# COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Markets as a Whole Were Inclined to Be Weak.

WHEAT SHOWED A LITTLE STRENGTH

**Firmness in that Cereal Attributed to the President's Message and the Serious Consequences Which May Follow.**

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—The markets as a whole were inclined to be weak today, in spite of the strength with which they started out. War with England was apparently not very seriously considered, and the general preponderance of bearish features forced May wheat to a net loss over yesterday's figures of from ⅛c to ¼c. Oats lost ⅛c. Corn and provisions closed practically unchanged.

Wheat showed a little strength early in the day, selling up nearly ⅜c from yesterday's close, but finally turned weak and lost ⅜c. The early firmness was attributed to the defiant message of the president and to the possible consequence which may follow. The Liverpool cable quoted an advance of ½d there, and even the remote possibility of war caused some covering by shorts. The smaller receipts in the northwest and the reiterated assurance that farmers' deliveries in that quarter were sure to be lighter for the balance of the season also had a tendency to create strength, and for some time there was good buying and a firm tone. But outside markets did not respond; some of the big bears commenced to sell short, and prices finally went off ⅜c, and up to noon had made little recovery. May sold early at 60⅛c, up to from 60¼c to 60⅜c split, off gradually to 59½c, and closed standy at from 59⅝c to 59⅞c.

Corn was quiet and steady, the soft weather causing a slight development of strength early, but much of the improvement was lost later in the day. May sold early up to from 28¼c to 28⅜c split, but eased off to 28c.

Oats were quiet but strong at the start, though selling off later. May sold at from 19¼c to 19c, but there was very little business. The feeling was weak, May selling to 18⅞c, and closing at 18c.

Provisions were irregular. They opened strong with grain, then became weak, and finally closed firm at about the same price as yesterday. May pork opened at $8.90, sold down to $8.82½, and closed at $8.87½. May lard opened at $5.50 and closed at $5.52½, and May ribs opened at $4.52½ and closed at $4.50.

Estimates for tomorrow: Wheat, 180 cars; corn, 450 cars; oats, 165 cars, hogs, 38,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

| Articles. | Open. | High. | Low. | Close. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat, No. 2 | | | | |
| Dec..... | 56⅛ | 56⅜ | 56 | 56⅛ |
| Jan..... | 56⅝ | 56⅝ | 56 | 56⅛ |
| May..... | 60⅜ | 60⅜ | 59⅛ | 59⅛ |
| Corn, No. 2. | | | | |
| Dec ..... | 25⅝ | 25⅝ | 25¼ | 25⅜ |
| Jan..... | 25⅞ | 26 | 25½ | 25⅝ |
| May..... | 28¼ | 28⅜ | 28 | 28⅛ |
| Oats, No. 2. | | | | |
| Dec..... | 16⅞ | 16⅞ | 16⅞ | 16⅞ |
| Jan..... | | | | 17 |
| Feb..... | 17⅛ | 17⅛ | 17⅛ | 17⅛ |
| May..... | 19⅛ | 19⅛ | 18⅞ | 19 |
| Pork, per bbl | | | | |
| Dec..... | | | | 7 85 |
| Jan..... | 8 50 | 8 52½ | 8 47½ | 8 50 |
| May..... | 8 90 | 8 90 | 8 82½ | 8 87½ |
| Lard, 100 lbs | | | | |
| Dec..... | | | | 5 17½ |
| Jan..... | 5 27½ | 5 30 | 5 27½ | 5 30 |
| May..... | 5 50 | 5 52½ | 5 50 | 5 52½ |
| Short Ribs— | | | | |
| Dec..... | | | | 4 30 |
| Jan..... | 4 27½ | 4 30 | 4 27½ | 4 30 |
| May..... | 4 52½ | 4 52½ | 4 50 | 4 50 |

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Quiet; winter patents, $3.15@3.50; winter straights, $2.50@3.20; spring patents, $3.15@3.50; spring straights, $2.65@2.90; bakers, $1.85@2.20.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 57½c; No. 3 spring, 55½@57c; No. 2 red, 62c.

CORN—No. 2, 25⅝c; No. 2 yellow, 25½@25⅝c.

OATS—No. 2, 17@17¼c; No. 2 white, 19@20c; No. 3 white, 17¼@18½c.

RYE—No. 2, 33½@36c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, f. o. b., 22@26c; No. 4, f. o. b., 21@22c.

FLAX SEED—No. 1, 93⅝@94c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $1.90@3.50.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $7.87½@8.00; lard, per 100 lbs., $5.27½@5.30; short ribs, sides (loose), $4.25@4.35; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.50@4.75; short clear sides (boxed), $4.37½@4.62½.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.22.

