THE COTTON MARKETS.

Futures Were Active, as Shown by the Transactions.

LIVERPOOL SPOT SALES LIBERAL.

All the Future Markets Open at an Advance Which They Afterward Lost—Good Demand for Spots.

Office of The Post,
Houston, Tuesday, February 8.

A dispatch from Austin, in The Post this morning says that Chairman Denison of Galveston had called the attention of the railroad commission to the figures in the commercial columns of The Post of February 5 where the statement was made that gulf exports were 11,423, while the movement to New Orleans was 27,239 bales. The figures were erroneous, being a clerical error on the boards of the Houston Cotton Exchange and which were copied by the commercial editor of The Post. The Post's figures are taken from the Cotton Exchange daily and the quotations given are the exchange's and not The Post's.

Speculation in cotton today was active as the heavy transactions show. At the outset all the future markets were higher, but subsequently a decline in Liverpool caused prices on this side to recede.

Liverpool advanced spots 1-16d with sales of 15,000 bales. New Orleans and Memphis spots are up 1-16, Savannah ⅛ and other markets unchanged.

Futures in Liverpool were 2-64 to 3-64 up at one time but relapsed and closed unchanged from yesterday.

New York futures opened 5 to 6 up but gradually eased off and closed at close to last night's figures. May's low was 5.95 and high 6.01; August low 6.04, high 6.10.

New Orleans opened 1 to 5 points up and closed unchanged to 2 up. March low was 5.44; high 5.51. May low 5.54, high 5.61.

Port receipts were 35,919, against 22,606 last year, and 28,913 last year.

New Orleans expects tomorrow 16,000 to 18,000 against 5026 last year and 10,534 in 1896.

Houston expects 2900 to 4100, against 5352 last year and 1721 in 1895.

Fairchild & Hobson's Letter.

Fairchild & Hobson of New Orleans wired B. W. Hunter & Co. as follows: We learn today that one of the principal causes for the recent advance in that early in November, when the largest crop estimate was promulgated, interior buyers believing such an enormous yield would bring about lower prices, sold large blocks of cotton for shipment ahead to the continent at a very low level and there hasn't been a day since when they could cover their sales without showing a loss, so as the time for filling these engagements approaches, they are compelled to either go into the market and pay ruling prices, or else allow the continental spinner to supply his wants as best he can in the Liverpool market. We learn 2400 bales of spots were sold here since the close.

The South Selling.

Considering the heavy selling of long cotton by those who have for a long time been patiently waiting for this advance to realize upon, the market holds remarkably well. There is very little evidence of new buying, the support coming principally from European spinners, although American exporters have been selling spots quite freely on the advance and buying in their covers in the future markets. The largest purchases for American account in the New York market the past two days have been by S. M. Weld & Co., supposedly for a prominent spot house.

Today's cotton market was like yesterday's, firm early only to lose more than all of its gain on selling from the South. The generous advice to sell from a number of New York houses and many in New Orleans, together with the liberal receipts and estimates for tomorrow, caused the reaction. New York closed about unchanged, New Orleans 1 to 2 up. Liverpool unchanged, ½ up after being 2¼@4ths up. Spots were advanced 1-16 in New Orleans, and quoted unchanged elsewhere. It looks like the steam was out of the market, at least for the present, and that prices will probably be well maintained inside of a scalping range until weather conditions and acreage again become the governing factors.

Rumors of renewed jingoism bulled Chicago and broke stocks this afternoon. July wheat gained 1 cent, May 1½ cents. Corn and provisions made moderate gains.

Hunter's Daily Cotton Letter.

Liverpool at 2 p. m. was 2½ points up, but lost 1-64 by our opening time, and finally closed irregular about the same as last night. New Orleans at the opening sold at 5.61 for May, which proved the high point of the day, just as it was yesterday. New York sold at 6.01, 2 points better than the high point yesterday, but on this opening bulge there was heavy realizing by holders and considerable short selling, particularly after the Liverpool market began to weaken. The market broadened out, and there was heavy trading all day, and particularly in the early part of the session. Our markets close practically the same as last night, and it is generally expected that Liverpool will be some lower tomorrow. Receipts will likely be stimulated by this advance, and with good weather and particularly should the market show further weakness, there might develop a pressure to sell spot cotton, which would result in the greater part of the recent quick bulge being lost. The speculative atmosphere has been cleared by the sharp fluctuations, and active trading since last Friday, and the market will most likely continue active for some little time, and afford many opportunities for quick profits to the scalper who hasn't too much opinion, and can sell on bulges as this morning's, and take in reasonable little profits. In the long run, it has been proven beyond question, that the bull side is the stronger one.

