FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

WALL STREET, WEDNESDAY, May 17—6 P. M.

On 'Change to-day wheat was fairly active and firm. Cotton was weak and a fraction lower, but active and in demand at the decline.

MONEY THREE TO FOUR PER CENT.

The tendency of the money market was to lower figures, and three per cent became the general rate on governments and four per cent on stocks. Transactions on the former collaterals were reported as low as two per cent, but they were exceptional and hardly quotable. It might also be more proper to quote the rate on stocks four to five per cent, but very little business was done at the latter figure. The accumulation of money at this centre has seldom been so great. The prospect for the summer months promises a glut of currency with the banks.

Prime paper is in request at 5½ per cent discount.

Foreign exchange was dull and only steady at the advance to 110½ for prime bankers' sixty days sterling and 111 for sight. The rate, 110¾, would allow of the export of one dollar gold pieces.

THE NEW LOAN.

The new five per cent bonds made their appearance on the street to-day, the Assistant Treasurer having distributed about $1,000,000 to the subscribers first on the list. A market was made for them right away, and the quotation 111¼ established. This price, being a half per cent below their par in gold, is accounted for by the fact that sellers on speculation can always cover by converting the lower-priced five-twenties into new bonds, with which to return the five per cents borrowed for delivery. In other words, Mr. Boutwell will enjoy the competition of the "bears" in the future sales of his new bonds. The additional subscriptions to the new loan reported by the Treasury Department at the close of business to-day were $35,300, making the total subscription and conversions to date, $64,410,500.

THE GOVERNMENT PURCHASE OF BONDS.

The Assistant Treasurer received proposals for the sale to the government of two millions of five-twenties, and was tendered twenty lots, amounting in all to $4,877,050, at prices ranging, ex-interest, from 111.87 (or par in gold) down to 111.23. The purchases were made at 111.23 a 111.49.

GOVERNMENTS STRONG.

The offerings at the Sub-Treasury being rather lighter than usual, assisted the influence of higher gold and steady quotations from London in rendering the government list firm at an advance commensurate with the advance in gold. The best prices were maintained to the close of street business, when quotations left off as follows:—United States currency sixes, 115½ a 115¾; do., 1881, registered, 117½ a 117¾; do. do., coupon, 117½ a 117¾; do. five-twenties, registered, May and November, 111¼ a 111½; do., 1862, coupon, do., 111½ a 111¾; do. do., 1864, do. do., 111½ a 111¾; do. do., 1865, do. do., 111½ a 111¾; do. do., registered, January and July, 113⅝ a 113¾; do. do., 1865, coupon, do., 113¾ a 113⅞; do. do., 1867, 113½ a 113¾; do. do., 1868, do. do., 113¾ a 114; do. ten-forties, registered, 109¼ a 109½; do. do., coupon, 109¾ a 109⅞.

GOLD STRONG—111¾ A 111⅞.

The export movement in gold showing no diminution, the steamer to-day having taken over $500,000, the course of the gold market pursued its upward progress, but in the same slow gradual manner which has characterized it for the past week or ten days. The offering price yesterday was the bidding price to-day—a progress which has been about the average for the time specified. Cash gold is in active borrowing demand from brokers doing business for exporters of wheat and cotton who are selling against shipments to Liverpool, and this temporary legitimate "short" interest gives the market the appearance of being oversold. The alternations on the only two figures of the day are shown in the table:—

10 A. M.	111¾	1:20 P. M.	111¾
10:52 A. M.	111¾	2 P. M.	111⅞
11 A. M.	111¾	3 P. M.	111⅞
12 M.	111¾	4 P. M.	111⅞
1 P. M.	111¾	5:30 P. M.	111¾ a 111⅞

In the gold loan market the rates ranged from one per cent for carrying to three per cent for borrowing. The operations of the Gold Exchange Bank were as follows:—

Gold cleared	$28,950,000
Gold balances	1,748,130
Currency balances	2,003,030

The Russia, for Europe, took out $400,000 and the Wisconsin, also for Europe, took out $110,000 in specie.

SOUTHERN SECURITIES STRONG.

