FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

SCRAMBLE IN LONDON FOR ERIE.

The New York Market Being Drained to Meet the Foreign Demand.

ADVANCE IN THE SHARES TO 48 1-2.

Daniel Drew and His Investments in Canton and Boston, Hartford and Erie.

The Terms of the Consolidation of Delaware, Lackawanna and Western and New Jersey Central.

THE GENERAL STOCK MARKET DULL.

Further Advance in Government Bonds—Gold Closes at 110.

SOUTH CAROLINAS ACTIVE AND HIGHER.

WALL STREET,
MONDAY, March 18—6 P. M.

On 'Change to-day wheat was better and a firmer tone pervaded the market. Cotton was a shade bigger.

MONEY UNSETTLED.

The money market was unsettled, although, strictly speaking, it might be called fairly active at 7 per cent coin. That rate was the prevailing figure for the bulk of the day's business, but some of the weaker stockbrokers had to pay as high as 1-32, while just at three o'clock there was a sudden pressure to lend some small amounts, for which the lenders in their haste to secure employment thereof accepted 7 a 6 per cent. Commercial paper was quoted 8 a 10 per cent discount for prime double names.

Foreign exchange was about steady and very dull on the basis of 109¾a 109¾ for prime sixty day sterling, and 110¼ a 110½ for sight bills.

GOLD WEAK—110¼ A 110.

The gold market opened weak on sales by the foreign bankers, in connection with heavy purchases of Erie and of United States five twenties and new five per cents for transmission to Europe, where a fresh inquiry for American securities has arisen, if we may judge by the cable quotations of to-day, showing an advance of nearly ½ per cent in our government bonds. On these sales gold went off from 110¼ to 110; but rallied, and continued quite steady at 110¼ until within a few minutes of the close, when another large house entered the market and sold half a million gold down to 110, the transaction being, as is supposed, the complement of an equivalent purchase of Erie for the other side. The course of the market is shown in the table:—

10 A. M.	110¼	2 P. M.	110¼
11 A. M.	110¼	3 P. M.	110¼
12 M.	110¼	4 P. M.	110¼
12:49 P. M.	110	5 P. M.	110
1 P. M.	110¼	5:30 P. M.	110 a 110¼
1:19 P. M.	110		

In the gold loan market the rates ranged from 3 to 7 per cent for carrying. The operations of the Gold Exchange Bank were as follows:—

Gold cleared	$21,117,000
Gold balances	840,000
Currency balances	967,472

The Sub-Treasury paid out $200,000 gold in redemption of the called five-twenties of 1862.

GOVERNMENTS STRONG.

The government list was strong in response to the advance of ½ per cent to-day in London, but the advance here was not as much, owing to the decline in gold. The market closed firm as follows:—United States currency sixes, 114¾ a 115; do. sixes, 1881, registered, 114¾ a 114¾; do. do., coupon, 115¾ a 115¾; do., five-twenties, registered, May and November, 111¾ a 112; do. do., 1862, coupon, do., 111¾ a 112; do. do., 1864, do. do., 111¾ a 112; do. do., 1865, do. do., 112¾ a 113; do. do., 1867, registered, January and July, 111½ a 111¾; do. do., 1865, coupon, do., 111¼ a 111¾; do. do., 1867, do., do., 112½ a 112¾; do. do., 1868, do., do., 112¾ a 112¾; do. fives of 1881, funded, registered, 109¾ a 109¾; do. do. do., coupon, 109¾ a 109¾; do. ten-forties, registered, 107¾ a 107¾; do. do., coupon, 108¾ a 108¾.

SOUTHERN SECURITIES STRONG.