New York Cotton Market.

New York, February 8.—Cotton made an advance of 4@7 points today and for a time everything looked bullish. Later there was a sharp change under active realizing and before noon the market was back to the closing figures of the previous day. Liquidation continued more or less active throughout the session. Total sales 202,100 bales. Of this business 126,500 had been transacted between Friday. Today's reaction was almost entirely due to liquidation. This disposition to realize appeared almost entirely to the weaker element, those who were anxious to secure

Dry Goods Market.

New York, February 8.—Unchanged conditions from the rule in the dry goods market. A great majority of mail orders characterize the day. Price and tone remain firm [illegible] are giving in on the part of [illegible] are present in only limited num-

[illegible] silks in men's wear, fabric and [illegible] the market is firm and fairly active. Re-orders have been frequent and of moderately good size. New goods have on the whole been well taken up by buyers with prospects exceedingly bright for heavier buying in the near future.

In cotton goods the tone of the market is firm without feature of moment in any grade.

Print cloths quiet and unchanged. The market for staples is firm and shows more activity than heretofore.

THE COTTON CROP.

Estimate of Ten and a Half Million Bales by a New York Firm.

New York, February 8.—Predicated on replies received from inquiries addressed to selected correspondents in every county in the cotton belt we estimate this season's total cotton crop at 10,516,000 bales. The average date of the replies is January 25 and they show that up to that time 81.5 of the crop had been marketed, leaving 13 per cent in farmers' hands with the balance either in transit or held by merchants and speculators at uncounted interior towns. The detailed reports from Texas show the total yield of that State and Indian Territory combined amounts to approximately 3,000,000 bales, of which 85.2 per cent had been marketed with 10.4 per cent left in farmers' hands.

This information has been obtained from government and railroad agents, bank presidents, conservative and unbiased merchants and cotton factors, and we therefore think it entitled to the fullest consideration as representing the most recent trustworthy data obtainable in advance of the actual movement of the crop. The reports show that the movement of the crop has been liberal and has been accelerated by various causes. The crop estimates of over 11,000,000 bales promulgated early in the season, the steady decline in the price of the staple to an average price representing the cost of production with an actual loss to planters in many sections, particularly in the Atlantic and Gulf States, left no inducement to hold back the crop. As the season progressed reports of poor trade in manufactured goods in England as well as in this country and rumors of extensive strikes among the English and American mills, together with the fact that it took nearly two bales to realize the amount expected at the opening of the season, added to the discouragement of farmers. The failure of the price to recover materially from the low point and the approach of the new crop season has been the cause of the heavy movement of the past month.

The reports show that the past season has been on the whole the most disastrous year to farmers relying solely on cotton culture as a means of livelihood since 1894, and, as a rule, they are so much depressed that a considerable decrease in acreage devoted to cotton this year and also in the use of fertilizer is inevitable. Whether the decrease in acreage will be as extensive as is claimed can not be stated definitely at this time, but some decrease is certain. The majority of planters will, however, be ultimately governed by the price of cotton during the months of March and April and the weather conditions. In order to prevent a repetition of this season's overproduction strong efforts have been and are still being made by various organizations and newspapers, especially in Texas, to induce farmers to diversify their crops. The high price of wheat and the low price of cotton has already influenced many farmers in Texas to plant more wheat this spring, and less cotton, and a larger acreage will also be devoted to coarse grains, especially oats, in that State. In North Carolina more tobacco will be planted.

Our reports show that at present the indications are most favorable for an average decrease in the acreage of the whole breadth of 11 per cent from last year, which would bring the acreage down to 21,844,355 acres against 24,313,500 acres planted last year, according to the estimate of the United States agricultural bureau, and 25,887,959 in 1894. Should the market continue dull and no advance of consequence be established in the price this month or in March, the majority of our correspondents say the decrease in acreage will perhaps be larger than the above percentage. Present indications point to a large decrease in the use of fertilizers this season, especially in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama. Our reports predicate a decrease in these States alone of 15 per cent from last year's takings. In North Carolina the sales will not show so much of a decrease as in the other States because a larger amount than usual will be used this year for the cultivation of tobacco, the acreage of which will be increased.

McIntyre & Wardwell.

COTTON.

Houston Daily Statement.