The Southern list was fairly active, and the inquiry ran mainly on the Tennessees, which advanced to 71¼ for the new issues on the report that another of the railroads had paid off its indebtedness to the State. The South Carolina new July bonds touched 64¼. The North Carolinas were strong and higher, except for the special tax issues, which were heavy and a fraction lower. The following were the closing street prices:—Tennessee ex coupon, 70¾ a 71; do. new, 70¾ a 71; Virginia ex coupon, 69 a 69¼; do. new, 72 a 72½; do. registered stock, old, 56½ a 57; Georgia sixes, 87 a 90; do. sevens, 93 a 95; North Carolina ex coupon, 48¼ a 48¾; do. funding, 1866, 38 a 40; do. do., 1868, 30 a 31; do. new, 27 a 28; do. special tax, 20¾ a 21; Missouri sixes, 95¼ a 95½; do., Hannibal and St. Joseph, 94 a 95; Louisiana sixes, 69 a 70; do., new, 62 a 65; do., levee sixes, 70 a 74; do. do., eights, 85 a 90; do., penitentiary sevens, 70 a 74; do., railroad eights, 75 a 80; Alabama fives, 70 a 73; do., eights, 103 a 104; do., railroad eights, 95 a 98; South Carolina sixes, 74 a 80; do., new, January and July, 63¼ a 64; do. do., April and October, 61 a 62; Arkansas sixes, 56 a 60; do., sevens, 50 a 62; Mobile and Ohio Railroad sterling, 88 a 90; do., interest eights, 81 a 83; do., second mortgage eights, 68 a 70; Mississippi Central Railroad first mortgage sevens, 82 a 85; do. do., second mortgage eights, 77 a 80; New Orleans and Jackson first mortgage, 88 a 90; do. do., second mortgage, 76 a 80; Memphis and Charleston Railroad first mortgage, 85 a 87; do. do., second mortgage, 75 a 80; Greenville and Columbia Railroad, guaranteed by South Carolina, 58 a 60; Macon and Brunswick, guaranteed by Georgia, 73 a 75; Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford eights, 53 a 54; Memphis and Little Rock Railroad eights, 74 a 76; Memphis city sixes, 56 a 57; Savannah city sevens, 83 a 86; New Orleans consols, old, 74 a [illegible] railroad sixes, 73 a 75; do. sevens, 76; do., issues [illegible] 72 a 74.

THE RAILWAY MORTGAGES.

The following were the bids for the railway bonds and mortgages:—

New York Cen 6's, 1883	93	Tol & W 1st m, St L div	87½
New York Cen 6's, 1887	94	Tol & W comp bds	71
N Y Cen 7's, sub	99	Tol & W conc conv	69
New York Cen 7's, 1876	101	Hamib'r & Naples 1st m	60½
N Y Cen 7's, con, 1876	101	Gt West 2d m, 1893	84½
Erie 1st m, ex	99½	Quin & Tol 1st m, 1890	82½
Erie 1st m, end	91	Gal & Chic extended	90½
Erie 7's, 2d m, 1879	93	Gal & Chic 2d m	99¼
Erie 7's, 3d end, '83	90	Chic, R I & Pac	102¾
Erie 7's, 4th do, '80	89½	Mor & Essex 1st m	101
Erie 7's, 5th do, '82	88½	Mor & Essex 2d m	97¾
Long Dock bonds	83¾	Clev & Tol sink fund	102
Harlem 1st m 7's	100½	N J Cen, new bds	162½
Harlem con mtg & int 6's	82	Pitts, F W & Chic 1st m	99½
Alb & Sus 2d bds	91½	P, F W & C S p c, c bds	101
Alb & Sus 2d bds	70	Clev & Pitts con, s f	91
Mich Cen 1st m 8's, '82	118½	Clev & P 2d m	93½
Chic, Bur & Q, 8 p c, 1st m	112½	Chi & Alton s f	99
Mich So 7 p c 2d m	99½	Chi & Alton 1st m	103
Mich S & N I s f 7 p c	100	Chi & Alt income	92½
Pac RR 7's, guar by Mo	99½	Ohio & Miss 1st m	100
Cent Pac bds	101½	Ohio & Miss con	99½
Union Pac 1st bonds	93½	Dub & Sioux C 1st m	95
Union Pac l g 7's	87½	Peninsula RR bonds	90
Union Pac income 10's	83½	St L & Iron Mt 1st m	93
Ill Cen, 7 p c, 1875	106	Mil & St Paul 1st m 8's	106½
Alt & T H 1st m	98	Mil & St Paul 1st	96
Alt & T H 2d m pref	36	Mil & St P, I & M d	90½
Alt & T H 2d m inc	76	Mil & St Paul 2d m	90
Chic & NW sink fund	88½	Mar & Chi 1st m	95
Chic & N W int bds	91	Chic & Mil 1st m	93
Chic & NW con bds	91	Col, Chic & Ind 1st m	88½
Chic & N W 1st m	98½	Tol, Peo & W, E D	91
Han & St Jo con	104½	Tol, Peo & W, W D	88½
Lack & West bds	101	Tol, Peo & War 2d m	75
Del, Lack & West 1st m	99	N York & N Haven 6's	100
Del, L & West 2d m	85½	Cedar F & Minn 1st m	85½
Tol & Wab 1st m, ex	94		

THE CITY BANK STOCKS.