The Southern list was generally strong, in sympathy with an active upward movement in the new South Carolinas, which advanced to 38 on the receipt of copies in this city of the law making valid all the numerous bonds floating in the market. It was feared that some of these issues—particularly those dated since the Funding act of 1869 and used as collateral for money borrowed by the State—might be repudiated, threats to that effect having been freely indulged in during the winter; but this law places the seal of legitimacy on everything. The new Tennessees touched 67, and a demand for the North Carolinas induced firmness in their quotations. The following were the closing prices:—Tennessee, ex coupon, 66¾ a 67; do. new, 66¾ a 67¼; Virginia, ex coupon, 54 a 56; do. registered stock, old, 44 a 50; do. sixes, consolidated bonds, 56 a 57; do. sixes, deferred, 17 a 20; Georgia sixes, 77 a 79; do. sevens, 87 a 90; North Carolina, ex coupon, 38¾ a 39; do. funding, 1866, 27 a 27¼; do. do., 1868, 21 a 25; do., new, 21 a 24; do., special tax, 17 a 18; Missouri sixes, 95 a 95¼; do. Hannibal and St. Joseph, 93 a 93¼; Louisiana sixes, 62 a 64; do. new, 55 a 60; do. levee sixes, 60 a 65; do. do. eights, 70 a 80; do. do. eights, 1875, 80 a 85; do. Penitentiary sevens, 65 a 70; do railroad eights, 70 a 80; Alabama fives, 62 a 64; do. eights, 90 a 95; do. eights, Montgomery and Eufaula Railroad, 85 a 90; South Carolina sixes, 52½ a 54; do. new, January and July, 37¾ a 38; do. do., April and October, 35 a 37½; Arkansas sixes, funded, 54 bid.

THE RAILROAD BONDS.

The following were the bids for the railroad bonds:—

New York Cen 6's, 1883	95¾	Gt West 1st m, 1888	94¼
New York Cen 6's, 1887	90½	Gt West 2d m, 1893	90
New York Cen 6's, reg	90	Quincy & Tol 1st, 1890	92
New York Cen 7's, 1876	102	Ill & So Iowa 1st m	92
N York Cen 7's, con 1876	102	Gal & Chic extended	101
N York Cen 7's, '65-'76	102	Chi, R I & Pacific	101½
Erie 1st m, ex	108	Mor & Essex 1st m	114
Erie 7's, 2d m, '72	97	Mor & Essex 2d m	97
Erie 7's, 3d m, '83	94	Clev & Tol s f	101
Erie 7's, 4th m, '80	93½	New Jer Cent 1st m	104
Erie 7's, 5th m, '88	89	Pitts, F W & Chi 1st m	105
Long Dock bonds	93	Pitts, F W & Chi 2d m	103
Hud, N Y & R 1st m	94½	Pitts, F W & Chi 3d m	98
Hud R 7's, 2d m, aff, '85	105	Clev & Pitts 4th m	85½
Hud R 7's, 3d m, '75	102¾	Chic & Alt s f	100
Harlem 1st m, 7's	103	Chic & Alt 1st m	104½
Chic, Bur & Q, 8 p c, 1st m	113	Chic & Alt income	95
Mich So 7 p c 2d m	99	Ohio & Miss 1st m	100
Mich S & N I s f 7 p c	100	Ohio & Miss con	94
Pac RR 7's, guar by Mo	99	Ohio & Miss 2d m, con	85
Union Pac 1st m	92	Dub & Sioux City 1st m	94
Union Pac lg 7's	83½	Peninsular 1st m con	95
Un Pac inc 10's	83¾	St Louis & Iron M 1st m	94¾
Ill Cen 7 p c, 1875	104	Mil & St Paul 1st m 8's	107
Rensselaw & So Ill 1st, 8's	98	Mil & St P 1st m, 7-3-10s	95
Alt & T H 1st m	97	Mil & St Paul 1st m	92½
Alt & T H 2d m, pref	87½	Mil & St Paul, Iowa div	87½
Alton & T H 2d m inc	80¾	Mar & Cin 1st m	96
Chic & N W s f	100½	Chic & Mil 1st m	95
Chic & N W int bds	93½	Col, Chic & Ind 1st m	93½
Chic & N W con bds	95	Col, Chic & Ind 2d m	73½
Chic & N W ex bds	88	Tol, Peo & W, L D	90½
Chic & N W 1st m	91	Tol, Peo & W, W D	91½
Han & St Jo land gts	108	Tol, P & W, Bur'n div	87
Han & St Jo con	92	Tol, Peo & War 2d m	84½
Del, Lack & West 2d m	99	N York & N Haven 6's	100
Tol & Wab 1st m, ex	98	Host, Hart & E 1st m	42½
Tol & W 1st m, St L div	80	Bos, Hart & Erie gtd	45
Tol & Wab 2d m	94	Cedar F & Minn 1st m	83½
Tol & Wab equip bds	86¼	Det, Mon & Tol	95
Tol & W cons conv	94	Lake Shore div	98½
San & Naples 1st m	50½	Clev, Painsv & Ash	98

COMPARISON OF THE IMPORTS.