	Today.	Yesterday.	Last year.
Gross receipts	9.77	5.100	7.662
Net receipts	2.9-8	1.945	7.118
Gross shipments	10.201	5.100	5.982
Stock	62.570	63.094	36.736

Houston Comparative Statement.

Gross receipts thus far this week	18.455
Gross receipts 180 days in a year	1,519,083
Gross receipts 161 days in 1896	1,179,548
Gross receipts 180 days in 1895	1,357,981

Houston Railroad Receipts.

Houston's gross receipts of cotton by the various railroads entering the city were as follows:

Missouri, Kansas and Texas	2,403
Houston and Texas Central	4,004
International and Great Northern	1,529
San Antonio and Aransas Pass	64
Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe	431
Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio	480
Houston East and West Texas	612
Texas and New Orleans	146
Wagon	
Total	9,677

Houston Spot Quotations.

Spots closed steady and unchanged; sales, 284.

	Today.	Yesterday.	Last year.
Low ordinary	3 5-16	3 5-16	5 5-16
Ordinary	4 7-16	4 7-16	5 13-16
Good ordinary	4 13-16	4 13-16	6 3-16
Low middling	5 3-16	5 3-16	6 9-16
Middling	5 5-16	5 5-16	6 15-16
Good middling	5 13-16	5 13-16	7 5-16
Middling fair	6 3-16	6 3-16	7 11-16

Galveston Spots.

The Galveston spot market closed firm and unchanged.

Low ordinary	3 13-16	Middling	5 9-16
Ordinary	4 7-16	Good middling	5 13-16
Good ordinary	4 13-16	Middling fair	6 3-16
Low middling	5 3-16	Sales	358

New Orleans Spots.

The New Orleans spot market closed steady, 1-16 up.

Low ordinary	3 15-16	Middling	5 7-16
Ordinary	4 7-16	Good middling	5 11-16
Good ordinary	4 13-16	Middling fair	6 1-16
Low middling	5⅛	Sales	6,600

New York Spots.

The New York spot market closed quiet and unchanged.

Good ordinary	4 13-16	Good middling	6 5-16
Low middling	5⅛	Middling fair	6 7-16
Middling	5 1-16	Sales	510

Liverpool Spots.

Spots closed active, 1-16d up; sales, 15,000, of which 14,000 were American; imports, 75,000, of which 74,500 were American.

	Today.	Yesterday.
Ordinary	2 27-32	2 25-32
Good ordinary	3	2 15-16
Low middling	3 5-32	3 3-32
Middling uplands	3 5-16	3¼
Good middling uplands	3 7-32	3⅛
American middling fair	3 23-32	3 21-32

New Orleans Futures.

Opened steady and closed steady; sales, 44,400.

Month of delivery.	Opening.	Closed	Yes'y Close.
February	Nom.	Nom.	Nom.
March	5.51-53	5.54-55	5.48-49
April	5.54-56	5.56-57	5.49-51
May	5.59-60	5.59-57	5.54-55
June	5.65-66	5.61-62	5.59-60
July	5.70-71	5.68-67	5.64-65
August	5.75-77	5.70-71	5.69-71
September	5.73-78	5.73-75	5.73-75
October	5.78-81	5.76-77	5.74-76

a asked; b bid; n nominal.

New York Futures.

Opened firm, at noon steady, and closed steady; sales, 202,100.

Month of delivery.	Opening.	Closed	Yes'y Close.
February	5.99-6	6.04-5	5.94-5
March	6.03-04	6.08-9	5.98-99
April	6.04-07	5.91-92	5.91-92
May	5.99-6c	6.01-02	5.95-96
June	6.04-05	5.99	5.98-99
July	6.05-06	6.07	6.01-03
August	6.08-10	6.05	6.05-06
September	6.10a	6.04-05	6.03-04
October	6.10-11	6.05-06	6.05-07
November	6.11-12	6.07-08	6.07-08
December			

a asked; b bid; n nominal.

Net Receipts at All U. S. Ports.

	This day.	This week.	This year.	Last year.
Galveston	5,552	19,688	1,656,414	1,191,124
New Orleans	16,422	46,239	2,000,024	1,751,806
Mobile	41	4,298	288,917	253,806
Savannah	6,206	14,821	884,188	719,138
Charleston	421	1,476	409,172	341,528
Pensacola	714	1,422	225,453	223,014
Port Royal	2,407	6,321	439,720	617,626
Indianola	90	1,000	41,044	42,449
Tampa	32	1,575	38,222	37,315
Jacksonville	300	1,033	120,207	120,161
Philadelphia	61	671	64,295	28,799
West Point	.....	.....	.....	50
Newport News	.....	.....	7,156	8,692
Brunswick	7,900	163,323	81,427	.....
Port Royal	.....	50,011	44,456	.....
Texas City	.....	45,038	60,202	.....
Other ports	5,127	83,874	44,171	.....
Totals	35,519	107,933	6,839,846	5,675,682
Last year	22,606	65,139	5,675,682	.....
Difference	12,913	42,794	1,164,158	.....

