THE CONDITION OF TRADE

Omaha's Jobbing Business Good in Spite of the Unfavorable Weather.

PLENTY OF IDLE CAPITAL IN THE BANKS

Eastern Jobbers and Manufacturers Do Not Like the Home Patronage Movement That is so Popular in the West.

The almost impassable condition of the country roads has been a very serious drawback to business during the past week. The shipment of country produce has been greatly reduced and country merchants generally report that the farmers have been kept close at home. The poor state of trade in the country would have a tendency to depress the jobbing trade, though such results must be of only a temporary character. However, the jobbing trade is good in a general way and all that could be asked for at this season. In Omaha there is a much better feeling prevalent among the retail dealers and the coming of settled weather and the opening up of new enterprises would tend to make it still better.

As a whole, business is in a fairly satisfactory condition, but devoid of any noticeably new features. The financial conditions prevailing in the money centers of the country continue about the same, the most noticeable feature being the abundance of idle capital. At the present moment all financial institutions are filled with money. According to a recent statement the total reserve held in New York city is $136,000,000, as against $110,000,000 last year, while the amount of deposits reaches $628,000,000, as against $410,000,000 for the same week in 1891. Notwithstanding almost superhuman efforts of the bank managers, who have not hesitated to loan money at cheap rates for months past, the amount of deposits exceeds the amount of loans by more than $85,000,000, while this margin last year was represented by a difference less than $5,000,000.

"These are suggestive facts," says the Journal of Finance. "They indicate a redundancy of currency. They show that money is being issued above the power of business to absorb it. And this process, by its continuance, involves material danger to the banks. They are now lending money at unremunerative rates. When money is plenty they cannot ask a higher rate of interest, and yet out of their earnings the expenses of running them and the dividends upon their stock must be paid. The interest on deposits cannot continue without encroaching upon the power of the bank to earn its way, and the onus of competition when cast upon these institutions is necessarily a signal of financial danger."

The strong sentiment which has been created among the merchants of Nebraska to buy their goods from Nebraska jobbers and manufacturers is viewed with alarm by eastern jobbers who have amassed fortunes from the western trade. The Dry Goods Economist of New York devotes a long article to what it styles the "nonsense" of buying goods at home. It sums up its argument against home patronage in these words: "There is only one reason why the western merchant should come east, certainly only one that has much weight and that need be considered, that reason is that, by coming here, he can obtain the goods that his customers demand, and can get these goods at the lowest market rates."

As Nebraska merchants can buy the same goods at equally low prices of western jobbers it would appear to be greatly to their advantage to do so in spite of the objection of eastern parties who are looking after their own interests alone.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Close of Lent Promises to Bring Better Prices to Breeders and Feeders.

OMAHA, April 16.—Receipts for the past week were 16,917 cattle, 17,858 hogs and 3,601 sheep, compared with 16,516 cattle, 18,21 hogs and 4,798 sheep the week previous and 8,136 cattle, 20,542 hogs and 2,223 sheep the corresponding week of April, 1891.

The week just closed has been one of violent fluctuations as far as cattle values were concerned. As a general rule the last week of Lent is a poor time to sell cattle and it was a particularly bad time this year owing to the fact that the receipts of cattle throughout the entire Lenten season have been more than sufficient to supply the reduced demand. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday's markets furnished a good illustration of weak, weaker, weakest. In fact, Wednesday's market was so slow and low and uncertain as it has ever been here. The decline on beef cattle values during the three days amounted to from 20c to 35c and it was very difficult to move the heavier grades of cattle at prices fully half a dollar lower than the first of the month. This was owing to the very demoralized state of the trade in the east. During the latter half of the week receipts fell off sharply and 15c to 25c of the early decline was regained, shipping and speculative buyers took courage and the week closed with the market in a fair way to recovery.

Owing to the very limited offerings of cows and mixed stock, butchers and canners still have shown comparatively little change from day to day, and prices are substantially the same as a week ago. In the stocker and feeder line sudden advances or drops of from 5c to 15c were not infrequent, owing to the uneven distribution of the supply and demand. Compared with the present value for fed cattle, feeders are selling very high, although practically in last week's notches.

