THE SPECULATIVE MARKETS

Provision Pit Was the Center of Attraction Among Traders Yesterday.

WHEAT, CORN AND OATS WERE FIRMER

Instead of an Expected Break in Wheat, There Was a Good Line of Investment Buying and the Clique Was Interested.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 15.—The provision market was the center of attraction today. The bull clique had evidently some obstinate shorts to deal with and they slowly but remorselessly twisted the thumbscrews of higher prices upon them. The continued small receipts of hogs put the shorts completely at the mercy of the longs. The market was active, excited and unsettled.

Hogs receipts were not as large as anticipated and prices were higher, while the domestic markets were stronger, and Liverpool advices showed considerable firmness in that quarter, with lard and bacon quoted 6d higher. The receipts of products were somewhat larger and the shipments only moderate. While prices fluctuated considerably, the extreme figures were fully maintained to the close. The great bulk of the business was in May contracts and, compared with last night, pork is up 47½c, lard 32½c and ribs 22½c.

Wheat, corn and oats were firmer and rested with the following gains: Wheat, from ⅛c to ¾c; corn, from ¼c to ⅜c, and oats, ⅛c.

Instead of an expected break in wheat, there was a good line of investment buying and reports started that the clique's brokers were picking up large blocks of wheat. The crowd got a little infusion of bull enthusiasm and bid prices up some. It was certain that Eggleston bought considerable wheat, partly through Rumsey and Chandler and also used other houses for thesame purpose.

Later a rumor was started that Eggleston had been put forward as a scarecrow to frighten the crowd and strengthen the market, so some of the big houses could sell more generously and at better prices. Attention was called to the fact that nearly two months ago, May wheat sold as low as 77c, and though in the meantime stocks have greatly increased, it is now ¾c higher than then. Prices fluctuated within ⅝c range, opening at about yesterday's closing, advanced ⅝c, held steady and closed from ⅛c to ¼c from the top. A heavy increase in the visible is indicated for next Monday from the fact that primary market receipts so far this week have exceeded the shipments by 3,188,000 bu.

Corn was spasmodic, there being temporary periods of activity. An improved feeling was due mainly to the purchases of certain houses, supposed to be acting for parties now long a considerable line. Initial trades were at yesterday's closing prices, and after selling off 1-16c advanced ⅜c, reacted ¼c, ruled firmer and closed with from ¼c to ⅜c gain.

Oats closed a shade firmer, after experiencing about the dullest session of an unusually dull week.

Estimated receipts for tomorrow: Wheat, 220 cars; corn, 256 cars; oats, 140 cars; hogs, 23,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

ARTICLES.	OPENING.	HIGH.	LOW.	CLOSE.
WHEAT No. 2				
December	$ 71⅝	71⅞	71⅛	71⅜
January	72	72¼	72	72⅜@¼
May	77⅝	77⅞	77⅜	77⅝@¾
CORN No. 2—				
December	42¼	42¼@⅜	42¼	42¼@⅜
January	43¼	43⅜	43⅛@⅛	43¼
May	47¼@47⅝	47⅝	47¼	47½@⅝
OATS No. 2—				
December	30½	30½	30¼	30¼
January	31¼	31¼	31¼	31¼
May	35	35¼	35	35⅛
MESS PORK—				
January	15 77½	16 10	15 77½	16 10
May	16 00	16 40	16 00	16 40
LARD—				
January	9 62½	9 95	9 62½	9 95
May	9 50	9 80	9 50	9 80
SHORT RIBS—				
January	8 27½	8 50	8 27½	8 50
May	8 37½	8 60	8 37½	8 60

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—No special change.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 71⅞c; No. 3 spring, 63@66c; No. 2 red, 71⅞c.

CORN—No. 2, 42½c.

OATS—No. 2, 30½@30¾c; No. 3 white, 32½@33c.

RYE—No. 2, 48c.

BARLEY—No. 2, 64c; No. 3, f. o. b., 41@65c; No. 4, 34c.

FLAX SEED—No. 1, $1.09.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.00.

PORK—Mess, per bbl., $14.87½; lard, per 100 lbs., $9.90; short ribs, sides (loose), $8.45@8.50; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $7.75@7.87½; short clear sides (boxed), $8.75@8.80.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.30.

SUGAR—Cut loaf, granulated, standard "A," unchanged.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

ARTICLES.	RECEIPTS.	SHIPMENTS
Flour, bbls	21,000	16,000
Wheat, bu	148,000	300,000
Corn, bu	151,000	49,000
Oats, bu	104,000	124,000
Rye, bu	6,000	2,000
Barley, bu	114,000	50,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was dull: creamery, 20@26½c; dairy, 19@26c. Eggs, firm; strictly fresh, 23@24c.