Liverpool Futures.

Opened steady, demand moderate; 2 p. m., steady; closed irregular.

Month of delivery.	Sec'd call.	Closed	Yes'y Close.
February	3.17-8	3.15a	3.15a
February-March	3.17-18	3.15a	3.15a
March-April	3.17-18	3.15-16	3.15
April-May	3.18b	3.16b	3.15-16
May-June	3.19a	3.16-17	3.16-17
June-July	3.19-20	3.17b	3.17b
July-August	3.20b	3.18a	3.17-18
August-September	3.20-21	3.18b	3.18b
September-October	3.21b	3.18-19	3.18-19
October-November	3.19-21	3.19v	3.19-
November-December	.....	3.19-20	3.19-20
December-January			

b bid; a sellers; v value.

Stocks at United States Ports.

Stock this day	1,261,378
Stock this day last week	1,268,989
Stock this day last year	982,113
Excess this season	279,265

United States Exports.

	This week.	Last year.
Exports to Great Britain	41,333	40,429
Exports to France	3,093	5,405
Exports to continent	35,672	35,940
Total 4 days	80,098	81,794

Comparative Spot Markets.

The following are the closing quotations for cotton on the spot today at the leading markets, together with the closing of middling yesterday, with today's sales:

Port.	Tone.	Mid. Today	Mid. Yes'y.	Sales.
Liverpool	Active	3 9-16	3¼	15,000
Galveston	Firm	5 9-16	5 9-16	358
New Orleans	Steady	5 7-16	5⅜	6,600
Mobile	Firm	5¼	5⅜	1,000
Savannah	Firm	5 7-16	5 5-16	534
Charleston	Firm	5⅜	5 5-16	.....
Wilmington	Firm	5	5 7-16	.....
Norfolk	Firm	5⅜	5⅜	1,069
Baltimore	Nominal	5¼	5¼	.....
New York	Quiet	6 1-16	6 1-16	510
Boston	Firm	6 1-16	6 1-16	.....
Philadelphia	Quiet	6 5-16	6 5-16	.....
Augusta	Firm	5¼	5¼	179
Memphis	.....	.....	5⅜	.....
St. Louis	Firm	5 7-16	5 7-16	300
Houston	Steady	5 9-16	5 9-16	284

Daily Interior Movement.

	Receipts.	Shipments.	Stock.
Augusta	1,728	1,000	66,201
Memphis	3,188	2,000	126,487
St. Louis	6,921	6,091	71,9[illegible]
Houston	9,677	10,201	62,570
Total	20,639	19,944	321,132

Havre Market.

Havre, February 8.—Spots quiet; futures sellers at quotations.

	Today.	Yesterday.
Ordinaire	43¾	43¾
Tres ordinaire	41½	41½
Bas	39½	39½
February	37¾	37¾
March, April, May, June	37⅞	37⅞
July	38	37⅞
August	38½	38

LOCAL TRADE REVIEW.

Office of The Post,
Houston, Tuesday, February 8.

News to the effect that the water rates between Galveston and New York were to be restored next week was received with satisfaction by merchants.

Demoralization in freight rates means demoralization in business. Stocks bought on the low rate are not disposed of when the restoration of stable rates takes place, and prices are irregular. Cheap freight is an inducement to some classes of merchants to overload themselves and sooner or later they feel the reaction.

The rate war inaugurated last fall between the steamship lines plying between New York and Galveston gave trade considerable of a setback and demoralized the markets generally. Heavy purchases were made of stocks which are still not worked down and holders are anxious to reduce them.

Trade today was only fairly good, with encouraging reports coming in from the interior. Farmers are busy in their preparations for the coming planting season, the recent heavy rains having been all soaked up by the parched earth. Reports to jobbers state that the rain was of great benefit and that none too much fell.

Cotton Oil.

The Williams & Flash company of New York in their circular of February 5 say: While there has been a trifle more export demand during the past week, it has not led to sales of any importance, and business has been possible only when sellers were willing to make slight concessions in price, most of the sales of prime yellow being at 21½@21¾. At the close, however, there were sales to arrive at 22.