The hog market has also been rather unsettled and subject to considerable fluctuation, but owing to the lighter receipts the latter half of the week and the improved demand from eastern shippers prices have received a substantial advance and are about 5c higher than the close of last week. The range has been comparatively narrow although there is a nominal spread of about 5c between values of light and heavy hogs.

The supply of sheep continues to fall far short of the demand and prices have a strong upward tendency. Nominally values are from 5c to 10c higher than last week; practically there have not been sheep enough here to establish quotations. Packers are buying a good many in the country to ship in, and if these received are not offered for sale. Desirable auctions are in active demand and prices are very strong.

CATTLE—From a worldly standpoint there are few people who rejoice more at the close of the Lenten season than cattle raisers and feeders. For a Saturday receipts were fair and buyers considered the quality of the offerings about the best of the week. Improved eastern markets gave speculative shippers courage, although there was no export demand. Dressed beef houses also had good orders, and as the supply was by no means excessive the market was active and firm at Friday's advance. Later advices anticipating liberal receipts both here and at Chicago the early part of next week weakened the market somewhat, but about everything changed hands at prices from 10c to 25c better than Wednesday, the low day of the week. Good 1,200 to 1,300-lb steers sold from $5.60 to $5.85, fair to good 1,050 to 1,200-lb steers from $4.40 to $5.00 and common light stuff around $3.25 to $4.25.

There were only about ten loads of cows in the yards, rather indifferent as to quality and fresh. Everything offered found a ready sale at full, steady and even strong prices. Good to choice cows and heifers sold from $2.70 to $3.25, fair to good stuff from $2.25 to $2.70 and inferior and canning lots from $1.85 to $2.00. Bulls, oxen and stags were a trifle stronger at from $1.25 to $3.10. Calves were in meager supply and unchanged on the basis of $2.50 to $5.00 for poor to choice veals.

The fresh supply of stockers and feeders consisted less than a dozen loads. Country feeders were limited, but regular dealers were good buyers at full strong prices from $4.00 to $5.30. Scattering sales of good bunches ranged down from $5.00 to $5.10. Representative sales:

STEERS.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
1	980	$ 3 00	19	1419	$5 30	17	1267	$4 65
15	1115	3 35	20	1256	4 35	17	1234	4 70
1	1130	3 35	20	1279	4 35	21	1317	4 70
1	450	3 40	76	1177	4 50	8	1172	4 70
18	931	3 45	19	1208	4 60	16	1418	4 70
1	1140	3 45	37	1241	4 60	16	1308	4 75
21	1274	3 50	1	1270	4 60	5	1070	4 75
21	1139	3 40	20	1296	4 60	20	1242	4 75
1	1094	3 40	4	1193	4 60	7	1479	4 80
19	1142	3 40	46	1200	4 60	20	1341	4 80
22	1091	3 45	46	1208	4 60	20	1257	4 80
20	1179	3 45	19	1284	4 60	20	1306	4 80
20	1180	3 45	46	1267	4 60	20	1330	4 80
19	1219	3 50						

COWS.

1	790	1 25	1	1140	2 00	5	1008	2 70
4	1025	1 60	1	970	2 00	2	1065	2 70
1	1020	1 60	4	862	2 10	1	1310	2 70
1	1080	1 60	1	1000	2 15	41	968	2 70
1	1020	1 70	1	1000	2 15	1	850	2 75
1	970	1 75	4	940	2 25	18	1057	2 80
10	1050	1 75	10	1050	2 25	12	1085	2 80
1	980	1 75	1	1030	2 25	5	704	2 80
1	1090	1 80	8	1130	2 40	1	1010	3 00
1	1020	1 80	1	1020	2 40	2	1290	3 00
21	971	1 90	1	1090	2 50	1	1020	3 00
1	960	1 90	1	1090	2 70	1	1110	3 00
1	990	1 90	44	1050	2 70	1	1310	3 15
1	1110	1 90						

HEIFERS.

8	675	2 25	1	580	2 75	20	806	3 30
1	1080	2 50						

CALVES.