The following shows the imports, exclusive of specie, at the port of New York for week ending March 16 and since the beginning of the year:—

	1870.	1871.	1872.
Dry goods	$3,543,213	$3,388,450	$2,653,920
Gen. merch'dise	3,823,035	3,995,442	2,584,521
Total for week	$7,166,248	$7,383,892	$5,238,441
Prev. reported	49,117,056	66,307,386	76,613,525
Since Jan. 1	$56,283,904	$73,691,278	$81,851,966

THE SPECIE MOVEMENT.

The imports of specie at this port during the past week and since the beginning of the year have been as follows:—

Total for the week	$13,860
Previously reported	278,115
Total since January 1, 1872	$291,975
Same time 1871	2,721,606
Same time 1870	3,840,005
Same time 1869	2,411,767
Same time, 1868	1,139,828

STOCKS STEADY AND DULL.

The attention of the market at the Stock Exchange was again almost exclusively occupied with Erie, the only show of activity elsewhere being made by Boston, Hartford and Erie, which, by the skilful management of speculators, has been worked in as a sort of tender to the movement in Erie. These parties intend running the stock up as high as they can and then selling out to Mr. Daniel Drew, who, since his lucky purchase of Canton at 85 a 95 per cent, is looking around for other valuable property in which to invest his surplus wealth. The opening price of Erie was 46¾, which variation of over one per cent from the closing figures of Saturday night created considerable surprise, but was subsequently explained by the condition of the London market, where Erie was the great feature to-day, probably because the resignation of Jay Gould did not become known to the British public until this morning. A firm of Geneva bankers were the first buyers, taking between fifteen and twenty thousand shares for their agency in London. These transactions advanced the stock to 48, at which it became dull and eventually heavy, dropping back as far as 46¾. Here it was rapidly absorbed by some fresh buyers, and advanced to and closed at 48½. The extent of the last order is not known, nor was it certain that it had been filled at the time the Stock Exchange came to the prompt adjournment ordered by the rules for five o'clock. The buyers in this latest instance were an American firm with London connection, the foreign origin of their orders being indicated by the simultaneous sale of half a million gold in the Gold Room late in the day, as narrated above in the gold paragraph. The press statement by cable a few days since, that the London Exchange had withdrawn the prohibition against dealing in Erie certificates not stamped by the Protection Committee, proves to be a mistake. The rule is still in force, although with the present status of the Erie management it must be repealed in a few days at most. The stamped stock in London advanced to-day to 45½—equivalent to about 55½ in American quotations—and the unstamped stock, which is dealt in on the street and among the bankers outside the Exchange, was only 2 a 3 per cent lower. It is easy to see, therefore, why the stock advanced twice so suddenly to-day. Both the McHenry party and the protection party are evidently buying the unstamped certificates in the open market of London, knowing their availability at the election. With a continuance of such a demand for Erie in London as has been experienced the past week the American market would soon be stripped of the stock. As it is the tide is steady from New York to London, the foreign price having for a few hours only been on a level with the domestic, and most of the time leading it by several per cent. The rest of the market calls for little remark and was generally steady, winding up firm with the closing stiffness of Erie. Boston, Hartford and Erie fluctuated between 6¾ and 7¾. The union of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad and the Central Railroad of New York is a consolidation of the closest kind without a merging of the share capital. The eventual issue of a common stock is possible, but is not as yet contemplated. The two lines will be operated as one and the earnings will be divided in the same rate per cent upon both stocks. The consolidation terminates all litigation with reference to the Morris and Essex, which line, as a part of the consolidation, by its lease to the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, will in time be brought to a common terminus at Communipaw (Liberty street), thus avoiding the expense and indirectness of the Bergen Tunnel. Boston papers say that at a recent meeting of the Directors of the Michigan Central it was determined to issue new bonds, to be negotiated in Europe, where the obligations of this corporation are in prime repute, the proceeds to be devoted to double tracking the road between Detroit and Chicago. In the miscellaneous stocks Hannibal and St. Joseph fell off to 41. Canton, after an advance to 94¼, receded to 91¾.

HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRICES.

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

	Highest.	Lowest.
New York Central (ex div.)	95¾	95¼
New York Central scrip (ex div.)	90¾	90¼
Erie	48½	46½
Erie preferred	80¼	80
Reading	113¾	113¼
Lake Shore	93½	92¾
Wabash	75¾	75¼
Northwestern	79¼	78¾
Northwestern preferred	92¾	92½
Rock Island	113¾	113¼
St. Paul	59¾	59¼
St. Paul preferred	79¾	79½
Ohio and Mississippi	46	45½
Union Pacific	37	36½
Hannibal and St. Joseph	45	41
Western Union Telegraph	71½	70¾
Pacific Mail	62¼	61½

SALES AT THE NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE.

Monday, March 18—10:15 A. M.

$120000 US 5-20's, c, '67	114¾	$18000 US 5's, 10-40, r	107¾
6000 US 5-20's, c, '68	112¾	30000 U S 5's, '81, c	109½

10 to 10:30 A. M.

200 shs Canton Co	93	1200 shs Erie RR	47½
500 West Un Tel	71½	6400 do	47¼
500 do	71¼	600 do	47¼
500 do	71¼	2500 do	47½
200 do	71¼	400 do b3	47½
2000 do s3	71¼	1100 Un Pac RR	56¼
200 do s3	71¼	1800 do	57½
500 Pac M SS Co	62½	200 do b3	37
100 do	62¼	300 do s3	36¾
300 do	61½	800 do	36¾
300 do	61½	400 do	36½
700 do	61½	400 do b3	36½
50 Am Mer U Exp	74	200 Tol, Wab & W s3	75½
600 N Y Ca H R R ex d	95½	300 L S & M S RR c	92½
500 Erie RR	46½	1200 do c	93
500 do	46¾	900 do	93½
12000 do	47	200 do s3	93
2000 do	47½	200 do	93
8500 do	47½	1700 Chic & N W R	79¼
3100 do	47½	600 do	79
6000 do	47½	200 do b3	78½
4500 do	47¾	200 Del, L & W RR	111½
1000 do	47½	200 Host H & Erie	7½
700 do	47½	1800 do	7½
2200 do	47½	400 do	7½
2100 do	47¾	600 do	7½
1200 do	47½	1400 do	7½
200 do	47½	400 do	7½
700 do	47¾	1500 do	7¼
900 do	47½	1200 do	7½
200 do	47¾	200 do	7
500 do c	47½	500 do	7½
1000 do	47½	200 H & St Jo RR	45
1000 do	47½	200 Ohio & Miss	46
700 do c	47½	200 do	45½
1600 do	47½	500 do	45¾

First Board—10:30 A. M.