Lard and provisions have been very firm and the statistical position of both these articles is strong, the increase in the stock of lard in Chicago for the past month being 21,800 tierces, as against an anticipated increase of 30,000 tierces, proving conclusively that the consumptive demand is much ahead of last year, and it would seem as if these articles would continue to improve in value as the season advances. This being the case, and with the certainty that the export demand must improve, it would certainly seem poor policy for the owners of cotton seed oil to force their goods on the market at the present time when the price of refined oil is within a half cent of the lowest figure ever reached.

We quote prime yellow at 22 asked, with 21½ bid, off yellow at 21 to 21½, f. o. b.; crude loose at mills at 14¾@15, according to locality.

Trade Notes.

All hog products are very firm, with an upward tendency.

Flour and feedstuffs are firm, in sympathy with the high price of wheat.

The market for butter at initial points is reported to be weak, but prices are unchanged.

Receipts of eggs were medium. Local demand is light, but all excess stock is being shipped out.

As a result of the recount of the Rio stock of coffee the figures were reduced 107,000 bags, to 286,000 bags.

Chickens are in slow demand, while receipts are heavy, causing a weak feeling. Turkeys, however, are in request and bring top prices.

Advices received from Cuba state that indications at present are that the yield of the present crop will not exceed 300,000 tons, whereas 350,000 to 400,000 tons had previously been expected.

Irish potatoes show the smallest average yield of any time for the past fifteen or sixteen years, 64.6 bushels per acre. In November of last year the yield was reported at 86.8 bushels, and in 1895 as 102.7 bushels, while the average for the past fifteen years has been 86.9 bushels.

Advices by private wire to B. W. Hunter & Co. say: New York coffee—Futures closed steady; sales, 18,750 bags; February, 5.55@5.60; March, 5.65@5.70; April, 5.70@5.75; May, 5.75@5.80; June, 5.75@5.80; July, 5.75@5.85; August, 5.80@5.90; September, 5.85@5.90; October, 5.90@5.95; December, 6.00.

COFFEE.

New York, February 8.—Coffee—Options opened steady at 5 points lower; ruled active, steady undertone, in the face of the large receipts at Rio and Santos, closed steady, 5 to 10 points lower; sales, 18,750; spot Rio steady; No. 7 invoice 6¾; No. 7, jobbing, 6¾; mild, steady; Cordova, 8¼@15. Total warehouse deliveries from the United States, 11,421, including 5684 from New York; New York stock, 675,103; United States stock, 591,010; afloat for the United States, 306,000; total visible for the United States, 1,097,110, against 676,922 last year and 448,329 in 1896.

Havre, February 8.—Coffee—Closed net 1½f lower; sales, 4000.

Santos, February 8.—Coffee—Quiet, good average Santos, 8300 reis per 100 kilos; receipts, two days, 2000; stock, 832,000.

Hamburg, February 8.—Coffee—Opened ¼ pfg lower, at 2:30 p. m., quiet, unchanged to ¼ pfg lower; sales, 4000.

Rio, February 8.—Coffee—Barely steady; No. 7, 9000 reis per 100 kilos; exchange, 5 25-32d; receipts, two days, 28,000; cleared for the United States, 5000; Europe, 4000; stock, 292,000.

A GOOD TRADE IN WHEAT.

The Best Cash Trade in Two Weeks in the Chicago Pit.

MILLERS WERE GOOD PURCHASERS.

Some Purchasing for Foreign Account — Heavy Exports Caused Shorts to Seek Cover.

Chicago, February 8.—Wheat today was held by the best cash trade in two weeks. Heavy export engagements at the seaboard and pressing demand for milling purposes at outside points converted the market from dullness to activity and strength, May closing at an advance of 1⅝c. The coarse grain and provision markets were firm, the strength coming largely from wheat. Corn and oats advanced ⅛ each and hog products closed unchanged to 2½ higher.

Wheat was lower at the start, May opening at 94⅝, as compared with yesterday's closing price of 94⅞. Beyond the heaviness of the Northwestern receipts, there was nothing particularly striking in the early news, but the continued heavy arrivals of the big receiving points were sufficient to cause weakness at the start, though no selling of consequence was done. Minneapolis and Duluth reported arrivals of 452 cars, against 370 last week and 352 a year ago. Chicago received 87 cars.

Soon after the opening, quite a good demand developed and from a condition of dullness the market took on quite a degree of activity. Shorts covered quite freely and the May price advanced to 95⅛. There was some attempt to break the market at that point, and with some degree of success, the price being forced back to 94⅞, but it quickly rebounded again to 95¼. There it hung for a while.

