COAL.

THE GREAT SALE YESTERDAY

The Peculiarities of the Movement.

An Exciting Demand and Surprising Reduction in Price.

Important Developments—The Small Mine Owners to be Driven Out—The Monopolists in Mines and Railways Combined.

During all the long struggle between the coal mine workers and owners the HERALD has, as its custom, kept its readers familiar with every step in the progress of the unpleasant events which have occurred, together with the pleas of either party for the course they pursued.

We now come to a new step in the progress toward a predetermined conclusion, by which the mammoth interests in the coal mines of Pennsylvania have decided to secure for the future a more perfect control of their property, and, for a time at least, a

LOWER PRICE FOR COAL

to all who use it. The great sale yesterday was the opening of the new, or rather the second part of the fixed programme. The "strikes," as is known, are, in their more unpleasant aspects, at an end. The effects of the last horror have been measured; the mine workers are believed to have been hungered, worn and saddened, until desire for quarrel has ceased, and, with a confidence in present regularity, the controllers of the quantity to be thrown upon the market and of the price to be demanded for it, have commenced the new movement which they believe will, while

DESTROYING THE SMALL MINE OWNERS,

restore the chiefs to a "more favorable position in the minds of coalburners at large."

The sale yesterday was the first in the past six months. It is well known that the retail yards in this and the surrounding cities were almost entirely without a supply, as were the yards of manufacturers and others who use very large amounts. This fact created a very general impression that the first sale, on a hungry and excited market, would realize very large prices, leaving a return to the range of prices ruling before the coal fight began to subsequent sales. Such, however, was not the case. Those of the retail dealers who were familiar with the leading thought in the new programme bid actively, but low, and when they did all they chose to buy was knocked down to them at, under the supply conditions, really moderate rates. Soon after the sale began, which was conducted by Draper & Co., at the Exchange place salesroom, it became well understood that

THE 80,000 TONS

of Scranton coal to be sold would be "let go" at an average of less than six dollars per ton. Had the holders desired more it is clear to every one familiar with the scanty supply on hand they could have secured it without having resort to even the more common manœuvres for upholding rates; but they did not, and the reason will be given below. The bidding for stove and grate sizes was spirited; but the prices bid were low.

LUMP STARTED AT FIVE DOLLARS PER TON,

and at that price a lot was sold. The remainder of that size went at from $4 65 to $4 62½.

THE SIZE USED ON STEAMBOATS

was started at $4 50 and the first lot was sold at $5 per ton. But the decline was rapid and subsequent sales of that kind were made at $4 37½, $4 35, $4 32½, $4 30, $4 75 and $4 70—a rather remarkable decline with a harbor full of almost empty bunkers.

GRATE SIZE

was started at $5 and the first lot went at $5 05, and a second at $5 07½, at which other sales were made.

EGG

was started at $5 per ton; rose on bids—the immediate demand being very large—to $5 15, at which all there was was sold.

STOVE

was started at $5 50; was changeable for a time, but finally rose to the maximum rate on the card of the day, and was sold at $6. The demand was most extraordinary, and yet, in the face of that fact, the subsequent sales were made at $5 87½, $5 85, $5 80 and $5 77½.

CHESTNUT

was also in good demand, and the biddinz, though lively, was low. The first lot was started at $4, the other sales having fully satisfied buyers that a low range of rates was the rule for the day, and the lot was knocked down at $4 60. The other lots of the same size brought, some $4 65 and others $4 62½.

Compared with the sale made fully six months ago the following small difference is shown in the price:—

	Tons.	November.	May.
Lump	12,000	$3 47½ a $3 55	$4 62½ a $4 65
Steamboat	10,000	3 60 a 3 62½	4 70 a 5 00
Grate	16,000	3 75 a 3 80	5 07½ a —
Egg	10,000	3 87½ a 4 00	5 10 a —
Stove	20,000	4 50 a 4 55	5 77½ a 6 00
Chestnut	12,000	3 50 a 3 52½	4 60 a 4 65

These are the peculiar and highly important features of yesterday's sales. Let us now give the public

THE CAUSE AND ITS PROMISE.

It is well known to the readers of the HERALD that the recent long and painfully disastrous "strike" is not the first that has troubled the coal region, as well as the people at large. There have been "strikes"—very serious "strikes"—before, and those not always because of irreconcileable differences between those who work and those who own the mines. It is well known that the strike immediately preceding the last was one not alone in the interest of the working miners, but rather in the imagined

INTEREST OF THE OWNERS,

and made with their knowledge, advice and consent. Competition in coal mining, like successful competition in almost any other necessity, has a tendency to lessen the price when the field of production is large. This was the case in coal; and with the natural production reanzed from the number of men employed, the supply really exceeded the demand. This vexed all the owners, but especially those controlling the smaller mines, who cannot produce and deliver and return a profit on as low a rate as the larger owners. It became their seeming interest, then,

TO DISTURB PRODUCTION.