The following were the bids for the city bank stocks:—New York, 136; Manhattan, 153¾; Merchants', 118; Mechanics', 136; America, 150; City, 235; Phenix, 110; North River, 91; Tradesmen's, 155; Fulton, 155; Butchers and Drovers', 148; Mechanics and Traders', 130; Gallatin National, 116; Merchants' Exchange, 102¼; Seventh Ward, 108; Commerce, 120; Mechanics' Banking Association, 115¾; Broadway, 290; Ocean, 90; Mercantile, 122; American Exchange, 115¾; Chatham, 171; Bank of the Republic, 116; Bank of North America, 105; Hanover, 108; Irving, 126; Metropolitan, 134; Citizens', 141; People's, 145; East River, 115½; Market, 127½; Continental, 96; St. Nicholas, 118; Marine, 165; Commonwealth, 92½; Importers and Traders', 166; Park, 161¾; Central National, 108; Second National, 360; Fourth National, 114; Ninth National, 113½; Tenth National, 124; Gold Exchange, 75; Bankers and Brokers' Association, 103.

STOCKS MORE ACTIVE AND STRONG.

The stock market exhibited a great deal of life and strength as contrasted with its recent inactivity and depression, and, as might be expected under such circumstances, the street is beginning to accept the theory that the clique have determined to make good use of the present excessive abundance of money to give prices another impulse in the upward direction. Of one thing they seem very confident—viz., that if they can only retain the interest of the public until after the 1st of July, when the enormous semi-annual disbursements of money, amounting to, it is estimated, nearly $75,000,000, will produce a temporary inflation. The market will need little of their assistance in acquiring consistency enough to let them float off their loads. The natural and legitimate demand on investment account has already carried stocks to a fair and ordinary mean of value. Beyond present figures business will be to a great extent speculative. Those who choose to deal under such circumstances must make up their minds to take all the consequences of assuming the risk of catching a further rise. The movement to-day embraced a wide range, and few of the prominent shares were left unnoticed. Erie advanced to 31. The riddle of this rise was solved in this column a few weeks since, when the public were informed that the proceedings in the United States Court placed certain parties "short" of 30,000 shares, which they have been forced to cover. Union Pacific, which is said to enjoy some sort of a lease, on a graduated scale of dividend, by the Pennsylvania Central, advanced to 87. Lake Shore recovered to 110¼ and doubtless will be "milked" by its clique for a good while to come, or until the scrip dividend is really decided upon. Harlem was favorably influenced by the result of the annual election, and advanced to 133¼. A five per cent dividend is anticipated on both classes of Northwest stock. The common rose to 86¼ and the preferred to 93¼. The weak spot of the market was Pacific Mail, which broke to 44¾, but eventually recovered to 45. The closing street prices were generally the highest of the day.

HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRICES.

The following table shows the highest and lowest prices of the principal stocks during the day:—

	Highest.	*Lowest.*
New York Central consolidated	98¾	97¾
New York Central scrip	94	93½
Harlem	133¼	129½
Erie	31	29¾
Reading	115½	113¾
Lake Shore	110¾	108¾
Wabash	64½	63½
Pittsburg	127	126¼
Northwestern	86¼	85¼
Northwestern preferred	93¾	97¼
Rock Island	114¾	114¼
St. Paul	62¾	62½
St Paul preferred	81¾	81½
Ohio and Mississippi	51¼	50¾
Boston, Hartford and Erie	24¾	24¼
C. C. and I. C.	3¾	3¼
Union Pacific	37	36¼
Western Union Telegraph	59¼	59¼
Pacific Mail	45¾	44¾

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Wednesday, May 17—10:15 A. M.