POULTRY—Barely steady; turkeys, 7@10c; chickens, 5½@7½c; ducks, 10@11c.

The following were the receipts and shipments today.

| Articles. | Receipts. | Shipments. |
|---|---|---|
| Flour, bbls..... | 15,000 | 8,000 |
| Wheat bu..... | 155,000 | 94,000 |
| Corn, bu..... | 370,000 | 115,000 |
| Oats, bu..... | 355,000 | 135,000 |
| Rye bu..... | 14,000 | 6,000 |
| Barley, bu..... | 81,000 | 41,000 |

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was firm; creamery, 19@26½c; dairy, 17@22c. Eggs, firm; 20½@22c. Cheese, quiet.

## NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

**Closing Quotations on the Principal Commodities and Staples.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—FLOUR—Receipts, 27,500 bbls.; exports, 15,500 bbls. Market steady, but trade still confined to small lots, with shippers holding off altogether; a few lines of spring patents sold at $3.50, while winter trades were dull but steady at quotations; winter extra, $2.05@3.50; city mill patents, $4.10@4.25; winter patents, $3.45@3.65; city mill clears, $4.00@4.10; winter straights, $3.30@3.40; Minnesota patents, $3.35@3.55; Minnesota bakers, $2.75@3.00; winter low grades, $2.10@2.60. Rye flour, dull; superfine, $2.50@2.75; fancy, $2.85@2.95. Buckwheat flour, dull at $1.30@1.35.

BUCKWHEAT—Quiet at 39½@40½c.

CORN MEAL—Steady; yellow western, coarse, 70c; Brandywine, $2.35.

RYE—Nominal; western, 42@45c.

BARLEY MALT—Nominal; western, 48@55c.

BARLEY—Easy; western, 40@47c; feeding barley, 33@39c.

WHEAT—Receipts, 284,000 bu.; exports, 71,100 bu.; spot quiet but steady; No. 2 red, 69⅞c; No. 1 hard, 67⅞c; delivered. Options opened stronger on the president's message, coupled with higher cables, foreign buying and smaller shipping; eased off at noon on lower late cables, finally rallied on covering, and closed firm and partially ⅛c higher; No. 2 red, May, 66 9-16@67⅝c; closed at 66⅞c; December, 65⅝@66⅛c, closed at 65⅞c.

CORN—Receipts, 33,300 bu.; exports, 76,900 bu.; spot quiet but steady; No. 2, 33⅝c. Options opened firm on small receipts, afterward reacted under larger car lot estimates, and closed unchanged to ⅛c lower; May, 34⅝@34⅞c, closed at 34⅝c; December closed at 33⅝c.

OATS—Receipts, 13,200 bu.; exports, 600 bu.; spot quiet; No. 2, 22½c. Options quiet, but generally steady; closing unchanged to ⅛c higher; May, 21@21⅛c, closed at 24c; December closed at 22½c.

HAY—Strong; shipping, $7.50@8.00; good to choice, $9.00@10.00.

HOPS—Weak; state, common to choice, 1894 crop, 26@7c; 1895 crop, 7@10c; Pacific coast, 1894 crop, 3½@7c; 1895 crop, 6@10c.

HIDES—Dull; California, 21 to 25 lbs., 18@18½c; Galveston, 20 to 25 lbs., 16c; Buenos Ayres, 35c; 20 to 24 lbs., 21c; Texas, dry, 24 to 30 lbs., 12@14c.

LEATHER—Steady; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, light to heavy weights, 22c; acid, 21½@24c.

WOOL—Quiet; domestic fleece, 16@22c; pulled, 19@26c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, quiet; family, $10.00@12.00; beef hams, $11.50@16.00. Cut meats, easy; pickled bellies, $4.75@5.25; pickled shoulders, $5.00@5.25; pickled hams, $5.50@5.75. Lard, easy; western steam closed at $5.30@5.35; December, $5.35, nominal. Pork, dull; short clear, $9.00@10.50; family, $10.00@10.50.

BUTTER—Receipts, 5,217 pkgs.; firm; western dairy, 11@19c; western creamery, 17@22c; Elgins, 26c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 1,230 pkgs.; steady; large, 7¼@10c; small, 7½@10½c; part skims, 3¼@6c; full skims, 2@3c.

EGGS—Receipts, 4,821 pkgs.; steady; state and Pennsylvania, 24@28c; western, 21@24c; southern, 21@23c.

PETROLEUM—Weak; United closed at $1.31.

TURPENTINE—Steady, 28@28½c.

TALLOW—Easy; city, 4c; country, 4½c.

RICE—Steady; domestic, fair to extra, 3¾@4¾c; Japan, 3¾@4c.

