FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

The Stock Market Active and Irregular—Several of the Old Favorites Firm.

GOLD WEAKER AT 106 3-4 A 106 1-2.

Further Activity in Government and Railway Bonds—Investors at Work—Money on Call Loans 7 and 6 Per Cent.

WALL STREET,
FRIDAY, Jan. 5—6 P. M.

Mr. Gould's shorts in Western Union were used as a sort of back log to-day on which to build up the fire of a bull movement. Like Mrs. Toodle's door plate, he is "handy to have in the house," when an advance is intended, his pitiable condition (as the bulls regard it) of being short of some 60,000 or 70,000 shares is utilized as the chief motive power with which to bid up prices. It was worked with considerable effect to-day, and points were freely distributed to help on the cause—five per cent higher prices being promised and vowed to all who should give a push to the speculation. Under the excitement thus created some 30,000 shares changed hands at quotations that fluctuated between 12¾ and 73, the large operators trading briskly and skipping in and out with the sprightliness of speculative gazelles. Apparently the latter movement was in final dealings considered the prudent thing for the day, at least, as there cropped up more sellers than buyers, and the price closed at 72¾.

Western Union very effectually took the wind out of the sails of Lake Shore and Michigan Central, reducing them to the second place in the day's race, although a fair advance was at one time established, but not sustained entirely to the end.

Nearly the entire list bore witness, by advancing figures, to the prevailing confidence in a better market, Central and Hudson being particularly noticeable for its strength, which, in view of the fact that its mainstay had just been removed by death, smacked somewhat of a game of bluff or ill-timed braggadocia.

Illinois Central sold up from 63½ yesterday to 65⅝ to-day. The statement that the company has placed its books at the Bank of Commerce for purposes of registry may have affected the stock favorably; it certainly needs all the backing up it could get, in face of the street report that the earnings have decreased $200,000 for the month of December.

The coal stocks were decidedly *hors de combat*, for bulls and bears exhibited no disposition to wrangle or fight for their interests either pro or con.

Consequently they are scarcely able to bear their own weight, and the weakness exhibited in the morning was barely recovered from later in the day.

The precious metal is commencing to be looked upon as a precious heavy load by holders who are squirming at the severe tax exacted as payment for carrying it, while they find anything but consolation in the government disbursements which are now oozing out upon the market.

Free sales were made at 106½, and the future and public opinion presage still lower prices.

That happy class of the community, "favored by gods and men," who since the first of the month have been plying the coupon-cutting shears, are bringing the results of their labors into the bond market, stiffening prices and inciting an unusually active trade, and with it a sharp demand for money on call, which today ranged at from six to seven per cent.

THE SALES TO-DAY

amounted to 117,000 shares, which were distributed as follows:—New York Central and Hudson, 3,555; Erie, 1,000; Lake Shore, 16,225; Chicago and Pittsburg, 250; Northwestern, 900; do. preferred, 700; Rock Island, 1,350; Pacific Mail, 400; St. Paul, 1,100; do. preferred, 6,500; Ohio, 6,500; Western Union, 29,300; Wabash, 100; Union Pacific, 200; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 13,600; New Jersey Central, 3,800; Michigan Central, 12,800; Hannibal and St. Joseph, 7,600; do. preferred, 3,600.

OPENING, HIGHEST AND LOWEST PRICES.

The following table shows the opening, highest and lowest prices of the day:—

	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.
New York Central	101	102¼	100¾
Harlem	136	136	136
Erie	9¾	10	9¾
Lake Shore	56½	56⅞	56½
Wabash	6⅝	7⅝	6⅝
Fort Wayne	36¼	36¾	36¼
Rock Island	100½	101⅞	100½
Milwaukee and St. Paul	20¾	21	20¾
Mil. and St. Paul pref	53¾	54¼	53¾
Del., Lack. and Western	75¾	75¾	75
New Jersey Central	36¼	36⅞	36⅞
Ohio and Mississippi	6⅝	7⅜	6⅝
Western Union	72⅝	73	72⅝
Pacific Mail	23¾	24⅛	23⅞

CLOSING PRICES—3 P. M.

