The HERALD of yesterday contained a statement of the fact that Captain Allen, of the bark Scottian Bride, which arrived here on Sunday, is reported to have actually seen the great sea serpent and its young one on the 23d of the present month. The *Commercial Advertiser* of yesterday thought that Captain Allen deserved to be interviewed on the subject and gives the result as follows:—

THE NARRATIVE.

Captain Allen is a bluff seaman, who has followed the ocean as a profession for the last ten years. He is the very type of an American skipper, and all the statements he makes in regard to the serpent are worthy of belief. He states that on the 23d of this month, when in latitude 38 16, longitude 74 09, he descended to his cabin at about noon. He was just about eating his dinner, when his second mate descended the cabin stairs, and, in an excited manner, told him his presence was required on deck. Thinking the ship had sprung a leak or that some other dire mishap had befallen them, he dropped the tempting morsel before him and rushed up. When he arrived on deck he found the crew assembled on the starboard side of the vessel, looking with awe-stricken faces into the water. Not knowing the meaning of their strange conduct he also went there, and a sight met his eye the memory of which will never fade. During the morning the weather had been rather blustering. The wind had been blowing from "all quarters" at the same time; but now there had come a calm, and the water was quiet and as clear as glass, although the sky was covered with dark, heavy clouds, that threatened to burst forth into a deluge at any moment. Upon approaching the side of the vessel the captain saw in the water beneath a monster such as he had never seen before. It was about twenty-five feet in length and proportionately thick; its head was very large and flat, while at each side, on the extreme edge, were set two bright, scintillating eyes, which, he says, looked dangerous and wicked. Its back was covered with large scales, like the crocodile, about three inches in length, which hooked together and formed an impenetrable armor. Its belly was of a tawny yellow color, and altogether hideous. It was accompanied by a smaller specimen of its own species, and may have been its offspring. This was but a few feet in length, but in shape and color closely resembled the larger one. With the usual superstition that always takes hold of this class, the sailors regarded the serpent with a sort of religious horror, and all the efforts of the captain to have them make some attempt to capture it were abortive. They looked upon it as something supernatural, and were not disposed to meddle with it. The thing was about four feet from the vessel, was lying but a few feet below the surface of the water and was easily discernible to all on board. The captain gave orders to have a boat lowered to attack the monster, but in the meantime the attention of the smaller one was called to the presence of the vessel. It raised its head a few inches above the surface and then went toward its larger friend and seemed to tell it of the circumstance, but whatever transpired between them, the larger one raised its head as though to investigate its surroundings, and then, with an easy motion, it dropped into the ocean. In disappearing it went head downward, and its body described a circle like a hook, its tail raising out of the water, which, the captain says, tapered off to a sharp point. The calm that had beset the vessel in the morning now gave place to a strong northwest breeze, that as night closed around, burst into a storm, accompanied by vivid lightning and rolling thunder. The ship was tossed about by the relentless waves, which ever and anon broke over her with relentless fury, and during the whole of this fearful night the sailors would not go on deck without lanterns, such was their fear of meeting the monster. Now and then they would go to the captain and ask his opinion on the probability of that occurrence; but he, being no wiser than themselves, would laugh at their fears and bid them go to their work. About morning the storm died away, but until the following day, when they came in sight of land, the brave men entertained an unexpressed dread of the reappearance of the monster. Captain Allen thinks that the monster came from the regions of Florida, where he has often heard of similar creatures from other shipmasters, and by following the warm current of the Gulf Stream it reached the position where he found it. In his opinion it is a deep water animal, and he accounts for its appearance so near the surface by the fact of the dark day and the monster not knowing how high up he was. We have learned from other sources that this monster is not so mythical as generally believed. The same has often been seen before, but always in fresh water. It is known that he is bred in the warm South American rivers, and it is sup