$10000 US 5-20, c, '65	111½	10 shs Hanover Bank	108
25000 US 5-20, c, '65, n.s3	113½	20 Del & Hudson C Co	122
135000 US 5-20, c, '67	113¾	100 Canton Co	83
6000 do b3	113¾	100 C Coal Co of Md	39½
2000 do	113⅞	100 do b30	39¾
100 US 5-20, r, '67	113¾	100 do b c	39
10000 US 6's, currency	115½	100 do	38¾
25000 Tenn 6's, old	71	300 Quick M Co	12
10000 do	70¾	500 do	11¾
10000 do s10	71	400 Mariposa pfd	9¾
2000 Tenn 6's, new b3	71	100 do b c	9½
5000 do	71¼	200 do	9¾
6000 Georgia 6's	90	200 Pac M SS Co b c	45¾
4000 Geo 7's, gold bds	94¾	100 Adams Ex	81¾
10000 do	94½	12 do	83
2000 Georgia 7's	94¾	100 Wells-Fargo Ex	45
20000 NC 6's, spl tax	21	100 do b c	45
5000 do	21¼	20 Am Mer Un Exp	54
20000 SC 6's, n, Jan & July	64½	100 do	55
3000 do	64¼	100 U States Express	57¾
12000 do, April & Oct	62	900 N Y C & H R RR	98
1000 Mo 6's, H St Jo iss	94¾	12 do b c	98¾
5000 Missouri 6's	95¾	10000 NY C & HR RR cts	93¾
1000 Erie 4th mtg	89	10 Erie RR	28¾
200 do	89¾	400 do	29
27000 Long Dock bds	70	700 do b c	29¼
4000 Mich So s f cds	100¼	200 do	29¾
12000 do c	100¾	50 do	29¾
3000 Cen Pac gld bds	101½	200 do	29¾
20000 U Pac RR 1st m	93¾	150 Mich Cen RR	123¾
12000 do	93¾	900 L S & M S RR b c	109½
18000 do	93¾	200 do	109¾
10000 do	93½	100 Un Pac RR	36¾
5000 Un Pac 7's sinking	87	1600 do b c	36¾
14000 do	87¾	1800 do	37
11000 do	87½	100 do	36⅞
1000 Chi & NW con	92	200 Chic & NW RR	86¾
2000 T & W, 1st m, ext d	94¾	200 do	86¾
5000 T & W 1st, S L d	87¾	40 Panama RR b c	92½
12000 do	87½	100 Chic & Alton	119
7000 Great West 2d m	84¾	1100 Chic & R I RR b c	114¾
2000 C & R I & P RR 7's	102¾	100 Alt & Ter H RR b c	29
40000 N J Cen, n b	102¾	100 Han & St Jo RR	104¾
2000 Ohio & Miss con b	99¾	100 do	104¾
1000 M & St P 1st, l dlr	90¾	100 do	104¾
4000 Col, C & I C, 1st	88¾	20 Morris & Es RR	94¾
20000 do	88¾	100 C, C, C & I RR	89½
5000 Cedar F & Min 1st	85¾	400 N J Central RR	108¾
5000 Buff & Erie, n bds	97	100 Mil & St Paul	62¾
10 shs Park Bank	111¾	5 do	63
20 Bk of Com'ce	130	400 Tol, Wab & W RR	64½
10 Ocean Bank	90	100 Col, C & I C RR	24¾

2:15 o'Clock P. M.

$50000 US 6's, '81, r	117¾	$10000 US 5-20, c, '65, n	113¾
1000 US 5-20, c, '62	111½	15000 US 5-20, c, '67	113¾
135000 US 5-20, r, '65	111½	10000 U S 6's, currency	115¾
4000 do	111½		

One o'Clock P. M.

$5000 Va 6's, r, old	56¾	600 shs Reading RR	114¾
15000 N C 6's, sp tax	21	100 L S & M S RR	109½
10000 S C 6's, n, Jan & J'y	63¾	50 do	109
250 shs Canton Co	83	400 do b c	109¾
100 Con Coal of Md	39¼	400 do b3	109¾
100 Maryland Co	32	200 Un Pac RR	36½
100 Mariposa Min pf	9¾	50 St L & I Mt	93
200 Pac M SS Co	45½	100 Chic & N W RR s3	85½
200 do b c, s5	46	300 do	86
700 do b3	46½	100 Chi & N W pf b3	93¾
100 Adams Ex Co	81½	200 New Jersey CRR	108½
100 N Y C & H R RR	98	200 do	108¾
100 do s3	97¾	500 do	108¾
100 do b c	98¼	100 Chic & Rk I RR	114¾
100 Erie RR	29¾	100 do b3	114¾
800 do	29¾	200 Mil & St P pfd	81½
700 do b c	29¾	10 Pitts, Ft W & Chi gr	99¾
100 Erie RR pref	54	100 Del, Lack & W RR	100¾
200 Harlem RR	131	100 do	100¾
200 do b c	131¾	500 Alt & Ter H RR	29¼

STREET QUOTATIONS.