	Offered.	Asked.		Offered.	Asked.
Pacific Mail	24	24¼	Mil & St P pf	53⅞	54
Western Union	72⅝	72¾	C, C, C & I	39	40
Atl & Pac Tel	15⅝	16	C, C & I C	3	4
Quicksilver	12	14⅝	Del, L & West	75¼	75½
Quicksilver pf	19	22½	Erie	9¾	9⅞
Mar L & Min	6	7	Han & St Jo	13½	14¼
Mar L & Min pf	7¾	8¼	Han & St Jo pf	27½	28
Adams Ex	101	101½	L S & M So	56½	56¾
American Ex	57	57½	Mich Central	47¾	48
U S Express	56¾	57¼	N Y & Harlem	136	136½
Wells-Fargo	87	88	N Y C & Hud	101⅞	102
Chi & Alton	99¼	100	N J Central	36½	36¾
Cleve & Pitts	90	90¼	Ohio & Miss	7⅛	7¼
Chi & N W	36¼	36¾	Panama	127	128
Chi & N W pf	57¾	58¼	Tol & Wabash	7	7½
Chi & R I	101½	101¾	Union Pacific	60	61
Mil & St Paul	20¾	20⅞			

ADVANCE AND DECLINE.

The following are the changes in closing prices compared with those of yesterday:—

ADVANCE.—New York Central, ⅜; C., C., C. and I., 1; Erie, ¼; Hannibal and St. Joseph preferred, ⅜; Illinois Central, ⅜; Lake Shore, ½; Michigan Central, ⅜; Northwestern, ¼; Northwestern preferred, ⅜; Ohio and Mississippi, ⅜; Pacific Mail, ⅜; Rock Island, 1; St. Paul common, ½; St. Paul preferred, ½; Western Union, ¼; American Express, ⅜; United States Express, ⅜.

DECLINE.—Delaware and Lackawanna, ½; Hannibal and St. Joseph, ¼; Morris and Essex, ¼; Wabash, ⅜; Union Pacific, ⅜; Adams Express, ¼, and gold, ⅜.

THE MONEY MARKET.

There was a good supply on call to-day at 6 a 7 per cent, with a few transactions at gold interest. The rates of exchange on New York at the undermentioned cities to-day were:—Savannah, 5-16 offered, selling par to 3-16 offered; St. Louis, par; Cincinnati, firmer, 50 a 100 discount; New Orleans, commercial 7-16, bank ¼; Charleston, very scarce, nominally ¼ discount a par; and Chicago 50 discount. Foreign exchange was firm; prime sterling asking rates 4 84½ a 4 86½; selling rates, 4 83¾ a 4 84; and 4 85½ a 4.86; Reichmarks, 94⅞ a 94⅞ and 95¼ a 95½; cables, 95¾ a 96; Paris, prime rates, 5.16¼ a 5.14⅜.

THE GOLD MARKET.

Gold was heavier and lower, opening at 106¾ and declining to 106½, at which the closing sales were made. The carrying rates were 1-32 per cent per diem to 6 per cent per annum.

OPERATIONS OF THE GOLD EXCHANGE BANK.

Gold balances	$1,186,159
Currency balances	1,273,654
Gross clearances	23,056,000

DRY GOODS IMPORTS.

The imports of dry goods at the port of New York for the week ending this date were $1,299,883, and the amount marketed $1,164,268.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Government bonds closed strong at the following quotations:—United States currency sixes, 121⅞ a 122; do. do., 1881, registered, 113¾ a 113¾; do. do., do., coupon, 113¾ a 113¾; do. do., 1865, registered, 109¾ a 109¾; do. do., do., coupon, 109¾ a 109¾; do. do., do., new, registered, 110⅛ a 110⅛; do. do., do., do., coupon, 110⅛ a 110⅛; do. do., 1867, registered, 113¾ a 113¾; do. do., do., coupon, 113 a 113¾; do. do., 1868, registered, 113¾ a 114; do. do., do., coupon, 114¾ a 115⅛; do. ten-forties, registered, 112¾ a 113¾; do. do., coupon, 113¾ a 113¾; do. fives, 1881, registered, 111¼ a 111⅜; do. do., do., coupon, 111¾ a 111⅜; do. 4½'s, 1891, registered, 108 a 108½.

STATE BONDS.

In State bonds the dealings were in Missouri Asylum bonds at 104¾ a 104¾, and North Carolina Funding act of 1866 at 13. A sale of Connecticut sixes was reported at 111. North Carolina issued to North Carolina Railroad 60.

RAILROAD BONDS.