ROSIN—Firm; strained, common to good, $1.72½@1.77½.

MOLASSES—Quiet; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 29@32c.

METALS—Pig iron, steady, unchanged. Copper, steady; lake, spot, nominal; brokers' price, $10.50; exchange price, $10.62@10.65. Lead, steady; brokers' price, $3.10; exchange price, $3.20@3.22. Tin, easy; straits, $13.80@13.85; plates dull. Spelter, quiet; domestic, $3.40@3.50.

COTTON SEED OIL—Inactive, with only small local trading; exporters practically off the market; prime crude, 25½@28c; butter grades, 31@32c; prime summer yellow, 29c.

## St. Louis General Market.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 18.—FLOUR—Dull and easy; patents, $3.20@3.40; extra fancy, $3.00@3.20; fancy, $2.85@3.00; choice, $2.60@2.75.

WHEAT—The market was influenced to some extent at the opening on the question of war or no war, causing a slight upward tendency, but it soon subsided, and prices dropped back, the market closing lower at 58⅞c under yesterday; No. 2 red, cash, 62½c; No. 1 hard, 58½c; December, 59c; May, 59½c.

CORN—Was firm early, but eased off some later, and was heavy at the close, ⅛c lower for January and May, but ⅛c higher for December, compared with yesterday's finals; No. 2 mixed, cash, 23½c; December, 23½c; January, 23½c; May, 25½c.

OATS—There was some demand at 15c opening for May, and it sold ⅛c higher, but soon weakened, and finally declined ⅛c closing same as yesterday; December, unchanged; spot dull; bid lower on call; No. 2 cash, 18⅝c; December, 16⅝c; May, 19½c.

RYE—Dull; 32c bid.

CORN MEAL—Steady at $1.35@1.45.

BRAN—Easy; salable at 47c, east track, for sacked.

FLAX SEED—Quiet and lower at 89c.

TIMOTHY SEED—$1.00@2.30.

HAY—Quiet but steady; prairie, $7.00@9.00; timothy, $9.50@15.00, this side.

BUTTER—Quiet but steady; separator creamery, 23@25c; fancy Elgin, 26@29c; dairy, 18@21c.

POULTRY—Turkeys, 7½@8c; chickens, 4½@5c; ducks, 7½c; geese, 5½c.

EGGS—In fair demand and steady at 18½c.

WHISKY—$1.22.

SPELTER—Held at $3.20.

COTTON TIES—Unchanged.

BAGGING—Unchanged.

PROVISIONS—Pork, lower; standard mess, jobbing, $8.12½. Lard, nominal; prime steam, $5.12½; choice, $5.22½. Bacon, boxed shoulders, $5.25; longs, $5.12½; ribs, $5.25; shorts, $5.37½. Dry salt meats, boxed shoulders, $4.50; longs, $4.50; ribs, $4.62½; shorts, $4.75.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 2,000 bbls.; wheat, 55,000 bu.; corn, 39,000 bu.; oats, 24,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 4,000 bbls.; wheat, 43,000 bu.; corn, 26,000 bu.; oats, 5,000 bu.

## OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

**Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.**

EGGS—Strictly fresh stock, 19c; held stock, 16@18c.

BUTTER—Packing stock, 12@12½c; fair to good country, 13@14c; choice to fancy country, 15@16c.

VEAL—Choice fat, 70 to 100 lbs., are quoted at 6½@7c; large and coarse, 4@6c.

CHEESE—Domestic brick, 11½c; Edam, per doz., $9.50; Club House, 1-lb. jars, per doz., $3.60; Limberger, fancy, per lb., 11½c; Roquefort, ½-lb. jars, per doz., $3.60; Young Americas, 11½c; Twins, fancy, 11c.

POULTRY—Dressed—Chickens, 5@6½c; ducks, choice, 9@10c; turkeys, choice, 10@11c; geese, 7½@8½c.

HAY—Upland, $6.00; midland, $5.50; lowland, $5.00; rye straw, $4.50; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best. Only top grades bring top prices.

BROOM CORN—New crop, delivered on track in country, choice green self-working carpet, per lb., 2¼c; choice green running to hurl, 2¼c; common, 1½c.

GAME—Prairie chickens, undrawn, per doz., $6.00@6.50; drawn, $5.00@5.50; quail, $1.50@1.80; jack snipe, 75c@$1.00; grouse, $5.50@6.00; snipe, 60@75c; golden plover, $1.25; jack rabbits, per doz., $1.50@1.75; small rabbits, 75c@$1.00; mallard ducks, $3.50@3.75; red heads, $3.75@4.00; canvasback ducks, $5.00@6.00; teal, blue wing, $2.00@2.25; teal, green wing, $1.75@2.00; mixed ducks, $1.75@2.25; Canada geese, $6.00@7.50; small geese, $4.50@5.00; brants, $3.50; deer saddles, 15@16c; deer carcasses, 11@13c; elk saddles, 11@13c; elk carcasses, 9@10c; antelope saddles, 15@16c; antelope carcasses, 10@11c; squirrels, per doz., 60@75c.