Half-past Five o'Clock P. M.

Western Union	59½ a 59¾	Rock Island	114¾ a 114¾
Pacific Mail	45 a 45⅛	St. Paul	62¾ a 62¾
N. Y. Central	98 a 98¼	St. Paul pref	81¾ a 81¾
N. Y. Cen scrip	93¾ a 94	Wabash	64½ a 64¾
Erie	31 a 31¼	Ohio & Miss	51¼ a 51¼
Reading	115 a 115¼	Han & St. Jo	103¾ a 104¼
Lake Shore	110¼ a 110¼	Han & St. Jo pf.	104½ bid.
Pittsburg	126¾ a 126¾	Union Pacific	36¾ a 37
Northwestern	86¼ a 86¾	Ros, Har & Erie	3¼ a 3¾
Northwestern pf	96¾ a 96¾	Col, C & Ind Cen	24¼ a 24¼

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

WEDNESDAY, May 17—6 P. M.

COTTON.—The market was depressed and nominal at a decline of ⅛c. per lb. on all grades, with a very light demand, which was limited to small lots, to meet immediate requirements. Large lots were unsalable at quotations. The sales were as follows:—

	To-Day.	*Last Evening.*	*Total.*
Export	1,094	127	1,211
Consumption	701	19	720
Speculation	29	6	35
In transit	214	—	214
Total	2,038	152	2,220

We quote:

	Uplands.	*Alabama.*	*N. Orleans.*	*Texas.*
Ordinary	12½	12¾	12¾	12
Good ordinary	13½	13¾	14	13¾
Low middling	14¾	15	15	14¾
Middling	15¾	15¾	16	15¾
Good middling	16¾	16¾	17	17

The demand for forward deliveries was fair, but with most sellers than buyers. A further reduction of 5-16c. a ⅛c. per lb. was submitted to, the market closing at the decline dull and heavy. The transactions to-day were as follows:—May, 500 at 15c., 100 at 14 15-16c., 200 at 14¾c., 200 at 14 13-16c., 500 at 14¾c.; June, 100 at 15¼c., 400 at 15⅛c., 1,200 at 15 1-16c., 2,200 at the, 9,000 at 14 15-16c., 700 at 14⅞c.; July, 200 at 15¾c., 100 at 15 3-32c., 400 at 15⅛c., 200 at 15 1-16c.; August, 700 at 15⅛c., 200 at 15 5-16c., 800 at 15¼c.; December, 200 at 14 15-16c.—total, 10,600 bales. Also yesterday, after 'Change, 4,600 bales, as follows:—May, 500 at 15¼c.; 100 May and 100 June at 15¼c., together; June, 500 at 15⅛c., 200 at 15 3-16c., 1,000 at 15c., 200 at 14 15-16; 200 June at 14¾c., and 400 July at 15 5-16c., together; 100 June and 100 July at 15¼c., together; July, 100 at 15⅛c., 600 at 15 5-16c.; 100 each July, August and September, at 15¼c.; August, 200 at 15⅛c. Total since last report, 15,100 bales. The average quotations of yesterday's forward deliveries were as follows:—May, 15 1-16c.; June, 15.27c.; July, 15.5-16c.; August, 15¼c.

The receipts at the ports to-day were as follows:—Galveston, 1,600; New Orleans, 2,528; Mobile, 311; Savannah, 483; Charleston, 500; Wilmington, 25; Norfolk, 505; Baltimore, 100; New York, 1,559. Total, 7,619 bales, against 6,758 bales round last week, and 8,[illegible] bales same day last year. The closing rates for cotton freight were:—To Liverpool, by steam, ⅝d., by sail, [illegible]d.; to Havre, by steam, 7c. gold; Hamburg, by steam, [illegible]; to Bremen, by steam, ⅝c., gold, compressed; to Baltic ports, by sail, ¾c., gold.