New York Markets.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—FLOUR—Receipts, 28,000 pkgs.; exports, 4,700 bbls., 9,900 sacks; stronger, quiet; sales, 19,000 bbls.

CORN MEAL—Steady; yellow western, $2.75@2.80.

WHEAT—Receipts, 118,000 bu.; exports, 38,900 bu.; sales, 1,390,000 bu. futures; 260,000 bu. spot. Spots more active, firm; No. 2 red, 77½@77¾c in store and elevator; 78@78½c afloat; 76⅞@79¼c f. o. b.; No. 3 red, 73½@73¾c; ungraded red, 74@79c; No. 1 northern, 81@81½c; No. 1 hard, 80¾c; No. 2 northern, 76c@76½c; No. 2 Milwaukee, 76@76¾c; No. 2 spring, 71½c. Options were moderately active and irregular. The opening was steady and advancing ⅛@¼c on shorts covering through firmer west, reacting ⅛@¼c on weaker late cables and local realizing, closing weak at unchanged prices to ⅛c advance; No. 2 red, December, 76½c; January, 76¾@77c, closing at 76⅝c; March, 79 3-16@79⅜c, closing at 79⅛c; May, 80⅝@81⅛c, closing at 81⅛c.

RYE—Dull, nominal.

BARLEY—Dull.

BARLEY MALT—Quiet.

CORN—Receipts, 12,000 bu.; exports, 11,300 bu.; sales, 450,000 bu. of futures; 38,000 bu. spots. Spots dull, firmer; No. 2, 51¼@51½c in elevator; 52¼@52½c afloat; ungraded mixed, 51@53c; steamer mixed, 51¾. Options were dull, ⅛@⅜c higher and firm, trade in local switching; December, 51½c, closing at 51½c; January, 51⅞@52c, closing at 51⅝c; May, 52⅜@53¼c, closing at 53¼c.

OATS—Receipts, 24,500 bu.; exports, 203 bu.; sales, 120,000 bu.futures; 172,000 bu spot. Spots fairly active, white, firmer. Options firmer, dull; December, 36¾c; January, 37¼@37⅜c, closing at 37⅜c; March, 39⅜c; No. 2 spot white, 41¾c; mixed western, 36½@38c; white western, 40@47½c; No. 2 Chicago, 37½c.

HAY—Moderately active, firm.

HOPS—Quiet, steady; state, good to choice, 18@23c; Pacific coast, 18@23c.

SUGAR—Raw, dull; refined, quiet.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, quiet, steady.

RICE—Firm, steady.

PORK—Quiet, firm; sales, 300 bbls. year. Mess, $14.75@15.00; new mess, $15.75@16.25; extra prime, nominal. Cut meats, quiet; pickled bellies, 8¼c; pickled shoulders, 8¼@8½c; pickled hams, 10½@11c. Middles, dull. LARD—Quiet, closed steady; western steam closed at $10.20; sales, 600 tierces at $10.00; option sales, 1,000 tierces; December, $15.05@10.20, closing at $10.05 bid; January, $10.20 asked; March closed at $10.10 bid; May closed at $10.10 bid.

BUTTER—Quiet, unsettled; Elgin, 29½@30c.

CHEESE—Fairly active, firm.

PIG IRON—Quiet, steady; American, $13.00@15.50.

COPPER—Moderate demand, firm; lake, $12.25.

LEAD—Quiet, domestic, $3.75.

TIN—Firmer; Straits, $19.70.

Omaha Hides and Tallow.

HIDES—No. 1 green, 3½c; No. 2 green salted, 4@4½c; No. 2 green salted, 2½c to 3@3½c; No. 1 green salted, 25 to 40 lbs., 4¼c; No. 2 green salted, 25 to 40 lbs., 3¼c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 6c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 4c; No. 1 dry flint, 6c to 7c; No. 2 dry flint, 4c to 5c; No. 1 dry salted, 5c to 6c. Part cured hides one-half cent per pound less than fully cured.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each 35c@$1.25; green salted shearlings (short wooled early skins), each 15@25c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 5c@10c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 2 each, 5c; dry flint Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 10@14½c; dry flint Kansas and Nebraska murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 8@12c; dry flint Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 10@12½c; dry flint Colorado murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 8@10c; dry pieces and bucks, actual weight, 7@9c. Have feet cut off, as it is useless to pay freight on them.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 3¾c; tallow, No. 2, 3@3¼c; grease, white A, 3¾c; grease, white B, 3½c; grease, yellow, 3c; grease, dark, 2½c; old butter, 2@2½c; beeswax, prime, 16@25c; rough tallow, 1½@2c.