2	200	3 75	1	700	3 75			

BULLS.

1	1010	1 00	1	1730	2 00	1	1540	2 25

1	1460	2 00	1	1690	2 00	1	1440	2 85
1	1240	2 00	1	1280	1 60	2	1125	3 00
1	1300	2 25	1	1930	2 25	1	1260	3 00
1	1410	2 40	1	1460	2 60	1	1900	3 10
1	930	2 50	1	1760	2 75			

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS.

1	450	2 10	1	620	3 00	19	677	3 15
1	810	2 25	1	510	3 00	1	810	3 15
2	805	2 40	6	808	3 00	4	882	3 15
1	460	2 75	1	1020	3 00	42	921	3 15
1	830	2 85	16	641	3 10	1	1010	3 20
1	770	2 85	19	745	3 10	21	749	3 25
2	725	2 90	2	775	3 15	24	809	3 30

HOGS—The run of hogs was about the same as last Saturday, the week's receipts showing a falling off of less than 800 head. There has been no material change in the general quality of the offerings for the past six weeks. So far this month the average weight has been 24 lbs. against 26 lbs. the first half of last month. Hogs are running about 25 lbs. lighter than a year ago at this time.

Before the market really opened and before the reports came from Chicago, a few loads sold to the speculative and fresh meat trade at wide prices, fully 10c higher than Friday, at from $4.65 to $4.70. This state of affairs did not last long, however, and Chicago reports coming lower the market soon settled down to here Friday's prices, the early advance being entirely lost. All buyers wanted some hogs and trading was fairly lively right up to the close. Light and butcher weight hogs sold at from $4.50 to $4.70, heavy and mixed loads at from $4.45 to $4.60. Sales were largely at from $4.50 to $4.60 against at from $4.30 to $4.55 Friday, the general average of prices paid being $4.55 against $4.53½ Friday and $4.40½ Saturday of last week. Representative sales:

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
6	216	$4 30	75	224	$4 45	80	224	$4 55
73	189	4 35	4	225	4 45	80	224	4 55
61	212	4 40	61	231	4 45	61	232	4 55
58	246	4 40	63	226	4 50	63	276	4 55
60	176	4 40	78	229	4 50	78	228	4 55
80	191	4 40	82	247	4 55	80	247	4 55
4	197	4 50	80	224	4 55	80	224	4 55
57	227	4 50	68	269	4 55	80	224	4 55
78	228	4 50	71	213	4 55	71	213	4 55½
61	262	4 50	67	242	4 60	80	224	4 60
71	186	4 50	59	235	4 60	63	235	4 60
64	214	4 50	67	267	4 60	67	267	4 60
64	269	4 50	58	251	4 60	64	251	4 60
69	235	4 50	64	235	4 60	64	235	4 60
80	224	4 50	71	202	4 60	80	202	4 60
69	234	4 50	67	193	4 60	69	193	4 60
71	202	4 50	7	231	4 60	7	231	4 60
71	225	4 50	71	225	4 60	71	225	4 60
64	225	4 50	68	249	4 60	64	249	4 60
80	221	4 50	68	219	4 60	68	219	4 60
68	227	4 50	55	198	4 60	68	198	4 60
78	242	4 55	72	216	4 60	72	216	4 60
54	227	4 55	65	213	4 60	65	213	4 60
32	232	4 55						

PIGS AND ROUGH.

1	510	2 50	1	410	3 75			
1	330	2 50	6	288	4 00			
1	430	2 60	11	243	4 15			
1	300	2 50	6	235	4 25			

SHEEP—Five loads were received, one of them billed direct to a local packer. Two loads of good heavy western wethers, yearlings, sold readily for $6.10 and the other two loads remained unsold. The demand is good for the market is bare. Fair to good lambs, $4.50@5.10; fair to good wethers, $4.50@5.00; common and stock sheep, $4.00@4.25; good to choice 40 to 60-lb lambs, $4.50@5.50. Representative sales:

No.	Av.	Pr.
35 wethers, westerns	128	$6 10
131 wethers, westerns	127	6 10
161 wethers, westerns	126	6 10

Receipts and Disposition of Stock.