The miners were induced to strike as a cover to the owners' desire to lessen production, and they were promised a share of the advance which should be realized because of the stoppage of the works. This movement against the public the men joined in, and their doing so was the reason why, in their real strike, which so recently closed, they found so little of sympathy and support among the workmen in other callings. And their real strike, which has caused so much of suffering and cost to both themselves and the public, was because the owners, who were parties to the agreement for the

DECEPTION OF THE PEBLIC,

did not act up to their agreement in the matter of division of spoils. In fact, to that fact underlying the conditions of the recent strikes much of the ill-feeling of the men toward those who employed them is to be attributed. This bad feeling among the men, and the belief that it was secretly encouraged by the small mine owners, determined the mammoth corporations to make a strenuous effort to

GAIN CONTROL OF PRODUCTION AND SALE.

It is claimed by them privately that nearly all the trouble they have with their workmen is occasioned by the malicious manœuvrings of those whom they call the small owners. The declaration at the directors' meetings is that the small owners cannot realize a profit on their sales when the works of the large owners are in successful operation and the market well supplied. They, it is charged, secure men to breed discontent among the workmen in the larger works; endeavor to interrupt their production, and, when successful, succeed in placing their supply upon the market at the advance thus caused.

To prevent continuance of this manœuvre, which always resulted in something of loss to the larger owners, they have tried a variety of schemes, the most prominent of which was the arrangement with the

COAL-CARRYING RAILWAYS

by which the price for transportation to those not heavily interested in them was placed at a figure which, as the public remembers, amounted to prohibition. That scheme, however, was too palpably in the interest of the large owners, who are also in leading interest in the railways, and the public's denunciation of it caused it to be dropped. It served, however, to hold back the supply in the hands of the small owners, and they were thus prevented from realizing the profit they had anticipated from the

PANIC RATES

the strike produced. There was some satisfaction in this to the heavy owners; and those of the railways who were not also mine owners agreed to it readily, for the reason that the frequent strikes, coming as they did at the season when the roads had prepared for extra transportation, caused loss of business and decreased receipts. Out of their mutual interest, as against the comparatively small owners and the discussions they occasioned, the existing plan was ripened, and the peculiarities of the scale of yesterday show that they are now prepared to carry it into effect.

"VERY CHEAP COAL"

is now to be the rule. Not that the large dealers have any tearful say on account of the benefit following to the people at large, but because by holding coal well down they can force the small owners to sell at a loss, if they sell at all, and because, by showing a determination to continue the reduction in price below the range at which the small owners can profitably sell, they feel sure that they can force them

TO SELL THEIR MINES INSTEAD OF THEIR COAL,

and thus be retired from power to injure the trade. That this course has been determined upon we know, and it is also known to us that the prices realized yesterday, with the demand unusual and urgent, are but premonitory symptoms of the plan, and that lower and still lower rates are to follow, until the small owners shall have been forced to leave and the large ones have the field to themselves.

In this effort both the heavy owners and the railway men are joined. It is claimed that the object of the movement is not to finally secure exorbitant rates, but simply that they may be able to control the mining interest with a view to secure regularity in its management, and to avoid loss to themselves and to the public, simply because a few small owners cannot produce and deliver as cheaply as their gigantic rivals, while paying the same rates to their men.

This, for the early future at least, affords an agreeable feeling to the consumers of coal. But even in that regard there is something unpleasant which may as well be known. It is a certainty that, notwithstanding the very long strike now so recently ended, there are vast quantities of coal at the mines which had been mined and brought up before the strike began. This is the case with both the large and small owners, and the fact is well known that coal, when exposed to the sun and air deteriorates rapidly, and

LOSES MUCH OF ITS HEATING POWER.

This is the condition of a vast quantity of coal which will now be put upon the market. The prohibitory increase in the rates for transportation was fixed in the knowledge of this very serious fact, and also with the knowledge that in a depreciation of value the small owners would suffer with the large owners and the public suffer from both.

Thus stands the coal question at present. The readers of the HERALD have the facts as they are, both agreeable and disagreeable. They know that cheap coal has been decided upon until those who are claimed to have been the real cause of past disturbances shall be forced to retire from the ownership of mines, and that while they may pay a comparatively low price for some time to come they will also be burning poor coal.

EXECUTION OF A NEGRO IN INDIANA.

His Speech and Confession.