$10000 Tenn 6's, old	67½	300 shs U S Exp Co b c	73¾
15000 Tenn 6's, new	67	20000 N Y Ca H RR cs b c	94½
2000 N C Fund act, '66	27	100 Erie RR b3	47½
16000 S C 6's, n, J & J	36½	300 do s3	47½
15000 do	36¾	1100 do	47¾
76000 do	37	50 do	48
10000 do b3	37¼	700 do b c	47½
10,000 do b3	37½	200 do b3	47½
120000 do b30	38	2200 do	47¾
10000 do	37½	2300 do	47¾
4000 do	37½	1600 do	47½
5000 do	37	300 do	47½
10000 do b3	37¼	500 do s3	47½
10000 do b3	38	2100 do	47½
2000 do c	36	1000 do	47½
50000 do b30	38¼	1800 do	47¾
6000 do b c	37½	1300 do	47½
1000 Missouri 6's	95	500 do s3	47¾
5000 N Y Cent 6's, '83	93½	1600 do	47¾
1000 Erie 3d mtg	94¾	500 do	47¾
1000 do	94	1200 do	47¾
1000 Erie 4th m	93½	1000 do	47½
1000 Long Dock bs	95	1700 do	47¾
50000 Ath & Susq 1st	105½	500 do	47½
1000 Cen Pac gold b	102½	300 Erie RR pf	80½
10000 Union Pac 1st m	92	200 do	80
15000 Un Pac 7's l g b	83¾	300 do b c	80½
5000 do	83½	250 do	80
5000 Un Pac inc	83¼	100 Harlem RR	112¾
1000 Alt & Terre H inc	80¾	400 do	112¾
5000 Chi & N W 1st m	90	200 Reading RR	113¾
1000 H & St J's c b	98	2300 Lake Shore & M S	92¾
5000 Tol & W 1st m	98	500 do b c	92¾
5000 T & W 1st m, S Ld	90¼	600 do	92¾
2000 Tol & Wab 2d m	94¾	1200 do	92½
13000 Gal & Chic 1st	104½	1100 L S & M S scrip b c	90¼
6000 Mor & Es 2d m	97¾	500 Clev & Pitts guar	91
1000 St L & Iron M 1st	91½	50 do	91¼
1000 do	91½	50 do	90½
3000 Great West 2d m	90	50 New Jersey Cen RR	113
11000 Col, C & I C 1st m	93½	50 Union Pacific RR	37
2000 do	93¾	1400 do b c, c	36¾
5000 Tol, P & W, 1st, W D	91½	300 do b3	36¾
38000 Host, H & E 1st	43	400 do	36¾
6000 Bos, H & E g b	45	200 do	36¾
3000 M & St P 1st, C div	87½	500 do	36¾
5000 New Jer Sou 1st	80	200 do b3	36¾
2000 E Tenn, Va & Ga im	83	200 do	36¾
14 shs Mechs' Bk	154	300 do s3	36¾
6 Bk of Comm'ce	117	200 do	36½
10 Am Ex Bank	115	900 C & N W RR b c	78¾
10 Hanover Bank	102½	800 do	78½
9 Corn Ex Bk	120	200 do c	78½
5 Ninth Nat Bk	108	800 do s3	79
9 do	108½	700 do	79
100 American Coal	36¾	200 Cb & R I R b c	113¾
125 Del & H C o	119	1000 do s3	113½
50 Manhattan Gas	210	500 do	113½
100 Canton Co	93¾	200 do b3	113½
10 do	93½	200 Mil & St P RR b c	95½
200 do s3	94	100 Mil & St P pf	79½
500 do	94	100 Tol, W & W	35½
100 do b c	93	200 do b c, s3	35¾
200 do	92½	700 Del, L & W RR	111½
200 do c	92	400 Bos, H & Erie	7½
200 do	91¾	500 do	7
100 West Union Tel	71½	2000 do	6½
200 do b c	71½	600 do	6½
2000 do	71	400 do	6½
600 do	70½	2300 do	7
200 do c	70¾	600 do b3	7
200 do s3	70¾	1200 do	7½
400 do	70½	3000 do	7¼
400 do	70½	50 Alt & Ter H pf	61
40 do b3	71	400 Ohio & Miss b c	45½
600 do	71	500 do	45½
200 Quick Mil Co	36¼	600 do s3	45½
200 do b c	36	200 do	45½
200 Quick M Co pf	40½	200 do	45½
200 do s3	41	30 New Jersey Sou RR	29¾
100 Md Coal Co	20	100 do	21
100 Mariposa pf	1¼	100 do	20
600 Pac M SS Co	61½	100 do	19
200 do b, c s3	61½	200 do	18
1000 do	61¾	200 St L & I M RR	76½
200 do	61¾	200 do	76¾
140 do	61½	300 do	77
100 Am M U Ex b3	74	16 Morris & Es RR	93½
700 U States Express	74	300 H & St Jo RR	44½
100 do	73¾	500 Col, C & Ind C RR	24½

12:15 and 2:15 P. M.