The market for railroad bonds continues strong, and the following were the changes in prices compared with last previous sales.—An advance of 2 per cent in Hannibal and St. Joseph eights, convertibles; 1 per cent in Union Pacific sevens, land grants and Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw firsts (Western Division), ¾ in Columbus, Chicago and Indiana Central, ¼ in Milwaukee and St. Paul firsts (La Crosse Division), the consolidated sinking funds and Central Pacific gold bonds, and ⅛ in Chicago and Northwest consolidated gold sevens and Union Pacific firsts. This afternoon Hannibal and St. Joseph convertible advanced to 86¼. Chicago and Northwest consolidated gold coupons to 93¼, Rock Island sevens to 109¾, Detroit, Monroe and Toledo firsts to 108½, Erie third to 103 and C., C. & I. C. firsts to 40. New Jersey Central firsts sold at 111, consolidated at 85 and convertibles at 83. Chicago, Burlington and Quincy consolidated sevens brought 110; do. eights, 112, and Union Pacific firsts, 103¾. The following were the closing quotations for Pacific Railroad bonds:—Union firsts, 103¾ a 104; do. land grants, 101¾ a 102¼; do. sinking funds, 94½ a 94¾; Centrals, 107 a 107½.

THE FOREIGN MARKET.

The London advices report a decline in the rate of discount in the open market, for three months' bills, to 1¾ per cent. Bullion to the amount of £163,000 was withdrawn from the Bank of England to-day. Consols and United States bonds were firm, with an improvement of ⅛ to ¼ per cent in some of the latter Erie fell off to 9¾. At Amsterdam Nortnwest preferred was quoted at 55¾ and Illinois Central at 59¾. Rentes at Paris advanced to 106f. 72½c. Silver in London is 57¼d. a 57⅜d. per ounce. The imperial Bank of Germany has reduced its rate of discount for bills to 4 per cent, and for advances on securities to 5 per cent. The following are last London prices:—Consols for money, 94½ a 94⅝; consols for account, 94¾ a 94⅝; old 1865's, 105¼ a 105¾; 1867's, 108¾; ten-forties, 108¾ a 108⅞; new fives, 107½; Erie, 9¼.

MINING SHARES.

The following are the closing prices in San Francisco in gold:—

Alpha	19	Justice	14¾
Belcher	10	Kossuth	1¼
Best & Belcher	37¾	Kentuck	[illegible]
Bullion	16	Leopard	4½
Consolidated Virginia	36	Mexican	16½
California	41	Northern Belle	24½
Chollar	78	Overman	109
Confidence	9	Ophir	19½
Caledonia	11¾	Raymond & Ely	3
Crown Point	6½	Silver Hill	7¾
Exchequer	7	Savage	8½
Gould & Curry	10¾	Segregated Belcher	80
Hale & Norcross	5¾	Sierra Nevada	9
Imperial	1¾	Union consolidated	9
Julia consolidated	4¾	Yellow Jacket	14¾

It is reported by telegraph that the Consolidated Virginia has passed its dividend.

The following are the sales of mining shares in New York:—

100 shs Alpha	19¾	100 shs Granville	5
300 Bertha	7⅝	150 Grant	7½
100 do b10	7½	400 do	7¾
200 do	7¾	100 do	7¾
100 Bullion s10	15¾	100 Justice s10	14½
50 California	49½	200 Lucerne	2
300 Cleveland	9¾	50 do	1½
100 do	9¾	200 Mexican s10	18¾
20 Con Virginia	39¾	100 Northern Belle s10	23
200 Douglass	29½	250 do s15	29½
100 do b10	29	100 Ophir	22
200 Gould & Curry s15	11¼	100 Raymond & Ely	3¾
100 Granville	4¾	100 do	3¾
500 do	4¾	100 Sierra Nevada	10¼
100 do	4¾	300 Yellow Jacket s10	16¾

Proposals will be received at the Comptroller's office until Tuesday, January 9, 1877, at two o'clock P. M., when the same will be publicly opened, for the whole or any part of the sum of $233,483 bonds of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city of New York, as authorized by chapter 429, Laws of 1876, entitled "An act to provide for the payment for the use and occupation of armories and drill rooms in the city of New York," passed May 26, 1876. Said bonds will bear interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, payable on the first day of May and November in each year, and the principal will be redeemable three years from the date thereof.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE SALES

FRIDAY, Jan. 5, 1877.

BEFORE CALL—10 A. M.