PIGEONS—Live, per doz., $1; dead pigeons not wanted.

CHRISTMAS GREENS—Holly, per case, $5; Christmas trees, per doz., $2.50@8.00.

VEGETABLES.

CAULIFLOWER—Per doz. heads, $1.50@2.00.

CABBAGE—Holland seed, heads small and hard, per lb., 1½c; California stock, per lb., 2c.

MUSHROOMS—Per 1½-lb. box, 60@75c.

POTATOES—Fancy native stock, 30c; from store in small lots, 30@35c; Colorado stock, 50@55c.

ONIONS—Per bu., 40c; home grown Spanish, 50c; Bermudas, $2.00 per crate.

CRANBERRIES—Jersey, $8.75; Cape Cod, $9.25@9.50; McFarlin's, $10.

MALAGA GRAPES—Per 60-lb. bbl., $6; per 65 to 70 lbs., gross, $7.50.

EASTERN GRAPES—No shipping stock.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—California budded seedlings, regular sizes, $3.75; 96 to 126 sizes, $4.50; navels, $3.60@4.00.

LEMONS—California, per box, $3.75@4.50; Messinas, $4.50@4.75.

BANANAS—Choice large stock, per bunch, $2.00@2.25; medium sized bunches, $1.75@2.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OYSTERS—Mediums, 35c; standards, 19c; extra selects, 24c; Brewers & lb. selects, 25c; New York counts, 29c; standard bulk, per gal., $1.10.

HONEY—Fancy white, per lb., 15c.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five-gal. cans, each, $2.75; gal. cans, per doz., $12; ½-gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.75.

CIDER—Pure juice, per half bbl., $2.75; per bbl., $4.75.

SAUER KRAUT—Per bbl., $3.75; half bbl., $2.25.

PEARS—New crop, California, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 10c; imported fancy, 50-lb. boxes, 15c; choice, 10-lb. boxes, 11½@12c.

DATES—New Persian, 60-lb. boxes, per lb., 5½c; fards, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 5c.

MAPLE SUGAR—Choice, per lb., 9@10c.

PRESERVES—Assorted, 20-lb. pails, each $1.40.

COCOANUTS—Per 100, $4.50; each, 5c.

NUTS—Almonds, California, per lb., medium size, 10c; Tarragona almonds, per lb., large, 12½c; Brazils, per lb., 8c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy soft shell, 12c; standards, 11@11½c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished medium, 10c; large, 12c; peanuts, raw, 5½c; roasted, 7@7½c; hickory nuts, small, per bu., $1.75; hickory nuts, large, per bu., $1.50; black walnuts, per bbl., $2.

DRESSED MEATS.

BEEF—Light western steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 5¼@6c; good cows and heifers, 5@5½c; medium cows and heifers, 4½@4¾c; good forequarters cows and heifers, 3½@4c; good hindquarters cows and heifers, 6@6½c; cow rounds, 5c; cow chucks, 3½c; steer chucks, 4½c; beef tenderloins, fresh, 16c; beef rolls, boneless, 8½c; sirloin butts, boneless, 8½c; loin backs, boneless, 8½c; loin backs, 6½c; cow ribs, No. 3, 6½c; cow loins, No. 3, 7½c; steer ribs, 10c; steer loins, 9c.

MUTTON—Dressed mutton, 5½c; racks, 8½c; legs, 7c; saddles, 7c; stews, 2½c.

PORK—Dressed hogs, 5c; pork loins, 5c; spare ribs, 4½c; pork shoulders, 4½c; pork shoulders, skinned, 4¾c; pork trimmings, 4c; tenderloins, 12c; pigs' feet, cleaned, per doz., 35c.