COFFEE.—Rio was in moderate demand. Prices were unchanged; 2,000 bags, per Angelus, sold in Baltimore on private terms. There were no cargoes sold outside of the private business in Rio and other descriptions was in progress at former prices. We quote:—Ordinary cargoes, 19c. a 19½c.; fair do., 19½c. a 19c.; good do., 19½c. a 19¾c.; prime do., 19¾c. a 19⅞c.; extreme range for bds, 19½c. a 19¾c., gold, per lb., in bond, thirty to sixty days' credit. Java (government bags), 19c. a 20c.; do. (government grass bags), 19½c. a 22c.; Singapore, 17c. a 18c.; Ceylon, 19½c. a 17c.; Maracaibo, 15c. a 17c.; Laguayra, 16c. a 16c.; Jamaica, 15c. a 15½c.; St. Domingo (gold, in bond), 9½c. a 10c.; Costa Rica, 15½c. a 17c.; Manila, 14c. a 15c.; Mexican, 15c. a 17c.; Savanilla, 13c. a 15½c.; Curacoa, 15c. a 16c.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—Receipts—Flour, 10,379 bbls.; wheat, 14,000 bushels; corn, 24,903 bushels; corn meal, 850 bbls.; oats, 15,100 bushels. The flour market ruled firm, especially for shipping extras, which sold a trifle better. The sales were about 12,000 bbls., including about 4,000 bbls. extras, at $5 40 a $6 50 for good and choice for family brands. Rye flour was steady and moderately active at quotations, the demand being mostly for St. Louis and Illinois. Corn meal was more active; sales of 2,000 bbls., including Brandywine, Jersey and Western, at quotations. We quote:—

No. 2 State	$4 50 a $5 50
Superfine State	5 50 a 6 00
Extra State	6 00 a 6 50
Choice do	6 50 a 6 75
Superfine Western	5 50 a 6 00
Extra do	6 00 a 6 50
Extra Minnesota	6 50 a 7 75
Round hoop Ohio, shipping brands	6 10 a 6 50
Round hoop Ohio, trade brands	6 75 a 7 00
Family	7 00 a 8 50
St. Louis low extra	6 50 a 7 00
St. Louis straight extra	6 50 a 7 00
St. Louis choice double extra	7 25 a 8 00
St. Louis choice family	8 00 a 10 50
Rye flour	4 75 a 5 50
Southern No. 2	5 00 a 5 50
Southern superfine	5 60 a 6 10
Southern extra	6 40 a 8 25
Southern family	8 00 a 11 50
Corn meal, Western white	3 25 a —
Corn meal, Western yellow	3 60 a 3 90
Corn meal, Jersey	3 60 a 3 70
Corn meal, Brandywine	4 10 a 4 20
Corn meal, puncheons	2 60 a —

—Wheat was scarce and the market ruled buoyant. The sales were about 60,000 bushels (part last evening) at $1 15 a $1 16 for new spring, $1 22½ a $1 24 for do., to arrive; $1 65 for common white, $1 65 for amber winter, and $1 45 for old and new spring, in store. Corn was steady, with sales of 55,000 bushels at 76c. a 80c. for mixed and 81c. for yellow. Oats were dull at 66c. a 67c. for Western and 68c a 70c. for white, with sales of 20,000 bushels within the range. Barley was dull and nominal. Rye was steady, with a small demand. We note sales of 15,000 bushels old Western at $1 05. State held at $1 20.

FREIGHTS.—There was no noticeable change in rates. Grain freights were firm and rates for other goods steady. The chartering business continued active. The demand was mostly for suitable vessels for grain, although brisk demand prevailed for petroleum vessels. The engagements were:—To Liverpool by steam, 15,000 bushels wheat, at 8¼d. a 8½d.; 200 bales cotton ¾d.; to Glasgow by steam, 60 bbls. lard oil, 30s. The charters include a German bark, 400 tons, hence to a direct port in the Baltic, 3,000 bbls. petroleum, 4s. 9d.; a Swedish bark, hence to a direct port in the Baltic, 2,600 bbls. petroleum, 5s.; a North German bark, from Philadelphia to Bremen, 5,000 bbls. petroleum, 4s. 6d.; a British brig, from Philadelphia to the Continent, 3,000 bbls. crude petroleum, on private terms; a British brig, 1,400 quarters grain, to Cork for orders, 7s.; 10 per cent additional if to the Continent; a British brig, 2,000 quarters grain, to Cork for orders, 7s.; a British bark, 300 tons, 4,000 quarters grain, to a direct port on the Continent, on private terms; a Norwegian bark, about 2,100 quarters grain, to a direct port on the Continent, 7s.; a British bark, about 2,200 quarters grain, to Plymouth for orders, 6s. 9d., 3d. off if to a direct port; a Swedish brig, 2,500 quarters grain, to Cork for orders, 6s. 9., 10 per cent additional if to the Continent; a ship, 810 tons, hence to Bristol, general cargo, £1,200.