$5 000 H & S J 8's,con.	85¾	400 shs H & St Jo RR	14½
5000 do	85¾	100 do	14½
100 shs NYC & HR.b3	101	400 do	14¾
100 do	101	100 do b3	15
100 Erie RR	9¾	600 do	15
100 West'n Tel	72¾	600 do	15¼
400 do b3	72½	100 do	15⅜
1000 do	72¾	300 Mil & St P RR pf	53¾
800 do s3	72¾	100 do	53¾
400 do b3	72¾	100 H & St Jo RR pf	28¾
200 L S & M S RR	56¾	100 do	28¾
200 do	56¾	100 do	28¾
200 do	56¾	300 do	28¾
200 do	56¾	200 do	29
100 Union Pacific RR	61	200 Del, L & W RR	75¾
100 Mich Cen RR	47½	250 do	75¾
800 do	47½	500 do	75¾
100 NJ Cen RR	36¾	1700 do	75¾
300 do	36¾	600 do	75¾
200 Ohio & Miss RR	6¾	1560 do	75
100 Han & St J RR	14	100 do	75¾
100 do b3	14¼	100 do	75¾
300 do	14½		

10:15 AND 11:30 A. M.

$1000 US 6's, Asylum	104¾	200 shs LS & MS RRbc	53¾
1000 NC Fund act, '66	13	500 do	53¾
10 0 M & SP 1st, L C c	101¼	300 do s3	56¼
10000 M & St Louis	86½	800 do	56¾
1000 C & NW int b c	105	700 do s3	56¾
10 0 0 C & N w c g o	93¾	200 do b3	56½
16000 H & St Jo 8's, c	85¾	300 do s3	56¾
1000 do	85¾	400 do	56¾
500 do	86	300 Chi & R I RR bc	100¾
1000 Win & St P 2d	70	100 do	100¾
500 Cec F & M 1st	86	700 do	100¾
6000 Mich Sou 2d	103¾	300 do	100¾
2000 do	103¾	200 do	101
1000 do	103¾	100 do	101¼
1000 Buff & Erie n b	105	100 do	101¼
2000 N J South 1st	24	200 do s3	101¼
10 00 North Mo 1st	96	700 do	101¾
10 0 Cen Pac g	107	200 do s3	101¾
50 0 C P 1st, S J br	12¾	450 do	101¾
5000 Un Pac RR 1st	103¾	200 do c	101¾
1000 do	103¾	100 P, FW & C RR pf	101¾
6 0 Un P 7's, 1st	102	6 do	101¾
10 0 0 Un Pac s f	94¾	15 Mor & Es RR b	92¾
2000 C, C & I C 1st	39¾	100 N J Cen RR c	36¾
500 P, Ft W & C 1st	117¾	200 do	36¾
1000 Alt & T H inc	70	100 do b3	36¾
9000 T, P & W, W D	89	600 do	36¾
1000 Gt W 1st, 1888	102	100 do	36¾
1000 West Ut Tel, 1900	103	400 do	36¾
1000 Del & H r, '91	101	100 M & SP RR pf b c	53¾
2000 L & N con, '98	91¾	200 do b3	53¾
300 shs West Tel bc	72¾	300 do	53¾
300 do b3	72¾	100 do b30	53¾
100 do	72¾	100 do	53¾
100 do c	72¾	300 do	53¾
20 do b3	72¾	200 Del, L & W RR bc	75¾
200 do b3	72¾	200 do	75¾
100 do s3	72¾	200 do	75¾
100 do b3	72¾	700 do	75
500 do	72¾	500 do	75¼
700 do s3	72¾	200 do	75¼
200 do	72¾	200 do	75¼
100 do	72¾	100 Ohio & Miss RR bc	6¾
100 do b3	72¾	100 H & S Jo RR bc	15¼
100 do	72¾	100 do	15¼
100 Pac Mail SS bc	24	100 do	15¾
200 do b3	24	400 do	15¾
10 Adams Ex bc	101¼	100 do	15¾
5 American Ex b	57½	100 do	15¾
35 do	57¾	300 do	15¾
50 U S Express bc	55¾	100 do	15¾
100 do	56	400 do	14¾
50 do	56¼	400 do b60	15
105 do	56¼	400 do	15
130 NY C & HR RRbc	101	100 do s3	14¾
200 do s3	101¾	100 do b60	15
170 do	100¾	100 do	15
500 Mich Cen RR bc	47¼	400 H & St J RR pf bc	30
400 do	47¾	100 do	29¾
300 do s3	47¾	200 do b3	30
200 do	47¾	200 do	29¾
200 do	47¾	100 do	29¾
900 do	47¾	300 do	30
200 Ill Cen RR bc	65	100 St L & I M RR	12¼
200 Cleve & P RR gtbc	90	100 do	12¾
25 do s3	90¾	50 do	12¾
100 WPCom receipts bc	⅝		

BEFORE CALL—12:30 P. M.