FURS.

| | No. 1 Lge. | No. 1 Md'm | No. 1 Sm'll | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BEAR— | | | | | |
| Black ..... | $20@25 | $ 15 00 | $ 8@10 | $10@12 | $ 5 00 |
| Black Yearlings.. | 12@15 | 10 00 | 7 00 | 7 00 | 3 00 |
| Black Cubs..... | 6@8 | 5@6 | 4 00 | 5 00 | 2 00 |
| Black Montana & Mountains ..... | 18@22 | 14 00 | 10 00 | 10 00 | 4 00 |
| Black Montana Yearlings ..... | 12 00 | 8 00 | 5 00 | 5 00 | 2 50 |
| Black Montana Cubs ..... | 6 50 | 4 50 | 3 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| Silver Tip..... | 20 00 | 12 00 | 8 00 | 9 00 | 4 00 |
| Silver Tip Yrgs. | 11 00 | 8 00 | 5 00 | 5 00 | 2 50 |
| Silver Tip Cubs.. | 6 00 | 4 50 | 2 00 | 3 00 | 1 50 |
| Brown ..... | 20@25 | 16 00 | 12 00 | 12 00 | 5 00 |
| Yearlings ..... | 1 00@2 | 80 | 60 | 80 | 40 |
| Cubs ..... | 7 00 | 5 00 | 3 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| Badger ..... | 1@1 50 | 60 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Fisher ..... | 8 00 | 6 00 | 4 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| FOX— | | | | | |
| Silver (according to beauty)..... | 100 00 | 60 00 | 40 00 | 30 00 | 10 00 |
| Silver Pale (according to beauty) | 50 00 | 30 00 | 20 00 | 15 00 | 6 00 |
| Cross ..... | 7 00 | 3 00 | 2 00 | 1 50 | 1 00 |
| Red ..... | 1 50 | 1 25 | 1 00 | 75 | 25 |
| Gray ..... | 75 | 50 | 40 | 35 | 15 |
| Kit ..... | 50 | 40 | 30 | 20 | 10 |
| Lynx ..... | 3 00 | 2 00 | 1 50 | 1 25 | 50 |
| Marten ..... | 2 00 | 1 50 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 50 |
| Mink ..... | 80@85 | 60 | 45 | 35 | 10 |
| Mink Dark..... | 1 00 | 65 | 45 | 20 | 10 |
| Mountain Lion, (perfect head and feet)..... | 14@2 | | | | |
| Otter ..... | 8 00 | 6@7 | 5 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| Otter Pale..... | 7 00 | 5 00 | 4 00 | 3 00 | 1 50 |
| Raccoon ..... | 60@70 | 50 | 35 | 20 | 10 |
| Raccoon, Black (as to beauty).. | 50@2 | | | | |
| SKUNK— | | | | | |
| Black, cased..... | 1 25 | 75 | 50 | 50 | 25 |
| Short striped..... | 1 00 | 70 | 45 | 40 | 20 |
| Narrow striped... | 50 | 40 | 25 | 20 | 10 |
| Broad striped..... | 20@25 | | | | |
| Wolverine ..... | 4 00 | 3 00 | 2 00 | 2 00 | 1 00 |
| Wolf Mountain.... | 3 00 | 2 00 | 1 50 | 75 | 40 |
| Wolf Prairie..... | 65@90 | 60 | 40 | 20 | 10 |
| Beaver, per skin. | 5@6 | 4 50 | 2 00 | 4 00 | 2 00 |
| Beaver Kits..... | 2 00 | 1 50 | 75 | 50 | 25 |
| MUSKRATS— | | | | | |
| Spring ..... | | | | | |
| Winter ..... | 8@10 | 6 | 7 | | |
| Fall ..... | | 7 | 6 | | |
| Kits ..... | 2 | | 2 | | |

HIDES AND TALLOW.

HIDES—No. 1, green hides, 4c; No. 2 green hides, 3c; No. 1 green salted hides, 4½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 3½c; No. 1 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 3½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 25 to 40 lbs., 2c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 6½c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 4½c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 6@8c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 5@6c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 5c; part cured hides, ½c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEPSKINS—Green salted, each 25@60c; green salted shearlings (short wooled early skins), each 15c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 10c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 2, each, 5c; dry flint Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 50@6c; dry flint Kansas and Nebraska Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; dry flint Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6½c; dry flint Colorado Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; dry pieces and bucks, actual weight, 4@5c; feet cut off, as it is useless to pay freight on them.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 3½c; tallow No. 2, 3c; grease, white A, 3½c; grease, white B, 3c; grease, yellow, 2½c; grease, dark, 2c; old butter, 2@2½c; beeswax, prime, 15@22c; rough tallow, 1½c.

BONES—In car lots weighed and delivered in Chicago: Dry buffalo, per ton, $12.00@14.00; dry country, bleached, per ton, $10.00@12.00; dry country, damp and neaty, per ton, $8.00@8.00.

WOOL—Unwashed, fine heavy, 60@c; fine light, 55@c; quarter blood, 60@12c; seedy, burry and cheffy, 5@8c; cotted and broken, coarse, 7@9c; cotted and broken, fine, 6@8c. Fleece washed—Medium, 15@18c; fine, 14@16c; tub washed, 18@18c; black, 8c; bucks, 6c; tag locks, 20@3c; dead pulled, 50@c.