[From the Evansville (Ind.) Journal, May 27.]

By nine o'clock yesterday morning a crowd began to collect in front of the court house and jail, as it was known that Ben Sawyer was to be executed some time during the day for the murder of his wife. The gallows had been erected during the night, and was nearly ready when the officers began to admit the jury and other persons selected to be present at and witness the execution. It was of very heavy timbers, on a low brick foundation, just sufficient to form a level on the surface of the jail yard. The platform was about five and a half feet high, and under it was a space in which was placed the coffin. The drop was of two inch oak plank, hung by heavy wrought hinges to the platform, and supported by heavy iron quadrants, held in place by catches on a revolving iron bar under the platform, to which a lever was attached, that, when moved, set the drop free to fall, when another catch on the beam, fitting notches on the quadrants, held the drop back. A light hand rail surrounded the scaffold, which was reached by steps at the rear against the wall of the yard. About half-past ten o'clock Sheriff Pfaffin ascended the scaffold, and, addressing the spectators, said:—

GENTLEMEN—I wish to impress upon you the solemnity of this occasion, as I feel it, and I trust you will act with due respect to the law and preserve strict order. The law to-day requires me to take the life of a human being, and I desire that it shall be done with all the solemnity required by the terrible necessity.

Mr. Pfaffin appeared firm, but his face wore that haggard, anxious look that has grown upon it almost ever since the sentence was pronounced requiring him to execute the dread sentence. He retired to the jail, and in a short time returned with Sawyer, whose arms were pinioned behind. Sawyer was accompanied by Rev. A. T. Hall, of the African Methodist church, and Rev. Green McFarland, of the Colored Baptist church. Deputy Sheriff Reuben M. Davis and Mr. John B. Young, bailiff, acting as the Sheriff's assistant, and an elderly colored man accompanying the prisoner. The party ascended the scaffold, and Sawyer was placed upon the drop, and Deputy Sheriff Davis placed the rope about his neck. At this instant a short cry of deep pain was heard from a female voice at a window of the Sheriff's residence. Sawyer, however, betrayed not the least emotion as he swayed his head aside to allow the free passage of the rope over his head. Officer Young then tied his feet, and when this was done the Sheriff said:—"Ben Sawyer, have you anything to say why the sentence of the law should not be executed upon you?" Sawyer answered, "Yes, sir, I have." The Sheriff said, "What is it? Proceed." When Sawyer answered, "You just loosen this rope around my neck, it's too tight." The rope was loosened as desired, and Sawyer said:—

I say that I haven't had justice in the Supreme Court—I mean the Criminal Court—in that trial. If these cases had been allowed to be told, these cases and circumstances had been heard, and the jury had said what they did say, I'd think I'd had justice; but they didn't let me show these cases. But if the Lord can forgive them I can.

Rev. A. T. Hall then read a portion of the Scriptures:—"Man that is born of woman is of few days and full of trouble." Rev. Green McFarland offered up a fervent and appropriate prayer, at the conclusion of which Sheriff Pfaffin asked if he had anything further to say, and he answered, "Nothing but to bid the friends here goodby, and hope I'll meet them all in Heaven. Farewell!"

As he ceased to speak, the black cap was drawn over his head, and the attendants stepped back. The Sheriff moved the lever with his foot, the drop fell and Sawyer fell heavily about four feet and hung for some seconds without any visible struggle, then a slight swaying of the feet up and down, a violent tremor of the hands for five minutes, and he was still.

The body was frequently examined by Drs. Scheiler and Thompson, and was suffered to hang for twenty minutes, although he was pronounced to be dead eleven minutes after he fell and probably died a minute or two earlier.

His body was received by four colored men as Mr. Young cut the rope and let him down. It was placed in a common pauper coffin and taken charge of by Colonel Grill, Township Trustee, for burial, as the law prescribes.

Among the large number of people who witnessed the execution it was generally admitted that Sawyer evinced more nerve than had ever been displayed under like circumstances. His manner was not that of bravado, nor did he seem stolidly indifferent. But from first to last he seemed firm, calm and fully sensible of the seriousness of the situation, but it did not seem to disturb him, for he stood calmly chewing tobacco and spitting occasionally until within a few seconds of the time the cap was drawn over his face. He evinced not the least dread, or even excitement.

The officers were naturally very seriously affected at being compelled, by their oaths of office, to perform the duty, but it was not until the execution was over that they betrayed any weakness or any more anxiety than what was apparent in their faces.