Receipts at the Union Stock yards, South Omaha, Neb., for the twenty-four hours ending at 5 o'clock p. m., April 16, 1892.

RECEIPTS

CATTLE.		HOGS.		SHEEP.		HORSES & MLS	
Cars.	Head.	Cars.	Head.	Cars.	Head.	Cars.	Head.
67	1,813	44	3,043	5	308	3	45

DISPOSITION.

BUYERS.	CATTLE.	HOGS.	SHEEP.
Omaha Packing Co.	22	81	.....
G. H. Hammond company	46	157	93
Swift & Co.	206	369	.....
The Cudahy Packing Co.	215	1,053	372
Kimball & Son	.....	60	.....
White P. & D.	.....	187	.....
Shippers and feeders	1,159	220	164
Total	1,653	2,826	571

Chicago Live Stock Market.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 16.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—There was no further advance in cattle, but the feeling was firm. The run was an average for the last day of the week, being about 1,500 head. Everything was bought up early on a basis of from $4.25 to $4.50 for inferior to extra cows, heifers and bulls, $2.60 to $3.50 for stockers and feeders, $3.15 to $4.85 for common to fancy steers, and from $1.75 to $3.80 for Texas cattle. Calves were quoted at from $1.50 to $6.70, and springers were salable at from $18.00 to $38.00 per head.

The hog market was lower. It opened not more than a nickel off, but it grew weaker every hour late and before the close showed a reduction of 15c, closing flat at Thursday's prices. Late sales were on a basis of from $4.40 to $4.75 for poor to choice light and $4.60 to $4.80 for heavy and medium weights. The extreme range was from $2.00 to $4.90, culls selling at from $2.00 to $4.25 and a load or two of extra fetching $4.95.

Receipts: Cattle, 1,500; hogs, 15,000.

The Evening Journal reports: CATTLE—Receipts 15,000; shipments, 12,000; market steady; today's sales, natives, $3.40@4.15; Texans, $3.15; cows, $2.40@3.75.

HOGS—Receipts, 15,000; shipments, 14,000; market 10@15c lower; rough and common, $3.75@4.30; mixed and packers, $4.45@4.75; prime heavy and butchers' weights, $4.8 @4.85; light, $4.05@4.85.

SHEEP—Receipts, 3,500; shipments, 2,000; market steady; today's sales, mixed natives, $6.40; Texans, $3.40@3.87½; westerns, $6.00@6.30.

Kansas City Live Stock Market.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 16.—CATTLE—Receipts, 1,400; shipments, 1,000; steers were in demand and prices were strong, $4.15@4.25; cows, steady, $1.25@3.25; stockers and feeders quiet and steady, $2.50@3.60.

HOGS—Receipts, 7,100; shipments, 4,500; the market was fairly active and 5c lower; all grades, $4.00@4.57½; bulk, $4.45@4.55.

SHEEP—Receipts, 3,500; shipments, 200; the market was quiet and steady.

THE REALTY MARKET.

INSTRUMENTS placed on record April 16, 1892:

WARRANTY DEEDS.

Anna Corrigan to M J C Ryan, lots 7 to 13, block 3, Logan place	$ 1
Sidney Smith and wife to Andrew Hiley et ux, 30½ feet of w 102 feet lot 14, block 1, Lake's add	1
C C George to R L Wilcox, lot 3, George's sub of Potter & Cobb's 2d add to South Omaha	1,000
Henry Schultz, jr, and wife to same, lot 15, block 4, Arbor place	1,250
C L Waller to William Guider, lot 7, block 21, Orchard Hill	120
A A Brown and husband to R I Mattice, and ½ lot 27, block 1; lots 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 22 to 25, block 2; lots 1 to 11, block 3, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 to 11, block 5, Burlington Center	1
James Ainscow to Edward Ainscow, and ½ lot 27, block 1; lots 1 to 6, 8, 9, 22 to 25, block 2; lots 1 to 11, block 3; lots 1, 2, 3, 5 to 11, block 5, same	1
M J C Ryan and husband to Anna Corrigan, lots 6 and 7, block 8, lot 10, block 1, Corrigan place	1
C F Fahs and wife to C M Hunt, lot 14, block 123, South Omaha	900
L Schroeder, trustee, to Lars Johnson, lot 7, block 13, Brown park	250
F H Whitney and wife to S D Mercer, e 22 feet lot 2, block 150, Omaha	11,000
Charles McMenemy and wife to W D Patton, lots 1 to 6 and 14 to 24, block 11, West Albright	5,100
Same to C E Patton, lot 13, block "L," Love's add	5,000
W D Patton and wife to H E Nyman, lot 6, block 11, West Albright	250
Dennis Daly to K A Daly, lot 24, block 8, Cleverdale add	1,000
T C Scott to J F Cornish, s 40 feet lots 1 and 2, block 1, Lincoln place	2,500