CHRISTMAS TREES—$2.50@5.00 doz.

## Cotton Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Cotton contracts opened steady, with 5@4 points decline. At 11 o'clock the market was quiet and dead at 1 point decline from the opening. At 12 m. prices showed 2 points net decline. Sales to noon, 100,800 bales. Some selling pressure developed at the opening. Bears used the Venezuelan question to depress the market slightly. Cables, however, failed to show any serious loss. Receipts were light and the Liverpool spot market was decidedly bullish. Spot, dull; middling, uplands, 8 5-16c; middling, gulf, 8 13-16c. Port receipts estimated for today at 31,000 bales, against 41,454 bales last week and 41,903 bales last year. For the week, estimated at 215,000 bales, against 228,09 bales last week and 234,744 bales last year. Middling, 8¼c. Net receipts, none; gross, 5,500 bales; exports to Great Britain, 2,743 bales; to the continent, 1,129 bales; forwarded, 2,278 bales; sales, 251 bales, all spinners; stock, 131,127 bales. Futures closed steady; sales, 172,900 bales; January, 8.19; February, 8.24; March, 8.29; April, 8.34; May, 8.38; June, 8.41; July, 8.42; September, 8.12; October, 8.02; November, 8.08; December, 8.18.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 18.—COTTON—Quiet; middling, 8¼c; low middling, 7¾c; good ordinary, 7 9-16c; net receipts, 13,279 bales; gross, 13,298 bales; exports to Great Britain, 4,100 bales; sales, 2,500 bales; stock, 265,331 bales.

ST. LOUIS, December 18.—COTTON—Quiet; middling, 8 3-16c; sales, 180 bales; receipts, 4,119 bales; shipments, 2,769 bales; stock, 64,274 bales.

## STOCKS AND BONDS.

**International Shares Displayed the Greatest Weakness on the List.**

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The re-echoes of Cleveland's Venezuelan message were the dominating influences on the stock market today. London prices for American securities showed declines extending to 1¼ per cent in Louisville & Nashville, and the international shares were sold steadily with but slight rallies throughout the day. This class of securities displayed the greatest weakness of any of the list. In the first fifteen minutes of trading the loss in the group referred to ranged up to 1¼ per cent in Kansas & Texas preferred. The dealings in the international shares were unusually active in the forenoon, and were roughly estimated at about 70,000 shares. Some comment was excited over a decline of nearly 1 per cent in British consols and a coincident reactional advance in United States new and old 4 per cent bonds. In the general market lower prices were recorded in the early trading, the declines being in some instances fully as great as in the internationals. About the end of the first hour substantial recoveries were made in most instances, but a reactionary tendency soon developed. Through the day at intervals rallies occurred, but were always met with renewed selling for both accounts, except in the last hour, when, mainly on covering of shorts, rallies from the extreme low points ranging up to 2 per cent were made. The unsettling effect of the war talk on prices was heightened by discussion of our financial situation and by further heavy shipments of gold, partially on account of heavy selling of our securities. Sterling exchange rates were advanced slightly, and the appearance of gold bills was considered in foreshadow an advance to a point permitting shipments to London by Saturday's steamer. The unfavorable condition noted caused the publication of satisfactory exhibits of railway earnings, including an increase by the St. Paul of $102,000 for the second week in December to follow. The expectation of the declaration of the regular dividend by the directors of the Vanderbilt roads at tomorrow's meeting and the announcement of the informal reduction of restriction of production by the anthracite roads were almost totally ignored by the traders. In the specialties the extreme losses ranged up to 4 per cent, while in the standard railway shares Lake Shore declined six dollars. Exceptional strength in the last rally the most conspicuous stocks were the industrials, Tennessee Coal, Manhattan and New Jersey Central. The closing was active and strong at net losses for the active stocks to 1⅞ per cent, and in the less prominent shares to 4 per cent. Bonds were active and weak, the declines in a number of issues being of importance. The market moved only in sympathy with the stock speculation. The sales aggregated $1,327,000.

The Evening Post's London financial cable-gram says: The stock markets were dull today, but near the lowest. Consols have fallen ⅝ per cent, but with no heavy sales, merely a marking down by the professional element. Cleveland's message has created profound concern and surprise. The city, however, refuses at present to recognize any complications sufficient to warrant apprehensions of war. I have interviewed most of the representatives of financial houses here, including those connected more particularly with American securities. All express astonishment at the tone of the message and consider that it bids fair to drive the death nail into the American railroad market, to accelerate gold exports from New York and to precipitate a currency if not financial crisis in America. Americans rallied on New York support, but finally closed at the lowest point. The Paris markets today were flat, led by a further fall in American securities. Financial disturbances of politics adversely affect these stocks and they are enormously held in France. At Berlin the markets were weak and featureless.