During the execution, and while the preparations were being made, the conduct of the crowd outside was shameful. Whenever a door was opened to admit any one a score would violently rush to gain admittance, and even some tried to climb up so as to peep over the door in the jail yard. During the morning one man perched himself on the roof of a house in the rear and overlooking the jail yard, and just as a second one was climbing up a tarpaulin was drawn up and hung from the roof of the jail to the second story of the Court House, cutting off the view from all buildings in the rear. When the body was placed in the coffin the doors were thrown open and the populace were admitted at one door and permitted to walk by the coffin and pass out at another door.

The following is Sawyer's confession to Rev. A. T. Hall, his spiritual adviser:—

I was born in Old Virginia a slave. I had a good Christian mother; she belonged to the old regular Baptist. On her death-bed she took me by the hand and made me promise to meet her in heaven. Some time after that my master moved to Tennessee, out a piece from Nashville. I had a brother and two sisters there. One sister is religious, the other was seeking. The war broke out and I went into the army and stayed till that was over; then I went to steamboating. I never killed anybody before; Lizzy is the only one I ever killed. But I have been a bad man. I worked hard and gave my money to Lizzy, and she would give it away. I always drank whiskey, but not so bad until I came out of the army. I liked Lizzy, and I told her if she did not stop doing the way she was that it would kill me, so here it is. I was drunk three weeks before I killed her. That day I drank three drinks; then I bought a pint, and gave another man a drink out of the bottle. I drank the rest of it, and ran down to the boat, and was talking with her about her friends in Henderson, and wanted her to come home. But she gave me no satisfaction, and I got crazy, and did not know what I was doing. But I was too drunk. I can't read a word, but I believe there is a heaven where the good people go, and a hell where the wicked will be punished. "Did you ever pray?" Not since I was a child. I have not been inside of a church for four years. The last was at the Colored Baptist church. I was so wicked that I stopped going there. I have always been told that a murderer could not get to heaven. After proper instruction he became willing to pray to the Lord for forgiveness of his sins, and said:—"I am tired of this way of living. I don't want to stay here in this cell now; I don't want to go to State Prison; I am willing to trust myself in the hands of God, as he can do more for me than everybody together. I feel good, and not afraid now. I woke up the other morning and felt so good that I loved everybody. I forgive all my enemies everywhere. I sleep sound and good at nights. These officers about the jail are all nice men and clever. There is only one thing that I want to say on the gallows. I don't think they done right when they wouldn't hear my reasons for killing Lizzy. But now I forgive them and leave all with God. Mr. Davis done all for me that he could. I hope God will bless him. I pray all the time; I pray myself to sleep, and wake up in the morning and pray. There is some very good people who come here to see me, and read histories to me about God and Jesus.

The last visit was devoted to praying, talking of death and the judgment to come. He was lively, pleasant and prayerful.

And thus ends the life of Ben Sawyer, whose execution breaks the long interval of thirty years since the extreme penalty of the law was inflicted in Vanderburg county. Will the next interval be as long?

A CLERGYMAN FATALLY KICKED.

While Rev. George Nixon, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at West Farms, Westchester county, was in the act of removing a rope that had become entangled about his horse's feet, a day or two ago, the animal suddenly became restive over the antics of a pet terrier, and kicked the clergyman in the breast with terrible force, crushing it horribly, and so badly affecting his heart that it is believed he cannot long survive the injuries received. Only his extreme proximity to the horse prevented the blow from being instantaneously fatal. Mr. Nixon is greatly beloved in his pastoral relations, and prayers are being offered for his recovery in many of the neighboring churches.

REAL ESTATE MATTERS.

The season of country sales has been fairly inaugurated, and for some weeks now the public will be kept thoroughly posted concerning the topography, surroundings, hygienic and other qualities which in various degrees of excellence belong to New York environs. From the centre of Jersey to the backbone of Long Island, and from the heights of our American Isle of Wight to the proposed Westchester terminus of the projected viaduct railway, the different suburban towns and villages will call upon New Yorkers to come and settle in their several precincts, each presenting in stronger contrast to another its manifold attractions. Well, it is very good to be there—that is, somewhere out of New York in this hot weather; hence the peculiar periodical popularity which country sales enjoy each recurring summer.

One of the most successful of these sales thus far this year was made at Rutherfurd Park, N. J., on Tuesday by A. D. Mellick, Jr., & Bro. Between 700 and 800 people from this city attended, being provided with passes on a special train over the Erie road, and undeterred by the dangers of that unlucky highway. Bidding was prompt and spirited, in spite of the heat, 236 lots being disposed of, in plots of from one to three, for an aggregate of $66,000. The prices obtained ruled higher than a previous sale recently by the same auctioneers of another portion of this property. Subjoined we give full particulars, as indicating the tendency of the real estate movement at the present time.