$5000 H & St Jo 8's, con	86¾	100 shs C & NW RR pf	57¾
2000 Un Pac s f	94¾	100 do	57¾
10000 Erie 2d m	103	100 Chi & R I RR b3	101¾
100 shs Pac Mail SS	24¾	100 M & St Paul RR	20¾
300 West Un Tel s3	72¾	600 do	21
100 do c	72¾	100 do	20¾
300 do b3	72¾	100 Mil & StP RR pf c	53¾
1100 do	72¾	400 do	54
300 do b3	72¾	100 do	54¼
200 do s3	72¾	400 do	54¼
100 do b10	72¾	100 do b3	54¼
800 do b3	72¾	300 do	54¼
300 do	72¾	300 do	54¼
200 do s3	72¾	200 do	54¾
10 00 do b3	72¾	100 N J Cen RR	36¾
900 do	72¾	600 do	36¾
100 do b3	73	200 Ohio & Miss RR	6¾
500 do	72¾	500 do	6¾
3800 do	72¾	100 do b3	7
100 Mich Cen RR	47¾	100 do	7
300 do b3	47¾	100 do b3	7¼
1500 do	47¾	400 do	7¼
1000 L S & M S RR	56¾	700 do	7¼
200 do b3	56¾	100 Del, L & W RR	75½
500 do s3	56¾	do b60	74¾
1000 do	56¾	300 do	75
100 do b3	56¾	100 do	75
100 Pacific RR	60	300 Han & St Jo RR	15
150 Illinois Cen RR	65¾	100 Han & StJo RR pf	28¾
100 Chi & N W RR	36¾	100 Dub & S City RR	55
100 Chi & N W RR pf	57¾		

2 P. M.

$10000 US 5-20, c, '65	109¾	$20000 U S 5-20, c, '67	113¾
5000 U S 5-20, r, '67	113¾	50000 U S 5's, c, '81	111¾

SECOND BOARD—4 P. M.

$3000 Mo 6's 1 b	104¼	500 shs NJ Cen RR	36¾
2000 N U 6's, 1st to N C RR, J & J	60	700 do	36¾
2000 Connecticut 6's	111	200 Mich Cen RR	47¾
8000 Chi, B & Q 7's	110	100 do	47¾
5000 Chi, B & Q 7's	110	100 do b3	47¾
1000 Chi & Alt inc	101	200 do	47¾
1000 Mich Cent 8's	111	400 do	47¾
2000 NJ Cen conv	83	1000 do	47¾
2000 N J Cen 1st, con	85	100 do s3	47¾
1000 Mor & Ess 7's, '71	107	200 L S & M S RR bc	56¾
4000 Chi, & R I & P 7's	100¾	15 0 do	56¾
4000 do	100¾	4 0 do b3	56¾
10 000 M & S P 1st, L C	101	500 do s3	56¾
1000 C & NW c g b	93¾	800 do	56¾
1000 Long Dock bds	105	10 H & St Jo bc	15
3000 H & St Jo 8's, conv	86¾	200 do	14¾
2000 Cen Pac g	93	200 do b3	15
2000 Un Pac RR 1st	103¾	400 do	15
20 0 Un Pac 7's 1 g	102	100 do s5	15
15 00 C, C & I C 1st	40	75 Cleve & Pitts gt bc	90¾
2000 D, M & F 1st, 1909	108¾	200 Chi & NW RR bc	36¾
3000 do	108¾	300 do	36¾
2000 Erie 3d m	103	100 do	36¾
1000 shs W Un Tel bc	72¾	100 do s3	36¾
200 do s3	72¾	100 C & N W RR pf bc s3	57
100 do b3	72¾	100 Chi & RI RR bc	101¾
300 do	72¾	200 do b c	101¾
1000 do	72¾	300 do b c	101¾
600 do	72¾	100 Mil & StP RR pf c	53¾
100 do	72¾	100 do	54
300 do	72¾	100 do	54¼
100 do b3	72¾	100 do	54¼
100 do	72¾	100 do b3	54¼
300 do	72¾	300 do	54¼
200 do	72¾	200 do	54¼
100 do	72¾	100 N J Cen RR	36¾
100 do b3	72¾	100 do	36¾
100 do	72¾	200 Ohio & Miss RR	6¾
100 do	72¾	100 do	6¾
100 do b3	72¾	100 do b3	7
100 do	72¾	100 do	7
100 do	72¾	100 do b3	7¼
100 do	72¾	100 do	7¼
100 do	72¾	100 do	7¼
100 do	72¾	100 Del, L & W RR	75½
100 do	72¾	100 do	75½
100 do	72¾	100 do	75½
100 do	72¾	100 do