The following were the closing quotations on the leading stocks of the New York exchange today:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Atchison..... | 19 | *N. Y. & N. E..... | 55 |
| Adams Ex..... | 147 | Ontario & W..... | 14⅝ |
| Alton, T. H..... | 58 | Oregon Imp..... | 3 |
| Am. Express..... | 112 | Oregon Nav..... | 17 |
| Baltimore & Ohio.. | 40½ | O. S. L. & U. N..... | 6¼ |
| Canada Pacific.... | 53¼ | Pacific Mail..... | 30 |
| Canada Southern.. | 53¾ | P. D. & E ..... | 3 |
| Central Pacific.... | 15 | Pittsburg ..... | 167 |
| Ches. & Ohio..... | 16⅞ | Pullman Palace.... | 139 |
| Chicago & Alton... | 150 | Reading ..... | 7¼ |
| C., B. & Q..... | 82⅝ | R. G. W..... | 17 |
| Chicago Gas..... | 69⅝ | R. G. W. pfd..... | 40 |
| Consolidated Gas.. | 154⅞ | Rock Island ..... | 73⅝ |
| C., C. C. & St. L... | 40 | St. Paul..... | 74 |
| Colo. Coal & Iron.. | 3½ | do pfd..... | 128 |
| Cotton Oil Cert.... | 17 | St. P. & Omaha.... | 41 |
| Delaware & Had.. | 124¾ | do pfd..... | 123¼ |
| Del., Lack. & W... | 154½ | Southern Pacific.. | 21⅝ |
| D. & R. G. pfd ..... | 36½ | Sugar Refinery.... | 101 |
| D. & C. F. Co. .... | 19 | Tenn. Coal & Iron | 32½ |
| Erie..... | 12¼ | Texas Pacific..... | 8⅝ |
| do pfd..... | 32⅛ | T. & O. Cent. pfd.. | 70 |
| Fort Wayne..... | 157 | Union Pacific..... | 6¼ |
| G. Northern pfd... | 115 | U. S. Express..... | 42 |
| C. & E. I. pfd..... | 99¾ | W. St. L. & P..... | 7¼ |
| Hocking Valley... | 17 | W. St. L. & P. pfd. | 17½ |
| Illinois Central... | 91 | Wells Fargo Ex.... | 100 |
| St. P. & Duluth.... | 20 | Western Union.... | 88⅝ |
| K. & T. pfd..... | 20¾ | Wheeling & L. E... | 13½ |
| Lake Erie & West | 21 | do pfd ..... | 40½ |
| do pfd..... | 74½ | M. & St. L..... | 20½ |
| Lake Shore..... | 149½ | A. & R. G..... | 12½ |
| Lead Trust..... | 30 | G. R. ..... | 30⅛ |
| Louisville & N. .. | 59¼ | N. L..... | 20 |
| L. & N. A..... | 9 | C. F. & I..... | 28¾ |
| Manhattan Con... | 10⅛ | do pfd..... | 98 |
| Memphis & C.... | 15 | H. & T. C..... | 1⅛ |
| Michigan Cent.... | 101½ | T. A. & A. N. M.. | ¼ |
| Missouri Pacific.. | 28⅝ | T. St. L. & K. C... | 7 |
| Mobile & Ohio..... | 23⅛ | T. St. L. & K. C. pfd | 15 |
| Nashville Chat.... | 78 | S. R. K..... | 9½ |
| National Cordage.. | 6⅝ | do pfd..... | 31 |
| Nat. Cordage pfd.. | 12⅝ | Am. Tob. Co..... | 73½ |
| N. J. Central..... | 103 | do pfd..... | 98 |
| N. & W. pfd..... | 8 | Am. Tel. & C. Co.. | 94 |
| North Am. Co..... | 5 | Con. Gas Co..... | 150 |
| Northern Pacific.. | 4 | Am. Suzar pfd..... | 97⅛ |
| N. Pacific pfd..... | 13⅝ | U. S. Cordage gtd. | 25½ |
| U. P. D. & G ..... | 3½ | U. S. Leather pfd. | 66⅛ |
| Northwestern..... | 102¾ | U. S. Rubber ..... | 32⅞ |
| do pfd..... | 130 | do pfd..... | 91 |
| N. Y. Central..... | 99¾ | | |

* offered.