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS.

M E Corrigan et al to Anna Corrigan, lots 9 to 12, block 3, lots 21 to 24, block 6, lots 9 to 12, block 7, lot 1, block 9, lots 12 to 17, block 10, lots 1 to 4, block 14, lots 1 to 5, block 31, Corrigan place, lots 1 to 5, block 41, lots 7 and 8, block 16, lots 7 to 12, block 17, lots 12 to 17, block 21, lots 1 to 6, block 24, lots 13 to 18, block 25, lot 7 to 12, block 28, lots 1 to 6, block 29, lots 1 to 6, block 30, lots 13 to 18, block 34, 1st add to Corrigan place	1
M E Corrigan et al to M J C Ryan, lots 6 to 11, block 4, lot 9 to 12 block 8, lots 5 to 8 block 9, lots 1 to 4 block 6, lots 21 to 24 block 7, lots 8 and 9 block 8, lots 1 to 12 block 10 Corrigan place, lots 8 and 10 block 16, lots 1 to 6 block 17, lots 7 to 12 block 22, lots 7 to 12 block 24, lots 7 to 12 and 19 to 24 block 25, lots 6 to 11 and 19 to 23 block 30, lots 1 to 6 block 33, lots 19 to 24 block 34 First add to Corrigan place	1
Arthur Remington and wife to J S McCormick, lots 16 and w½ lots 9 block 2 Clarendon add and e 30½ ft lots 94 Gise's add	2
G A Honrland and wife to Omaha & Florence Loan and Trust Co out lots 26 Florence	1

DEEDS.

J S Melkle (special master) to B F Thomas lots 4 block 26 South Omaha	1,325
J S Morrison (same) to Jim Pickard lots 1 and 2 block 16, lots 4 to 9 block 19 and lots 24 block 16 West Albright	901
Total amount of transfers	$23,799

Because once upon a time some society leader noted for her rare beauty allowed her favor to fall upon the dainty cutaway jacket and blouse pretty girls and ugly girls will appear this spring in this decidedly nobby and always fascinating rig. Most of the dainty things to be worn under the half dozen and half jacket of cloth or velvet are of silk.

DeWitt's Sarsaparilla destroys such poisons as scrofula, skin disease, eczema, rheumatism. Its timely use saves many lives.

THE SPECULATIVE MARKETS

There Was No Activity on 'Change Until the Close.

PARDRIDGE SOLD JULY AND BOUGHT MAY

On Rumors of Heavy Sales of Cash Wheat That Cereal Advanced to a Shade Over Thursday's Prices and Then Declined.

CHICAGO Ill., April 16.—Until within fifteen minutes of the close a stupor was on the market today. Then, on talk of very heavy sales of cash wheat, May and July options went to 89½c, a shade over Thursday's price, with a drop back to 89¼c as the gong sounded. Corn closed at a decline of ⅛c compared with Thursday night. Provisions are unchanged. Throughout the day there was but little animation in the wheat pit and prices ruled lower, though the weakness was not very pronounced. There was no foreign markets nor will there be any until Tuesday. Domestic markets were all dull and lower, and the scalping crowd here was inclined to be bearish and sold freely, while the longs also showed a disposition to sell out as if fearing further depression. Primes weekly crop report was construed as rather unfavorable, as it showed that development had been greatly retarded by the low temperature and excess of moisture, and this condition was confirmed by many dispatches from the winter wheat belt. Cutler, however, was a generous buyer of May almost from the start—presumably for Pardridge—and this buying absorbed most of the offerings and prevented much decline. It was generally understood, however, that Pardridge was selling about as much July as he bought May, and was simply changing his short interest from May to the latter month. The receipts for the week were liberal and helped to depress the market.