Moderate purchases for foreign account were reported by New York and private cables stated that millers were good buyers, especially of nearby deliveries, and that stocks were increasing rapidly. As Liverpool stocks are already exceptionally small, this had considerable effect.

It was reported that Leiter sold in Liverpool yesterday 400,000 bushels No. 2 spring wheat he had there and took in exchange May wheat in New York at 15c less than the cost price. Mr. Leiter would neither affirm nor deny the report.

After the noon hour the market again became active. Reports of a more unusually urgent demand at the seaboard and of pressure for wheat for milling purposes at St. Louis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis came in thickly during the latter part of the session and gradually brought about almost a stampede of shorts. New York finally reported forty-three boat loads there and outports for export and when these figures were posted there was a general rush to buy. The market had been gradually creeping up, getting to 95½ before the final rush came, and finally 96¼ was reached. The market closed strong at 96¼.

Corn was moderately active and firm. There was good buying by professional and commission houses. The wet weather was an influence which extended materially on increased receipts.

The trade in oats was smaller at the start, but the tone soon became firm and remained so for the rest of the session.

There was some weakness in provisions at the start. The market closed firm at outside figures.

Estimated receipts Wednesday: Wheat, 67 cars; corn, 450 cars; oats, 200 cars, and hogs, 36,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Wheat, No. 2—				
February	.....	.....	.....	98
May	94⅝	96⅝	94⅝	96¼
July	83⅞	85⅛	83⅞	85⅛
Corn, No. 2—				
February	27¼	27½	27¼	27½
May	29⅛	29⅝	29	29¼
July	30¼	30½	30¼	30½
Oats, No. 2—				
May	24⅝	24¾	24⅝	24¾
July	23¼	23¼	23	23¼
Mess pork, bbl—				
May	10.35	10.45	10.30	10.42½
July	10.37½	10.50	10.37½	10.50
Lard, 100 lbs—				
May	4.95	5.05	4.95	5.05
July	5.05	5.12½	5.02½	5.12½
Short ribs, 100 lbs				
May	5.05	5.15	5.05	5.12½
July	5.10	5.20	5.12½	5.20

Cash quotations were as follows:

Flour—Steadier.

Wheat—No. 2 spring, 91@92; No. 3, 88½@95; No. 2 red, 98@98½.

Corn—No. 2, 27¾.

Oats—No. 2, 24½; No. 2 white, 26½@27; No. 3 white, 25¾@26½.

Rye—No. 2, 47¾.

Flaxseed—No. 1, 1.25; new, 1.29½.

Timothy seed—Prime, 2.80@2.82½.

Mess pork—Per barrel, 10.35@10.40.

Lard—Per 100 pounds, 4.95@4.97½.

Short ribs sides—Loose, 4.95@5.25.

Dry salted shoulders—Boxed, 4⅝@5.

Short clear sides—Boxed, 5.30@5.40.

Whisky—Distillers' finished goods, per gallon, 1.18½.

Articles—	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, barrels	13,000	10,000
Wheat, bushels	51,000	40,000
Corn, bushels	392,000	147,000
Oats, bushels	335,000	242,000
Rye, bushels	10,000	500
Barley, bushels	79,000	36,000

St. Louis Grain and Provisions.

St. Louis, February 8.—Flour—Unchanged. Wheat—Higher, closing 1¼@1½c above yesterday; spot higher; No. 2 red, cash, elevator 95; track 95@96; February, 96¼; May 97; July 81 7-8; No. 2 hard, cash, 99. Corn—Futures ¼ higher; spot steady; No. 2 cash, 26¾; February 26; May 26 7-8@27; July 28⅛. Oats—Options and cash higher; No. 2 cash, and elevator, 24; track 25; February 24 7-8; May 25¼; July 22¾@22 7-8; No. 2 white 26@26½. Flax seed, 1.21½. Rye—Easier 47¼. Primo timothy seed 2.70@2.75. Cornmeal 1.45@1.50. Bran—Strong, sacked, east track, 57@57½. Hay—Steady; prairie 4.50@8.25; timothy 7.00@10.00. Whisky, 1.19. Cotton ties and bagging unchanged. Pork steady; standard mess, jobbing 10.42½. Lard steady; prime steam 4.72½; choice 4.80. Bacon—Boxed lots easy, extra short clear ribs 5.00@5.75; ribs 5.62½@5.87½; shorts 5.75@5.85. Dry salt meats—Boxed shoulders 4.75@5.00; extra short clear 5.00@5.25; ribs 5.12½@5.17½; shorts 5.25@5.50. Receipts—Flour 8000; wheat 10,000; corn 141,000; oats 48,000. Shipments—Flour 7000; wheat 8000; corn 72,000; oats 31,000.