The auction business at the Exchange Salesroom yesterday comprised three Supreme Court sales of New York property. Messrs. Roberts & McGuire sold, under the direction of Daniel P. Ingraham, Jr., referee, one lot, with the improvements, on the south side of Forty-first street, west of Third avenue. Mr. James M. Miller sold, under the direction of Thomas H. Landon, referee, the lease of lot, with the building thereon, known as No. 81 Madison avenue, north of Twenty-eighth street, and Mr. J. A. Fleury sold, under the direction of J. L. Miller, referee, a plot of ground on the south side of Kingsbridge road, adjoining the Institution of the Blind. The particulars are as follows:—

NEW YORK PROPERTY—BY ROBERTS AND M'GUIRE.

1 lot, with improvements, on s. s. 41st st., 300 ft. w. of 3d av., lot 31x71.6x88.3. T. Donovan.....$8,500

BY JAMES M. MILLER.

Lease of lot, with the four story brick house No. 81 Madison av., 20.1 ft., with 28th st. lot, 18x78. The lease has 6 years to run from May 1, 1871. Ground rent $180 per annum. J. Emerson.....16,830

BY JAMES A. FLEURY.

Plot of ground s. s. of Kingsbridge road and the Institution for the Blind, size of plot 217.4x45.10x201.7x320. Samuel Schiffer.....74,250

Rutherfurd (N. J.) Property—By A. D. Mellick, Jr., & Bro., May 30.

ALL LOTS 25x100.

4 lots, 1 to 4, block F, Mortimer av., Miner each	$295
3 lots, 5 to 7, block F, Newell av., Damus, each	245
2 lots adjoining, Newell av., Gosman, each	235
5 lots adjoining, Newell av., Kissam, each	240
2 lots adjoining, Newell av., Davis, each	260
3 lots adjoining, Newell av., Davis, each	230
7 lots adjoining, Newell av., Derry, each	325
2 lots adjoining, Newell av., Denning, each	310
1 lot adjoining, Newell av., Daniels	300
1 lot adjoining, Newell av., Byers	300
1 lot adjoining, Newell av., Moller	295
1 lot adjoining, Newell av., Torry	245
1 lot adjoining, Newell av., Johnson	235
1 lot adjoining, Newell av., Johnson	215
4 lots adjoining, Newell av., Lawrence, each	245
4 lots adjoining, Newell av., Cladin, each	200
2 lots adjoining, Newell av., Brewer, each	200
5 lots adjoining, Newell av., Hearn, each	205
1 lot adjoining, Newell av., Nuser	205
3 lots adjoining, Newell av., Cladin, each	195
1 lot block G, corner Mortrose and Passaic avs., Miller	395
1 lot adjoining on Montrose av., Miller	280
2 lots adjoining on Montrose av., Knight, each	255
2 lots adjoining on Montrose av., Lord, each	240
2 lots adjoining on Montrose av., Gosman, each	240
1 lot adjoining last, Mulen	250
1 lot adjoining last, McNamara	260
1 lot adjoining, corner Donaldson av., McNamarra	385
8 lots on Donaldson av., McCarty, each	240
3 lots adjoining, Lord, each	245
3 lots adjoining, Gosman, each	240
6 lots adjoining, Hayes, each	240
6 lots adjoining, Hamilton, each	245
6 lots adjoining, Battie, each	245
1 lot corner Carmita and Donaldson avs., Lord	240
1 lot adjoining on Carmita av., Marvin	200
1 lot adjoining on Carmita av., Parsons	190
2 lots adjoining on Carmita av., Page, each	175
7 lots adjoining, extending to Passaic av., Sanford, each	180
7 lots adjoining on Passaic av., Sanford, each	215
6 lots adjoining on Passaic av., Blackword, each	300
8 lots adjoining on Passaic av., Daniels, each	300
8 lots adjoining on Passaic av., John Hayes, each	290
8 lots adjoining on Passaic av., Hays, each	280
6 lots adjoining on Passaic av., Marin, each	260
8 lots adjoining on Passaic av., Lord, each	280
Block H.	
8 lots, Woodward av., plot 28, Malfer, each	245
3 lots, Woodward av., adjoining, Essell, each	225
13 lots, Woodward av., adjoining, Ayers, each	250
3 lots, Woodward av., adjoining, Gosman, each	200
3 lots, Woodward av., adjoining, Parsons, each	190
8 lots, Woodward av., adjoining, Parsons, each	145
2 lots Woodward av., adjoining, Lord, each	145
Block I.	
5 lots on Newall av., plots 33 and 34, Lawrence, each	210
7 lots on Newall av., adjoining, Gordin, each	230
8 lots on Newall av., adjoining, Danbis, each	255
10 lots on Newall av., adjoining, Butte, each	200
3 lots on Newall av., adjoining, Vandwater, each	200
5 lots on Newall av., adjoining, Vandwater, each	200
2 lots cor. Newell and Carmita avs., Eiller, each	310
2 lots on Carmita av., adjoining, Miller, each	200
2 lots on Carmita av., adjoining, Colliga, each	195
2 lots on Carmita av., adjoining, Baler, each	200
1 lot on Carmita av., adjoining, Parsons	195
1 lot corner Woodward av., Hearn	245
5 lots adjoining on Woodward av., each	195
3 lots adjoining on Woodward av., Gosman, each	205
8 lots adjoining on Woodward av., Flanders, each	240
5 lots adjoining on Woodward av., Lawience, each	210
Block J.	
1 lot corner Newell and Monrose avs., Condit	330
1 lot adjoining on Newell av., Condit	250
2 lots adjoining on Newell av., Tallman, each	245
1 lot adjoining on Newell av., Talinan	205
2 lots adjoining on Newell av., Robinson, each	210
7 lots adjoining on Newell av., Davis, each	215
7 lots adjoining on Newell av., Davis, each	225
7 lots adjoining on Newell av., Nolan, each	215
3 lots adjoining on Newell av., Claflin, each	195
2 lots adjoining on Newell av., Parsons, each	190
3 lots adjoining on Newell av., Siover, each	185
1 lot corner Carmel and Newell avs., McMerral	240
1 lot on Carmel av., adjoining, McMerrall	215
2 lots on Carmel av., adjoining, Dean, each	200
1 lot on Carmel av., adjoining, Dean	220
3 lots on Carmel av., adjoining, McCarty, each	205