The export clearances from both coasts for the week showed another falling off, having been only 2,910,000 bu. against 2,995,000 bu. the previous week. This has led some operators to call attention to the recent card of statistician Dodge, which it was argued, assuming that we are getting rid of less than 3,000,000 bu. per week, would show a big surplus bound to be left over for June 30. Extensive reports to King & Co., Toledo, were said to show that since April 1 the plant has made considerable improvement in the chief winter wheat states. The McCormick Harvester company was given authority for a statement regarding the forward state of wheat seeding. May opened at from 70½c to 89c, sold to 89½c, off to 89c and at 12 o'clock was 89½@c. During the final hour reports of a big cash business in wheat here and charters for 250,000 bu. from New York caused a lively upturn. After having sold as high as 89¾c realizing set in. The close was steady at ⅛c under the top.

In corn the country sold considerable, Kansas particularly. There was some doubt among brokers whether the supposed holdings of Cudahy and others had been liquidated or not. It was pretty generally thought that there was no important long or short line in the pit. The better weather had a tendency to encourage selling. The movement, too, was a little larger than for some days past. Best prices were near the close, in sympathy with wheat.

The heavy receipts last Thursday—109 cars—which greatly exceeded all expectations, rendered the oats market extremely weak today and options closed from ⅛c to ¼c lower. Provisions had the lowest day for a month. The changes were but 5c in pork and 2½c in lard and ribs all day. Outside holders were changing from May to July a little. Packers did not try to do business, and scalpers found no chance to trade. There was a better demand for hogs and rates held steady at 20c for wheat and 12½c for corn to Buffalo. The estimated receipts for Monday are: Wheat 90 cars; corn 250 cars; oats 210 cars; hogs 26,000.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

ARTICLES.	OPEN	HIGH.	LOW.	CLOSING.
WHEAT No. 2—				
April	$ 70⅞@80	$ 80⅝	$ 70⅞	$ 80¼
May	70⅞@80	80⅞	70⅞@70⅞	80¼
July	70⅞@80	80⅞	79⅝	80¼
CORN No. 2—				
April	40	40	39⅝	40
May	40¼	40¼@⅜	39⅝	40¼
June	38	38⅝	38	38⅝
OATS No. 2—				
May	28⅝	28⅝	28⅛@⅜	28¼@⅜
June	28	28	27⅞	27⅞
MESS PORK—				
May	10 07½	10 12½	10 07½	10 10
July	10 20	10 25	10 20	10 22½
LARD—				
May	6 22½	6 22½	6 20	6 22½
July	6 32½	6 32½	6 30	6 32½
SHORT RIBS—				
May	5 60	5 60	5 57½	5 57½
July	5 70	5 72½	5 67½	5 70

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Steady; winter patents, $4.20@4.40; winter straight, $3.40@3.60; $3.20@3.25, winter seconds.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring wheat, 83¼c; No. 3 spring wheat, f. o. b., 73@76c; No. 2 red, 85¼c.

CORN—No. 2, 38½@38¾c.

OATS—No. 2, 28½c; No. 2 white, 30@30½c; No. 3 white, 28c.

RYE—No. 2, 74½c.

BARLEY—No. 2, 55@60c; No. 3, f. o. b., 40@50c; No. 4, f. o. b., 42@46c.

FLAX SEED—$1.07½c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $1.27@1.32.

PORK—Mess, per bbl., $10.02½@10.75; lard, per 100 lbs., $6.20@6.22½; short ribs, sides, (loose), $5.57½@5.60; dry salted shoulders, (boxed), $4.50@4.75; short clear sides, (boxed), $6.12½@6.30.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.13.