Puts and Calls on Grain.

Chicago advices to B. W. Hunter & Co. gave puts on May wheat 95 3-8 and 95½, and calls 97 3-8 and 97. Spurt at close was on buying by clique brokers, and Cuban resolutions in congress. Market in highly manipulated condition, and quick changes both ways expected, but there are indications that this is nearing an end, and any attempt to unload will result in a quick break, and a serious one. Sell wheat on bulges. Puts on May corn 29⅝@29¾, and calls 29⅝.

Grain and Provisions Elsewhere.

New York, February 8.—Wheat—Receipts 51,167; shipments, 86,636; spot firm; No. 2 red, 1.01½. Options firm all day, developing particular strength near the close on export sales of fifty loads, all ports. Trade was quiet but included English buying of futures early. Cables were irregular and without much effect. Near months were influenced by deliveries of February contracts and closed partly 5-8 lower; sales included No. 2 red, February 1.01¼; May, 99¼. Hides and wool steady. Leather—Firm; cotton seed oil, firm; prime crude 18½@19; prime crude yellow, 22 bid. Pig iron—Very quiet at 6.45@6.65; copper—quiet. Tin—Quiet, 4.00@4.10. Lead firm 3.62½@3.67½.

LIVE STOCK.

HOUSTON.

P. R. Hall, live stock commission merchant, reports as follows:

	Choice.	Common.
Beeves	3½	3 @3¼
Cows and heifers	2¾@3	2¼@2½
Calves	3½@4	3 @3½
Yearlings	3½@3½	2¾@3
Sheep	3½@3½	3
Hogs, corn fed	3 @3¼	.....

All classes of cattle continue in active demand. Mastfed hogs are not wanted; corn-fed hogs in fair supply; calves are scarce and bring good prices.

NEW ORLEANS.

Reported for The Post daily except Thursdays and Sundays by Albert Montgomery & Co. (limited), live stock commission merchants.

Good fat fed beeves	3½@	4½
Good fat grass beeves	3½@	4
Common to fair beeves	2 @	3
Good fat cows	3 @	3½
Common to fair cows	1¾@	2¾
Good fat yearlings	$12 00	@14 00
Common to fair yearlings	7 00	@10 00
Calves	6 00	@11 00
Good corn'ed hogs	4 @	4¼
Common to fair hogs	3 @	3¾
Good fat sheep	3½@	4

	Receipts.	On hand.
Cattle	77	90
Calves and yearlings	139	200
Hogs	...	429
Sheep	...	...

Market steady; beef cattle, calves and yearlings in light supply; good bulls and stags in demand; good sheep firm.

Chicago, February 8.—There was the usual predominance of half fat cattle today, and the range of prices between common and prime beeves widened, the poorest lots going for 3.85@4.00, while an occasional lot sold for 5.40@5.50. The bulk of the cattle went at 4.25@5.10. Fed Western steers are arriving here in large force and sales were made at 5.25, while fed Texans brought 3.85@4.40. Good calves brought 5.50@6.50.

Hogs were 5c lower. Trade was fairly active, common heavy packers, 3.70@3.80, prime heavies selling to a very limited extent early in the day at 3.97½; light weights sold at the usual discount; pigs, 3.50@3.90.

Both sheep and lambs were 10 cents lower. Trade was only fairly good at 3.25@4.50 for inferior to prime sheep, few going below 3.75. Fed Western sheep comprised the great bulk of the offerings and sold mostly at 3.80@4.40; yearlings, 4.50@5.10; lambs, 4.75@5.75 for inferior to prime, a good many Westerns selling at 5.40@5.75.

Receipts—Cattle, 3500; hogs, 35,000; sheep, 10,000.