$20000 US 6's, '81, r	114¾	$20000 US 5-20, r, '67	111½
5000 do	114½	25000 US 5-20, c, '67 s3	112½
5000 US 5-20, c, '63	112	25000 do	112½
4000 US 6's, '81, c	115½	10000 US 5-20, c, '68	112½
5500 do	115½	10000 US 5's, 10-40, c	108¾
2000 US 5-20, c, '65	112½	10000 do	108¾
10000 US 5-20, c, '65, n c	111¾	10000 U S 5's, 10-40, r	107½
10000 do b5	111¾	20000 US 6's, currency	115
5000 US 5-20, r, '65, n	111	1000 do	115½

12:30 to 1 P. M.

500 shs Pac M SS Co b3	62	400 shs Un Pac RR	36⅞
200 West U Tel s3	71	500 L S & M S R	92
300 do	71	400 Ohio & M RR s3	45¾
600 Erie RR	47⅜	500 Chi & N W R	79½
200 do s3	47⅜	500 do s3	79
1100 do	47¾	300 B, Hart & Erie s3	7¼
400 do	47½	1600 do	7¼
1000 do	47½	500 do	7½
200 N Y C & H R	95½	1400 do	7¼

Second Board—1 P. M.

$2000 S Car 6's, old	53	400 shs Pac M SS Co	62½
2000 N Y 6's, '74	105½	200 do b c	62¼
25000 SC 6's, n, Jan & Jly	37½	200 do s3	62
1000 SC 6's, n, Oct & Apl	35	1000 do	63
5000 Un Pac RR 1st m	92	300 do	61⅞
3000 U Pac l g b	83½	200 Am M Union Ex	74
1000 Cen Pac gld bds	102½	300 U S Express b3	74
1000 Tol, Peo & W 1st, RD	93¾	10 Erie RR pref	80
14000 N Y 7's, b 1, reg	107½	200 do b c	80
6000 M & Es 2d m	97½	400 Reading RR b c	113½
200 shs Quick Mil Co pf	41½	400 do b60	114
100 Mariposa pf	1¼	120 Clev & P RR gtd b3	91
700 West Union Tel	71	500 do b c	91
400 do b c	70½	400 L S & M S R b c	93
35 Erie RR	48	500 do	92½
200 do	47¾	200 Chic & N W R b c	78½
1200 do	47¾	800 do	78¾
300 do	47½	200 O & Miss RR b c	45¾
250 do	47	700 do	45½
200 do b c	47½	200 Chi & N W pref b c	92¼
500 do s3	47¼	500 Union Pac RR	36½
500 do	47¼	200 do s3	36¾
500 do s3	47	1700 do b c	36⅝
1900 do	47½	100 Mil & St Paul pf	79¾
600 do	47¼	25 Col, C & I C RR	24
1,100 do	47½	400 do	24½
1500 do	47½	300 do b c	24½
200 do s3	47¼	300 Bos, H & E b c, s3	7½
1000 do	47½	300 do	7⅜
2800 do	47¼	1800 do	7
1200 do	47½	200 do	6⅞
400 do	46½	1000 do	7½
3800 do	47	500 do	7
500 do b3	47	200 do	6¾
900 do	46⅞	600 do	6½
400 do	47	500 do s60	6¾
1500 do	46¾	500 do b10	7
400 do	46½	200 do	7
700 do	47	400 St L & I Mt RR b c	77
200 do	46⅞	50 P, F W & Chic gtd	98¾
400 do	47	50 do	99

CLOSING PRICES—5 O'CLOCK P. M.

Western Union	71 a 71½	N'western pf	92 a 92½		
Canton	92 a 93	Rock Island	113¾ a 113¾		
Pacific Mail	61⅞ a 62	St Paul	59½ a 59¾		
N Y Cen, con	95½ a 95¾	St Paul pref	79½ a 79¾		
N Y Cen, scrip	90¼ a 90½	Wabash	75¼ a 76		
Erie	48¾ a 48½	Ohio & Miss	45½ a 45¾		
Reading	113¾ a 113½	Bos, Har & Erie	6¾ a 7		
Lake Shore	93 a 93½	Han & St Jo	41½ a 41¾		
Union Pacific	36¾ a 36½	Han & St Jo pf	62½ a 62¾		
Pittsburg	90¾ a 91	Col, C & Ind Cen	24½ a 24½		
Northwestern	78¾ a 79				

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

MONDAY, March 18—6 P. M.