Richmond Park, Staten Island—By Johnson & Miller, Yesterday.

The sale, notwithstanding the weather, was largely attended. After selling about thirty lots a violent shower compelled all to seek shelter under the commodious tent, where the sale was continued until fully 300 lots were sold, at prices entirely satisfactory to both buyers and sellers.

4 lots, block F, Nos. 117 to 120, Lewis st. and Stuyvesant st., 25x100, each	$75
4 lots, block F, Nos. 111 to 116, Lewis st. and Tully st., 25x100, each	70
5 lots, block F, Nos. 102 to 108, Stuyvesant s., 25x100, each	65
4 lots, block F, Nos. 121 to 124, Lewis st., 25x100, each	65
6 lots, block F, Nos. 106 to 111, Tuller st., 25x100, each	65
4 lots, block B, No. 39 to 42, Lewis st. and Richmond road, 25x100, each	80
4 lots, block B, Nos. 44, 46, 48 and 50 Richmond road, 25x100, each	85
4 lots, block B, Nos. 52, 54, 56 and 58 Richmond road, 25x100, each	95
2 lots, block B, Nos. 60 and 62 Richmond road, 25x100, each	85
4 lots, block B, Nos. 63, 64, 65 and 66, Richmond road, 25x100, each	100
3 lots, block B, No. 35 to 38, Stuyvesant and Lewis sts., 25x100, each	100
17 lots, block B, Nos. 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 58 to 70, Stuyvesant and Lewis sts., 25x100, each	100
4 lots, block E, No. 125 to 128, Stuyvesant., 25x100, each	73
32 lots, block E, No. 129 to 160, Tully and Stuyvesant sts., 25x100, each	73
4 lots, block H, No. 198 to 201, Tully and Lewis sts., 25x100, each	70
4 lots, block H, Nos. 206, 208, 210 and 2, Tully st., 25x100, each	60
28 lots, block H, Nos. —, Underhill and Tully sts., 25x100, each	60
11 lots, block I, Nos. 187 to 190, Tully and Lewis sts., 25x100, each	55
4 lots, block C, Nos. 27 to 30, Richmond road and Lewis st., 25x100, each	125
1 lot, block C, No. 26, Richmond road, 22x100, each	110
30 lots, block C, Nos. 1 to 25 and 31 to 34, Richmond road, 25x100, each	110
31 lots, block A, Nos. 71 to 101, Richmond rad, 25x100, each	110
4 lots, block A, Nos. 161 to 164, Goddard st., 25x100	75
2 lots, block D, Nos. 170 to 172, Stuyvesant s., 25x100	85
2 lots, block D, Nos. 175 and 176, Stuyvesant., 25x100	70
20 lots, block D, Nos. 165 to 178, Stuyvesant., 25x100	70
4 lots, block G, Nos. 254 to 257, Goodard and Tully sts., 25x100	70
4 lots, block L, Nos. 266 to 269, Underhill and Blany sts., 25x100, each	50
15 lots, block L, Nos. 270 to 273, 259 to 263, Underhill and Blany sts., 25x100, each	50
4 lots, block K, Nos. 274 to 277, Underhill and Blany sts., 25x100, each	51
33 lots, block K, Nos. 278 to 310, Underhill and Vanderbilt sts., 25x100, each	51

BOARD OF HEALTH.