The total sales of stocks today were 347,379 shares, including: American Sugar, 8,700; American Tobacco, 25,800; Atchison, 11,000; Burlington, 21,100; Chicago Gas, 17,500; Distilling & Cattle-feeding, 3,100; General Electric, 4,200; Kansas & Texas preferred, 5,300; Louisville & Nashville, 15,000; Manhattan consolidated, 3,500; Missouri Pacific, 4,900; Northwestern, 4,300; Pacific Mail, 3,600; Reading, 4,700; Rock Island, 9,400; St. Paul, 31,600; Southern Railroad, 3,200; Southern Railroad preferred, 6,000; Tennessee Coal & Iron, 11,000; United States Leather preferred, 24,100; Wabash preferred, 3,300; Western Union, 8,700.

## New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—MONEY ON CALL—Easy at 1½@2½ per cent, with odd lots at 3 per cent; last loan, 2 per cent; closed, 2 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—4@5½ per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.88⅝@4.89 for demand and $4.87⅝@4.88 for sixty days; posted rates, $4.88½@4.89 and $4.89½@4.90; commercial bills, $4.86⅝.

BAR SILVER—66⅝c.

SILVER CERTIFICATES—66¼@67c.

GOVERNMENT BONDS—Firm, higher; state bonds, inactive; railroad bonds, weak.

**Closing quotations on bonds were as follows:**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| U.S. 4s, reg., new. | 121¼ | C. P. 1st of '95.. | 104 |
| U. S. 4s coupon, new | 121¼ | D. & R. G. 7s..... | 111½ |
| U. S. 5s, reg..... | 115 | D. & R. G. 4s..... | 93 |
| U. S. 5s, coup..... | 115 | *Erie 2ds..... | 74⅝ |
| U. S. 4s, reg..... | 111¼ | G. H. & S. A. 6s.. | 105 |
| U. S. 4s, coup..... | 112⅝ | G. H. & S. A. 7s... | 100 |
| U. S. 2s, reg..... | 97 | H. & T. C. 5s..... | 111⅝ |
| Pacifics of '95..... | 99 | do 4s..... | 101 |
| Ala., class A..... | 110½ | M., K. & T. 1st 4s. | 85⅛ |
| Ala., class B..... | 110¼ | do 2d 4s..... | 60⅛ |
| Ala., class C..... | 102 | Mutual Union 6s.. | 115 |
| Ala. Currency..... | 102 | N. J. C. Gen. 5s... | 118 |
| La. New Con. 4s.. | 93 | N. Pacific 1st 4s... | 118⅝ |
| Missouri 6s..... | 103 | do 2d 3s..... | 104¾ |
| N. C. 6s..... | 124 | N. W. Consols..... | 140 |
| N. C. 4s..... | 101 | do S. F. Deb 5s.. | 110½ |
| S. C. Non-fund..... | 1 | R. G. West. 1st s.. | 77¾ |
| Tn. new set 3s..... | 80 | St. P. Consols 7s.. | 120 |
| Tenn. new set 5s. | 105 | do C. & P. W. 5s. | 114⅝ |
| Tenn. old 6s..... | 60 | St. L. & I. M. Gen 5 | 83 |
| Va. Centuries..... | 63½ | *St. L. & S. F. Gen 6 | 106 |
| do deferred..... | 5⅝ | *do R. & G. 1st 4s.. | 85⅛ |
| Atchison 4s..... | 76⅝ | do 2ds..... | 22⅝ |
| Atchison 2d A..... | 25¼ | U. P. 1st of '96.. | 108⅝ |
| *Canada So. 2ds... | 109 | West Shore 4s.... | 107½ |
| L. & N. unified 4s. | 81⅝ | Wabash 1st 5s..... | 93 |
| C. R. & N. 1st s... | 112 | N. Pac. 3ds..... | 73¾ |

* offered.

The total sales of bonds today were $1,327,000.

## Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—Call loans, 4@5½ per cent; time loans, 5@6½ per cent. Closing prices for stocks, bonds and mining shares:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. T. & S. F..... | 16⅛ | W. Elec. pfd..... | 54½ |
| Am. Sugar ..... | 100⅝ | Wis. Central..... | 4 |
| Am. Sugar pfd..... | 97 | Bell Telephone.... | 200 |
| Bay State Gas..... | 10⅛ | Gen. Elec. pfd..... | 40 |
| Bell Telephone.... | 202½ | Atchison 2ds..... | 25 |
| Boston & Albany.. | 207 | Atchison 4s..... | 93 |
| Boston & Maine.. | 175½ | New England 6s.. | 100½ |
| C. B. & Q..... | 82⅝ | Gen. Electric 5s.... | 90 |
| Fitchburg..... | 92⅝ | Wis. Cent. 1sts.... | 47 |
| Gen. Electric..... | 30 | Allouez Mining Co. | 50 |
| Illinois Steel..... | 65 |