COFFEE.—The market for Rio was dull and entirely nominal. We hear of sales of 552 bags Maracaibo per Elba on private terms. We quote:—Cargoes (Rio) ordinary, 14½c. a 15c.; do. fair, 15½c. a 15¾c.; do. good, 16c. a 16¼c.; do. prime, 16¾c. a 17c., gold, in bond, sixty days; Maracaibo, 18c. a 19½c.; Laguayra, 18c. a 20c.; St. Domingo in bond, 14c. a 14½c.; Java, 22c. a 23c., gold, duty paid.

COTTON.—The inquiry for cotton on the spot was small, but a further upward movement in forward deliveries rendered values nominally higher, and the quotations annexed show an advance of ⅛c. per lb. for all qualities. The limited business in progress was mainly on the basis of this improvement. Large lots, however, were unsalable except at lower figures. Business for future delivery was quite active, and chiefly at an advance of ⅛c. per lb., the market closing quiet and steady. The sales sum up as follows:—

	To-Day.	Sat. Ev'g.	Total.
Export	633	200	833
Consumption	157	300	457
Speculation	65	137	202
In transit	200	200	400
Total	1,045	846	1,891

—Included in the above are 100 bales to arrive. For future delivery (basis low middling) the sales have been as follows:—Sales Saturday evening after two P. M.—April, 3,100 at 22½c.; 500 at 22 7-16c., 600 at 22⅜c., 500 at 22 7-16c.; May, 600 at 23c., 100 at 23 1-16c., 5,350 at 23c.; June, 400 at 23½c., 100 at 23 9-32c., 700 at 23½c.; July, 100 at 23½c.; August, 100 at 23c.; September, 100 at 21½c.; October, 100 at 19½c. Total 12,150 bales. Sales to-day, up to three P. M.—April, 3,600 at 22½c., 500 at 22 9-16c., 200 at 22½c., 100 at 22 7-16c., 800 at 22½c., 200 at 22 7-16c.; May, 900 at 23 7-16c., 700 at 23½c., 200 at 23 3-16c., 2,100 at 23½c., 1,000 at 23½c., 100 at 23 5-16c., 200 at 23½c., 600 at 23 7-16c., 200 at 23¾c.; July, 200 at 23½c.; August, 700 at 23½c.; September, 200 at 21½c. Total, 12,000 bales. Grand total, 24,150 bales. The receipts at the ports sum up thus:—Galveston, 483; New Orleans, 3,181; Mobile, 1,090; Savannah, 106; Charleston, 515; Wilmington, 183; Norfolk, 1,437; Baltimore, 478; New York, 609; Boston, 144. Total, 8,846. This day last week, 10,551. This day last year, 21,439. Rates on cotton to foreign ports closed nominal as follows:—To Liverpool, by steam, ¾d.; by sail, ⅝d. To Havre, by steam, ⅝c., gold; by sail, ⅜c. To Hamburg, by steam, ⅝d., compressed; sail, ⅝c. To Bremen, by steam, ⅝c., gold, compressed; sail, ⅝c. To Baltic ports, by sail, ⅝c. a 1c., gold. To Mediterranean ports, by steam, 1c. We quote:—

	Orleans.	Alabama.	New Orleans.	Texas.
Ordinary	19½	20	20¼	20½
Good ordinary	21⅝	21⅝	21¾	21¾
Low middling	23½	22¼	22½	22¾
Middling	23¾	23⅞	23⅞	23⅞
Good middling	24½	23¾	23¾	24¼

—The quotations are based on cotton running in quality not more than half a grade above or below the grade quoted.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—Receipts—Flour, 3,884 bbls.; wheat, 3,200 bushels; corn, 40,500 bushels; corn meal, 5 bbls. and 644 bags; oats, 6,450 bushels; barley, 288 bushels. The flour market was dull, but nominally unchanged. The sales were about 5,600 bbls., including 1,200 bbls. of Southern and 100 bbls. superfine rye, all at prices within the range of our quotations. Corn meal was dull and nominal at the appended quotations. We quote:—