SUGARS—Unchanged; cut loaf, 5.55½c; granulated, 4⅞c; standard "A," 4⅝c.

Receipts and shipments today were as follows:

ARTICLES.	RECEIPTS.	SHIPMENTS.
Flour, barrels	20,000	35,000
Wheat, bushels	48,000	1,110,000
Corn, bushels	336,000	1,780,000
Oats, bushels	420,000	207,000
Rye, bushels	11,000	19,000
Barley, bushels	45,000	105,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady; fancy creamery, 21½@22c; fine western, 19@20c; ordinary, 17@18c; fine dairies, 18@20c. Eggs, firm at 12½@13c.

St. Louis Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 16.—FLOUR—Dull and unchanged; family, $4.00@4.10; choice, $4.20@4.35; fancy, $4.50@4.70; extra fancy, $4.65@4.15; patents, $4.35@4.45.

WHEAT—Sold off early, then rallied ⅝c, fluctuations then set in and after running down and up several times finally closed ⅝@⅞c below Thursday's. Not much done here. Charters for 210,000 are known to have been made, and it is thought at least twice that will be reported later. It is claimed that the export business is improving and that clearances will increase as soon as the grain now en route reaches the seaboard but the eastern stocks are too light to permit of heavy shipments now. The speculative feeling is quite bearish but the market does not yield readily to bearish assaults. It looks like a better purchase under 85c than a 85c. Corn and oats have shown no little weakness on the first appearance of warm weather and favorable seeding receipts show a moderate increase but give no reliable indication of a continuance in provisions the market has been one of the dullest of the year, without a feature of interest.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, April 16.—MONEY ON CALL—Easy at 3 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—3½@5½ per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Quiet but steady at $4.86 for sixty day bills and $4.87½ for demand.

The closing quotations on bonds:

U. S. 4s reg	112½	Missouri Union 6s	106
U. S. 4s coup	112½	N. J. C. Int Cert	111½
U. S. 4½s reg	109	North Pacific 1st	117½
Pacific 6s of '95	109	North Pacific 2nds	112½
Louisiana stpd 4s	88½	Northwestern Con	135
Tenn. new set 5s	100	Northwest'n deb 5s	107½
Tenn. new set 3s	74½	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5s	84½
Tenn. new set 3s	74½	St. L. & S. F. Gen. M	102
Canada So. 2nds	103½	St. Paul Consols	127
Central Pacific 1sts	109½	St. P., C. & P. 1st	118
D. & R. G. 4s	91	Tex. P. L. & T. Ld.	85½
D. & R. G. 4s	87½	Union P. R. G. 4s	87½
Erie 2nds	107½	Union Pacific 1sts	107
M., K. & T. Gen. 5s	84½	West Shore	113½
M., K. & T. Gen. 2s	56½	W. St. L. & W	79½

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Comparative Activity Prevailed Among the Leaders of the List Yesterday.

NEW YORK, April 16.—The stock market today was comparatively active and strong, though the activity was principally in the coal stocks and the strength was confined to those shares and a few specialties which scored substantial gains for the day while the rest of the list fluctuated within narrow limits of the trading and possessed little significance. Richmond & West Point securities were very strong throughout the day. Large buying orders in Reading from Philadelphia were executed and the decline in this stock foot up more than half of the business done, but notwithstanding the fact the whole list was given character by the trading in these few securities and declines are a rarity this evening. The weak points in the market were the industrials, especially Sugar and New England, but neither of these were held down for any time and the final losses are insignificant.

The opening of the market was made on a moderate volume of business at small fractional gains over Thursday's final figures as a rule which was followed by a further improvement along the line. Reading moved up from 50½ per cent to 51½ per cent, closing at the top figure, while Jersey Central, which sold ex-dividend, nearly recovered the dividend and closed at close to best price. Among the other stocks which showed marked strength were the Rock Island, Lake Shore, Tennessee Coal and some others but the list as a rule displayed little movement. The close was fairly active to form a strong market at the best prices. The final gains of note include Reading, 1½c; Tennessee Coal, 1¾c; Hocking Valley, 1½c, and the preferred 2½c.