MOLASSES.—With limited offerings the market was strong. A fair demand prevailed for foreign, but sales were restricted to small lots, which commanded full prices. Domestic was sold in lots to a moderate extent, the sales being 200 bbls. at from 48c. to 62c., and very choice at 70c. We quote:—

	Old Crop.	*New Crop.*
Cuba—Centrifugal and mixed	20c. a 22c.	23c. a 33c.
Clayed	21c. a 28c.	34c. a 40c.
Muscovado, refining	— a —	37c. a 42c.
Muscovado, grocery	— a —	40c. a 45c.
Porto Rico	— a —	40c. a 65c.
English Islands	25c. a 35c.	35c. a 48c.
New Orleans	— a —	40c. a 70c.

NAVAL STORES.—Spirits turpentine was in fair demand at full prices, the market closing firm at 52c. for lots on the spot, at which figure 100 bbls. sold for immediate delivery; 300 bbls., to arrive, sold at 50c. Rosin was firm at $2 45 a $2 50 for strained. We note sales of 150 bbls. strained at $2 45, 500 bbls. do. at $2 50, and 500 bbls. do. at $2 55; also 250 bbls No. 2 at $2 65. We quote No. 2, $2 60 a $2 80; No. 1, $3 a $4; pale, $4 75 a $5 50, and extra pale, $6 75 a $7. The inside price for window glass. Tar was quiet; $2 70 was generally demanded for Wilmington and $2 55 a $2 60 for Washington.

PROVISIONS.—Receipts—Pork, 60 bbls.; beef, 179 packages; cut meats, 165 packages; lard, 947 packages. The pork market was unsettled, and prices receded 25 cents per barrel. The sales were about 3,000 bbls. mess for June delivery at $16 25 a $16 50, closing at the inside price. Beef—There was no demand, and prices remained nominally unchanged. Beef hams—The market was steady; small lots were disposed of at, for Texas, $24 a $28, and Western, $25 a $26. Cut meats—There continued a moderate inquiry for pickled hams, and 150 pieces were taken at from 10c. a 13½c.; also 50 hhds. sour shoulders at 5c. Other descriptions were quiet, without noticeable change. Bacon was quiet, without change in prices. Lard was dull and decidedly lower; the sales were about 1,250 tierces, at 10¼c. on the spot and 11½c. a 11⅝c. for July.

PETROLEUM.—The market was very quiet, but firm. There was nothing offering except in small lots. Crude, in bulk, was held at 14c. a 14½c., and refined for spot and month at 21¼c. a 24½c. We note sales of a cargo of crude at 18c. There was a rumored sale of 2,500 bbls. refined for June delivery, but not authenticated. The Philadelphia market was also quiet. Crude, in bbls., was held at 17½c. a 18½c., and refined, spot and month, at 24¼c. There were no sales reported.

NOTE.—A special meeting of the members of the Exchange was called, when it was voted that the hour of business hereafter should be from one until two o'clock, and that the janitor be instructed to beat a gong at two o'clock, and keep ringing it until the members all departed.

RICE.—Several cheap lots which have been in the market were removed, and with a continued fair jobbing demand prices were steadier. We note sales of 95 tierces Carolina in lots within the range of 8¾c. a 9¾c., chiefly at from 9c. a 9¼c., and 200 bags Rangoon, in lots, at from 7c. a 7¼c.

MOLASSES.—The market, without quotable change in prices, was a trifle in buyers' favor. The demand was only moderate and sales were limited, 80 hhds., chiefly if not all on the basis of 9¼c. a 9½c. per lb. for fair to good refining Cuba; 408 boxes centrifugal were disposed of at 10c. per lb., and 600 boxes at 10¼c. a 10½c. per lb. Refined was without decided change. Prices were still irregular, but not lower. We quote:—Soft white, 12½c. a 13½c. per lb., and crushed, powdered and granulated, 13½c. a 13¾c. per lb. We quote:—Cuba—Interior to common refining, 8½c. a 9¼c.; fair to good refining, 9¼c. a 9½c.; fair to good grocery, 9¾c. a 10¼c.; prime to choice grocery, 10¼c. a 10½c.; centrifugal, hhds. and boxes, 9¾c. a 11c.; molasses, hhds. and boxes, 8¼c. a 9½c.; melado, 4½c. a 7½c. Havana—Boxes, Dutch standard, Nos. 7 to 9, 8¾c. a 9¾c.; do., 10 to 12, 9¾c. a 10¾c.; do., 13 to 15, 10¼c. a 11½c.; do., 16 to 18, 11¼c. a 12½c.; do., 19 to 20, 12½c. a 13¼c.; do., white, 12½c. a 13½c. Porto Rico—Refining grades, 9c. a 9½c.; grocery grades, 9½c. a 10½c. Brazil—Dutch standard, Nos. 8 to 12, 8¾c. a 9¼c. Java—Dutch standard, Nos. 10 to 12, 9½c. a 10½c. Manila—Current clayed and superior, 8½c. a 9½c. New Orleans—Refining grades, 8c. a 9¾c.; grocery grades, 9½c. a 10½c.