No. 2 state	$4 00 a $5 65
Superfine State	6 00 a 6 60
Extra State	6 75 a 7 00
Choice do	7 00 a 7 50
Superfine Western	6 00 a 6 50
Extra do	6 60 a 7 00
Extra Minnesota	7 00 a 8 75
Round hoop Ohio, shipping brands	7 00 a 7 10
Round hoop Ohio, trade brands	7 50 a 8 00
Family	8 00 a 8 50
St. Louis low extra	7 25 a 8 05
St. Louis straight extra	8 00 a 8 50
St. Louis choice double extra	8 50 a 9 50
St. Louis choice family	9 50 a 11 50
Rye flour	4 50 a 5 40
Southern No. 2	5 00 a 5 60
Southern superfine	5 75 a 6 50
Southern extra	7 00 a 8 75
Southern family	8 50 a 11 75
Corn meal, Western	3 60 a 3 85
Corn meal, Jersey	3 60 a 3 75
Corn meal, Brandywine	4 05 a 4 10
Baltimore	3 50 a 4 00
Caloric	3 90 a 4 00
Puncheons	19 25 a 19 70

—Wheat was dull and nominal, but there was a little more tone to the market; bids of $1 45 for Chicago, and $1 50 for Milwaukee spring in store being refused. The sales were only about 12,000 bushels at $1 49 for red Pennsylvania, and $1 75 for white Michigan, in store. Corn was rather better, closing at 68½c. The prime high mixed. The sales were about 51,000 bushels, in part of all kinds, at 67½c. a 68½c. for mixed, 68c. a 69½c. for Western yellow, 69c. for Southern yellow, and 72c. a 75c. for white Southern. Oats were steady at 53c. a 55c. for Western in store and afloat, and 56c. a 57c. for white, with sales of 26,000 bushels within the range. Barley was dull, but unchanged, sales of 18,000 bushels Canada, on private terms; quoted within the range of $1 05 a $1 15. Rye was dull and nominal at 86c. a 89c., in store. Sales 2,500 bushels within the range.

FREIGHTS.—The market was extremely dull, there being scarcely any inquiry for berth room for any purpose. The chartering business was also quiet, but former rates were declined. The engagements reported to day were as follows:—To Liverpool, by steam, 500 boxes bacon at 25s.; the nominal rate for grain was 6d. a 6½d. To London, by steam, via Bremen, 150 tierces beef at 7s. 6d. and 160 boxes bacon at 40s. To Antwerp, 200 boxes bacon at 27s. 6d. The only charter we heard of was an American bark, hence to Constantinople, 12,000 cases of refined petroleum at 30c.

MOLASSES.—The market for foreign still remained dull and nominal. Domestic was quiet, but firm. We hear of sales of 200 bbls. New Orleans at from 60c. to 68c. We quote:—

	Old Crop.	New Crop.
Cuba—Centrifugal and mixed	18c. a 20c.	
Clayed	22c. a 28c.	31c. a 34c.
Muscovado, refining	22c. a 30c.	34c. a 35c.
Muscovado, grocery	30c. a 35c.	35c. a 36c.
Porto Rico	22c. a 40c.	35c. a 40c.
English Islands		40c. a 50c.
New Orleans	50c. a 65c.	40c. a 70c.

NAVAL STORES.—The market for spirits turpentine was dull, nominal and lower; quoted for round lots at 72c. a 72½c. Sales were made in jobbing lots of about 50 bbls. at 75c. Rosin was also dull and nominal. Strained quoted at $3 a $4 20. We hear of sales of 100 bbls. low No. 2 at $4 25. Tar was quiet but steady at former figures.

PETROLEUM.—On 'Change to-day the market remained steady, although dull and nominal. Refined quoted at 22½c. a 23½c. for spot or remainder of month. Crude in bulk was dull and weak, but unchanged; held at 12½c. Naphtha was also weak, but not quotably changed; held at 19½c. a 19½c. for Western or city. Case oil was in limited request, but at prices below the views of holders; held at 26c., while bids of 27½c. At the Creek the market was quiet, but a trifle firmer; quoted at $3 55 on the upper, and $3 60 on the lower road. The Philadelphia market was quiet and steady. We near of sales of 4,000 bbls. standard white, 1,000