An Increase in the Mortality of the City.

The Board of Health met yesterday at the usual time and place, but did not transact any business of public importance. The following is the report of the Registrar of Records:—

I have the honor to report 499 registered deaths for the past week, being an increase of 25 over the preceding week, and an excess of 85 over the corresponding period of 1870. Zymotic diseases produced 156 deaths; constitutional diseases, 94; local diseases, 195; developmental diseases, 44, and violent causes, 30. There were 20 fatal cases of smallpox, a decrease of 1, and 12 of scarlatina, a decrease of 2; 15 deaths were ascribed to measles, 6 to typhus and 6 to typhoid fever, an increase of 10, 2 and 3 respectively; 7 deaths were due to remittent fever, an increase of 4, and an excessive weekly mortality; erysipelas occasioned 8 deaths, 7 of which were infants. The mortality from phthisis pulmonalis amounted to only 61—the lowest figure reached in the present year—a fact attributable, it may be presumed, to the genial character of the weather.

The mortality of the Seventeenth ward during the past week was very exceptional, having

FALLEN FROM 7 TO 23,

in a population of nearly 100,000, of whom seven-ninths dwell in tenement houses.

The mean reading of the barometer for the week was 29.564 in., and mean temperature 77 deg. Fahrenheit, being 6.53 deg. higher than for the corresponding period for ten years back. The maximum temperature was 87 deg. Fahrenheit in the shade on Friday, and 99 deg. in the sun on Saturday. The mean degree of humidity was equivalent to 62.51 (saturation being 100).

The mortality from smallpox in London during the week ending May 13 declined 9 from 233; in Liverpool from 55 to 52; in Newcastle-on-Tyne from 16 to 12, and in Southampton from 22 to 13. In Brussels, during the previous week, it had likewise fallen from 40 to 25. In Berlin, on the contrary, during the week ending the 11th inst. there was a large increase, the fatal cases amounting to 110 in a total of 985 deaths. In Vienna the 814 deaths for the week ending May 6 included 9 from smallpox.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

CHARLES P. RUSSEL, M. D., Reg. of Records.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

WALL STREET, WEDNESDAY, May 31—6 P. M.

On 'Change to-day wheat was not so firm, but prices underwent no material change. Cotton was quiet and strong. Two more failures in the cotton trade were reported to-day, making three during the week. The parties were operating for a fall in the market and were unable to make good their margins on outstanding contracts for future delivery.

MONEY TWO TO FOUR PER CENT.

Money among the stock houses was decidedly more active and four per cent was quite freely paid for balances just before the close of banking hours. The market seems to have separated into two classes of transactions—viz., on governments and on stocks. On the former the rate on call is 2 a 3 per cent and on the latter 3 a 4 per cent.

Prime commercial paper continues in good request at the rates last quoted.

Foreign exchange was dull after the steamers and nominally unchanged. Good to prime bankers' sterling, sixty days, is quoted 110½ a 110¾ and sight 110¾ a 110⅞.

THE GOVERNMENT PURCHASE OF BONDS.

The Assistant Treasurer in this city concluded the Treasury programme to-day with the purchase of two millions of five-twenties, and will inaugurate the June programme to-morrow with the sale of two millions of gold. The offerings of bonds amounted to $4,054,300 at 111.05 a 111.71. The accepted two millions cost 111.05 a 111.50.

GOVERNMENTS STRONG.

The government list was strong on the small amount of bonds offered the government, especially as gold was at the same time firm, and prices advanced an average of about ¼ per cent. The final street quotations were as follows:—United States currency sixes, 115¾ a 116; do. do., 1881, registered, 117¼ a 117⅜; do. do., coupon, 117¼ a 117¾; do. five-twenties, registered, May and November, 111⅜ a 111⅞; do. do., 1862, coupon, do., 111¾ a 111⅞; do. do., 1864, do. do., 111¾ a 111⅞; do. do., 1865, do. do., 111¾ a 111⅞; do. do., registered, January and July, 113¾ a 114; do. do., 1865, coupon, do., 113⅞ a 114; do. do., 1867, do. do., 114 a 114⅛; do. do., 1868, do. do., 114 a 114⅛; do. ten-forties, registered, 109¾ a 109¾; do. do., coupon, 109⅞ a 110.