Kansas City, February 8.—Cattle—Receipts, 8800 native and 400 Southern; choice shipping grades and export strong to 10c higher; handy natives and fed Western steers uneven and 5c lower; cows steady; choice heifers strong; Texas and Indian cattle active to strong; Western cows, 2.50@3.75; native steers, 3.75@5.15, bulk 4.40@4.90; native cows and heifers, 2.25@4.35; stockers and feeders, 3.25@4.90; bulls, 2.50@4.50. Hogs—Receipts, 20,600; general market 5@10c lower; pigs active, 5c lower; bulk sales, 3.65@3.80; heavies, 3.80@3.90; packers, 3.65@3.80; mixed, 3.60@3.80; lights, 3.60@3.70; yorkers, 3.65@3.70; pigs, 3.40@3.55. Sheep—Receipts, 5600; lambs weak to 10c lower; Western, 4.65@5.50; Western muttons, 3.75@4.30.

St. Louis, February 8.—Cattle—Receipts, 3500, of which 2500 are Texans; shipments, 300; market strong for natives, with Texans fair. Fair to fancy shipping and export steers 4.25@5.25; dressed beef and butcher steers, 3.50@4.85; steers under 1000 pounds, 3.25@4.20; stockers and feeders, 2.50@4.35; cows and heifers, 2.00@4.50; Texas and Indian steers, 3.25@4.35; bulk, 3.55@4.15; cows and heifers, 2.25@3.20. Hogs—Receipts, 6700; shipments, 700; market 5c better than yesterday; lights, 3.75@3.90; mixed, 3.70@3.90; heavies, 3.90@4.00. Sheep—Receipts, 900; shipments, none; market strong; native muttons, 4.00@4.85; lambs, 5.00@5.85; Texas muttons, 4.00@4.25.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

Port of Galveston, February 8.

ARRIVED

Ss Netherfield, Alleyne, Penarth.
Ss Traveler, Woods, Liverpool via West Indies.
Ss Morgan, Staples, Brazos Santiago.
Ss Collingham, Milburn, Genoa.
Ss Alacrity, Taylor, St. Vincent.

CLEARED.

Ss Castanos, Croxton, Hull.
Sch Wm. H. Clifford, Harding, Port Tampa.

SAILED.

Ss Rio Jano, Guerrica, Liverpool.
Ss Morgan, Staples, Morgan City.
Ss Castanos, Croxton, Hull.
Sch Wm. H. Clifford, Harding, Port Tampa.

EXPORTS—FOREIGN.

Hull—Per steamship Castanos, 156,500 bushels wheat, 9,390,000 pounds, $148,675; 991 bales cotton, 539,168 pounds, $29,651.

VESSELS IN PORT.

Ss Alacrity, Fowler & McVitie.
Ss Alava, Fowler & McVitie.
Ss Collingham, W. W. Wilson.
Ss Cumberland, B. Markowitz.
Ss Gaagat, Fowler & McVitie.
Ss Glenfahren, Orthwein & Sons.
Ss Hannah M. Bell, Fowler & McVitie.
Ss Lampasas, J. N. Sawyer & Co.
Ss Menemsha, Daniel Ripley.
Ss Netherfield, Fowler & McVitie.
Ss Pensacola, Fowler & McVitie.
Ss Pembridge, Daniel Ripley.
Ss Queenstown, Orthwein & Sons.
Ss Telesfora, Fowler & McVitie.
Ss Traveler, Wm. Parr & Co.
Ss Vesta, Wm. Parr & Co.
Bark Colen Archer, J. Moller & Co.
Sch Thos. G. Smith, E. O. Flood & Co.

CLEARED FOR GALVESTON.

Ss Amyl, Shields, February 5.
Ss Anoces, Robinson, Barry, January 31.
Ss Aldersgate, Chesire, Barry, January 20.
Ss Ashlands, Swansea, January 5.
Ss Barnesmore, Richardson, Shields, January 25.
Ss Birchton, Kelly, Barry, January 19.
Ss Breckfield, Manchester, January 21.
Ss Cronley, Barry via Madeira, January 13.
Ss Curityba, Mohring, Antwerp, January 22.
Ss Ceathon, at Antwerp, December 24.
Ss Cromwell, Woodruff, Liverpool, Jan. 19.
Ss Eddie, Lund, at Havre, January 8.
Ss Felicitana, Cardiff, January 18.
Ss Glengoil, Swansea, January 10.
Ss Glenloig, Swansea, January 11.
Ss Glenvech, Holmon, Rotterdam, January 14.
Ss Headlands, Holman, Cardiff, January 11.
Ss Hemisphere, Davies, Liverpool, Jan. 12.
Ss Kairos, Liddle, Shields, January 7.
Ss Kilburn, Cardiff, January 18.
Ss Lancelot, Swansea, January 20.
Ss Lady Lewis, at Teneriffe, January 10.
Ss Leona, Wilder, New York, February 5.
Ss Lud