TALLOW continued in active demand; the stock, however, is low. The sales were 175 hhds. at 9c. a 9⅛c.

WHISKEY.—Receipts 612 bbls. The market ruled firmer. The sales were 250 bbls., mostly at 92c., but including small lots at 92½c.

CATTLE MARKET.

Beef was steady at 12c. a 14c. Hogs were slow at 5¼c. a 5¾c. Receipts—Cattle, 180; live hogs, 5,270.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

CLEVELAND, May 17, 1871.

Petroleum very strong; crude 8½c.; refined held at 22½c.

LOUISVILLE, May 17, 1871.

Tobacco very active; sales 207 hhds. lugs at $4 75 a $6; low to medium leaf $6 50 a $12.

SAVANNAH, May 17, 1871.

Cotton inactive; prices drooping; middlings 14½; net receipts 503; exports to the Continent 500; coastwise 918; sales 300; stock 27,551.

NEW ORLEANS, May 17, 1871.

Cotton dull and lower; middlings 15½c. a 15¾c.; net receipts 2,526; gross 3,189; exports to Havre 6,061; to Barcelona 400; sales 800; stock 131,357.

CHICAGO, May 17, 1871.

Flour firmer and unchanged. No. 2 spring wheat firmer and higher. Sales at $1 30 a $1 30½, cash. Afternoon dull at $1 29½, cash. No. 3 corn quiet and steady at 54½c. a 54¾c. Afternoon dull. No. 2 oats firmer and higher at 49½c. a 50¼c. No. 2 rye dull at 86c. No. 2 barley dull at 81c. a 88c. Highwines stronger at 88c. Pork weak at 15½c. a 16c., cash; 15¾c. a 15⅞c., seller May. Lard easier at 10c., cash; 10¼c., seller June. Dry salted meats dull. Shoulders, 5½c. a 5¾c.; short rib middles, 7½c. a 7⅝c. Live hogs dull and declining. Sales at $4 20 a $4 62½. Cattle easier. Sales at $3 20 a $5 37½. Receipts, 3,500 bbls. flour, 36,000 bushels wheat, 165,000 bushels corn, 24,000 bushels oats, 3,000 bushels rye, 5,000 hogs. Shipments, 6,000 bbls. flour, 44,000 bushels wheat, 70,000 bushels corn, 15,000 bushels oats, 1,000 bushels rye, 4,000 hogs. Lake freights dull. Corn, 3½c.

OSWEGO, N. Y., May 17, 1871.

Flour in good demand and market steady. Sales 2,000 bbls. at $7 for No. 1 spring, $7 50 for amber winter, $8 for white winter, $8 75 for double extra. Wheat dull; sales 5,000 bushels No. 1 Milwaukee Club at $1 48. Corn quiet; sales 500 bushels at 68c. Oats steady; sales 1,400 bushels Western at 60c. Barley quiet; sales 500 bushels up lake Canada at 90c. Peas unchanged; sales 3,500 bushels Canada at $1 06 in bond. Corn meal, $1 60 for boiled, $1 50 for unboiled, per cwt. Mill feed unchanged; shorts, $25 a $26; shipstuffs, $29 a $29; middlings, $30 a $32, per ton. Highwines, 88c. Canal freights—Flour, 50c.; wheat, 7c.; corn, 6½c., to New York; lumber, $2 to the Hudson, $3 75 to New York, $5 to Philadelphia. Receipts by lake—13,500 bushels wheat, 1,600 bushels corn and 2,217,000 feet lumber. Shipments by canal—9,400 bushels wheat, 1,000 bushels corn, 14,000 bushels oats, 1,400 bushels peas and 1,177,000 feet of lumber.

REAL ESTATE MATTERS.

The Influence of the New Municipal Dispensation on City Property—Brooklyn Behind—Cause of Stagnation There—From One Who Knows How It Is Himself.

Perhaps the most interesting event of the year in connection with the real estate of this city has been the recent practical measures inaugurated by the new Board of Apportionment looking to a reduction of taxation. It cannot be denied that while other influences have been largely at work to produce stagnation in the real estate market, such as over