The following are the closing quotations for the leading stocks on the New York Stock exchange today:

Atchison	35⅝	do preferred	[illegible]
Adams Express	144	N. Y. Central	116
Alton, T. H	35	N. Y., C. & St. L.	19
Alton, T. H. pfd	140	do preferred	75
American Express	117	Ohio Mississippi	27⅝
B., C. R. & N	90	do preferred	80
Canada Pacific	89	Ontario & Western	23⅝
Canada Southern	61⅝	Oregon Improvem't	22
Central Pacific	32⅝	Oregon Nav.	85
Ches. & Ohio	22⅝	Pacific Mail	38⅝
do 1st preferred	61	Peoria Dec. & E.	19⅝
do 2nd preferred	42⅝	Pittsburg	157
Chicago & Alton	148	Pullman Palace	169⅝
C., B. & Q.	109	Reading	49⅝
C., C., C. & St. L.	73⅝	Rock Island	77⅝
Del. Hudson	147⅝	St. L. & S. F. 1st pr. f	77⅝
Del. L. & W.	150	St. Paul	79⅝
D. & R. G. pfd	32⅝	do preferred	120⅝
East Tennessee	24⅝	St. P., Min. & Man.	117⅝
do 1st preferred	40	St. Paul & Omaha	47⅝
do 2nd preferred	140	do preferred	118
Erie	26⅝	Texas Pacific	4⅝
do preferred	75	Texas Pacific land trust	40⅝
Fort Wayne	153⅝	Tol. & O. Cen. pfd	81
Chicago & E. Ill.	82⅝	Union Pacific	46⅝
Hocking Valley	27⅝	U. S. Express	80
Houston & Texas	39	Wabash, St. L. & P.	12⅝
Illinois Central	104⅝	do preferred	28⅝
St. Paul & Duluth	44⅝	Wells Fargo Ex.	140
Kansas & Texas	17⅝	Western Union	84
Lake Erie & West	29⅝	Am. Cotton Oil	41⅝
do preferred	74⅝	Colorado Coal	31⅝
Lake Shore	126⅝	Homestake	34
Louisville & Nash	75⅝	Iron Silver	36⅝
Louisville & N. A.	50	Lead	38⅝
Memphis & Char.	50	Quicksilver	3⅝
Michigan Central	110⅝	do preferred	17
Mo., K. & T.	19⅝	Sugar	101⅝
do preferred	136	Distillers	47
Minn. & St. L.	11	Rich. & W. P. Ter.	10⅝
do preferred	23⅝	Wisconsin Central	17⅝
Missouri Pacific	60⅝	Great Northern pfd	130
Mobile & Ohio	38⅝	Chicago Gas	73⅝
Nashville Chatt.	86	Rio Grande	20
N. J. Central	141⅝	Sugar Trust	101⅝
Norfolk & W. pfd	49	Southern Pacific	27⅝
Northern Pacific	22⅝	O. S. L. & U. N.	37
North Pacific pfd	62⅝	Cordage	87
U. P. Den. & Gulf	20⅝	do pref	71⅝
Northwestern	120⅝	Distillers	47⅝

The total sales of stocks today were 108,142 shares, including: Delaware & Hudson, 12,436; Erie, 4,700; Hocking Valley, 2,300; Lake Shore, 3,700; New York Central, 3,000; New England, 8,800; Reading, 105,100; Richmond & West Point, 6,200; Union Pacific, 4,100; Western Union, 3,000.

Financial Review.

NEW YORK, April 16.—The Post says: There is a strong conviction in the financial community that next week will afford a critical test of the market. In other words, it is believed that the force by which the movement of prices in the near future will be controlled must within the next few days reveal themselves unmistakably. The belief is not, perhaps, unreasonable. The market stands today at the parting of the ways and an emphatic movement in either direction will be a new movement and not a continuation of a movement already in progress. The exception is, of course, the buying of profit-paying stocks and bonds by investors. This movement, however, affects but a fraction of the list. It has not influenced the granger stocks as a class or the southern stocks. Nothing but a upward or downward movement can revive activity in those. Wall street is pret