GOLD STRONG—111⅝ A 111⅞.

The gold market was again very dull, and the brokers have only such little business as they choose to get up with one another. The market showed a hardening tendency despite this dulness, and the few fluctuations of the day resulted in the establishment of a slight advance. The course of the market is shown in the table:—

10 A. M.	111⅞	2 P. M.	111⅞
10:30 A. M.	111⅝	3 P. M.	111⅞
11 A. M.	111¾	4 P. M.	111⅞
12 M.	111¾	5:30 P. M.	111⅝ a 111⅞
1 P. M.	111⅞		

In the gold loan market the rates ranged from 2½ per cent for carrying to 4 per cent and 1-64 for borrowing. The operations of the Gold Exchange Bank were as follows:—

Gold cleared	$17,128,000
Gold balances	1,483,720
Currency balances	1,679,170

The China, for Europe, took out $187,721 in specie.

STOCKS DULL AND IRREGULAR.

The stock market was intensely dull outside of one or two leading shares. The transactions at the last board were only a little over 5,000 shares, inclusive of the "half stock" railroads. An effort was made to get up a sensation by a report that the Commissioner of Internal Revenue had threatened to distrain and stop the New York Central Railroad if the tax on the scrip dividend were not immediately paid, but beyond depressing the market slightly it had little effect. The street was, in fact, afraid to go short of Central stock or scrip on such a "point," and left those securities to take care of themselves. Rock Island, as the strong feature, rising to 122¾, was offset by Ohio and Mississippi, which broke to 46¾. Pittsburg came in for considerable attention and advanced to 122¼, but eventually dropped off to 121. Lake Shore sold at as high as 114¾, but after the report above mentioned, which had its effect in raising considerations as to a government tax on the contemplated scrip dividend, went off to 113¾. The Northwest stocks were firm in expectation of a five per cent cash dividend to be declared at the annual meeting which takes place June 1 in Chicago. Pacific Mail advanced to 48¾ on the publication of the annual statement, but subsequently fell off to 46¾.

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	100	99¾
New York Central scrip	94¾	93¾
Erie	30⅞	30
Reading	118½	117⅞
Lake Shore	114¾	113¾
Wabash	63⅞	63¼
Pittsburg	122¼	119¾
Northwestern	86¾	85⅞
Northwestern preferred	99	98½
Rock Island	122¾	121¾
St. Paul	62¼	61¾
St. Paul preferred	81¾	81
Ohio and Mississippi	48½	46¾
Union Pacific	34¼	33¾
Western Union Telegraph	58½	58
Pacific Mail	48¾	47½

THE RAILWAY MORTGAGES.

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

New York Cen 6's, 1883	92¾	Tol & Wab 1st m, ex	94¾
New York Cen 6's, 1887	94	Toi & W 1st m, St L div	89½
New York Cen 6's, reg	89	Toi & W cons con	90
New York Cen 6's, end	99	Gt West 1st m, 1888	93¾
New York Cen 7's, 1876	102	Gt West 2d m, 1893	86
Erie 1st m, ex	100	Quin & Tol 1st m, 1890	84
Erie 1st m, end	93	Gal & Chic extended	101¾
Erie 7's, 2d m, '79	94	Gal & Chic 2d m	95¼
Erie 7's, 3d m, '83	92	Chic, R I & Pac	102¾
Erie 7's, 4th m, '83	87	Mor & Essex 1st m	102
Erie 7's, 5th con '85	85½	Mor & Essex 2d m	92¾
Long Dock bonds	91	Clev & Tol s f	103
Buf, N Y & E 1st m, '7, '84		New Jer Cen new bds	102¾
Hud R 7's, 2d m, s f, '85	105	Pitts, F W & Chic 1st m	104
Harlem 1st m, 7's	100	Pitts, F W & Chic 2d m	100
Harlem con mtg & s f	91	Pitts, F W & Chic 3d m	97
Alb & Sus 2d bds	91¾	Mil & St P 1st p c, eq bds	103
Alb & Sus 3d bds	91	Clev & Pitts con s f	92¾
Mich Cen 1st m 8's, '82	113¾	Clev & Pitts 4th m	85
Chic, Bur & Q, s p c, 1st m	113¾	Chic & Alton s f	101
Mich So 7 p c 2d m	97	Chic & Alt 1st m	103½
Mich S & N I s f 7 p c	101¾	Chic & Alt income	93
Pac R R 7's, guar by Mo.	99¾	Ohio & Miss 1st m	101
Cen Pac bonds	102¾	Ohio & Miss con	95¾
Union Pac 1st m bonds	92¾	Dub & Sioux C 1st m	97