Omaha Produce Market.

Some changes will be noted in the quotations on eggs, poultry, game and hay.

APPLES—Good apples are quoted at $3.50@4.00; choice to fancy, $4.00@4.25.

BANANAS—Quotations are: Fair to good shipping stock, $2.00@2.50 per bunch.

BUTTER—The general market is steady. The bulk of the receipts sells at 14@16c, and some select packages at 17@19c.

CRANBERRIES—Quotations are: Bell and cherry, $6.50 per bbl.; bell and bugle, $9.50; late Cape Cod, $10.00. The arrivals on the market are light.

CELERY—Fancy celery is difficult to find. Quotations range all the way from 25c to 40c.

CHRISTMAS TREES—4 to 6 feet, per doz., $3.00@4.50; 6 to 8 feet, per doz., $6.00@10.00; extra large, for schools and churches, each, $2.00@6.00; holly, per bbl., $2.50; mistletoe per lb., 25@30c.

EGGS—The large arrivals of cold storage eggs are weakening the market, which will have to be quoted at 23@24c for fresh stock.

GAME—The arrivals of quail are large, but they move quite freely at quotations. Ducks are scare and in good demand. Jack rabbits are coming freely and are likely to go lower. Small rabbits are not very plenty and sell more readily. Quotations are: Pheasants, $5.00@5.50; prairie chickens, $4.00@4.50; grouse, $4.00; quail, $1.00@1.25; snipe, $1.00; jack snipe, $1.25@1.50; plover, $1.00; golden plover, $1.25@1.50; canvas back ducks, $8.00@10.00; red head ducks, $4.00; mallard ducks, $3.50@3.75; blue wing teal, $2.25; green wing teal, $1.75; mixed ducks, $1.50; Canada geese, $6.00@7.50; jack rabbits, $2.00; $3.00; small rabbits, $1.25@1.50; squirrels, $1.00@1.25; antelope saddles, 14@15c; deer saddles, 15@16c; antelope carcasses, 9@10c; deer carcasses, 10@12c.

HONEY—The market is firm, good white clover honey being scarce at 17c.

HAY—The offerings consisted of thirty-three cars, fresh receipts and holdovers together, and the market was easier. No. 1, $7.00@7.50; No. 2, $5.00@6.50.

LEMONS—Choice, $4.50; fancy, $5.50.

MALAGA GRAPES—Per keg, $9.00.

OYSTERS—Unchanged at 13@35c per can.

ONIONS—Homegrown, 80@85c; Spanish, $1.90 per crate.

ORANGES—Florida, $3.25@3.50.

POTATOES—Quotations are: Homegrown, 65@75c; Colorado and Utah, 85c.

POULTRY—Turkeys, if choice, sell readily at 12@12½c and geese and ducks at 9@10c. The demand is fair and the supply not very large. Some very thin and poor turkeys have been reported as selling as low as 9c. Chickens are coming in freely and, the demand being light, stocks are inclined to accumulate. The market on chickens is consequently lower, and very choice stock is worth at 8c. Good stock sold largely at 7c and inferior at 6c.

SWEET POTATOES—Choice Muscatine and Illinois stock, $3.75@4.00 per bbl.

VEAL—Quotations are: Small and fat, 6½@7c; large and heavy, 3@5c.

St. Louis Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 15.—FLOUR—Easy.

WHEAT—Fraction above yesterday; cash, 66⅝c; January, 67⅝@67⅞c; May, 74⅛c.

CORN—¼@⅜c up; cash, 38¼c; January, 38⅜c; May, 43½@43⅝c.

OATS—Steady; cash, 32½c; May, 34¾c.

RYE—Held higher; 56c asked.

BARLEY—Steady.

BUTTER—Unchanged.

EGGS—Unchanged; 24c.

LARD—$9.75.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 4,000 bbls.; wheat, 42,000 bu.; corn, 94,000 bu.; oats, 27,000 bu.; rye, 6,000 bu.; barley 10,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 5,000 bbls.; wheat, 16,000 bu.; corn, 119,000 bu.; oats, 19,000 bu.; rye, 2,000 bu.; barley, none.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Business activity in dry goods has passed from demand to delivery, an interval of quiet being natural at this time, but it is necessary from the scarcity of goods. There was a fair trade in bleached and colored cottons, with cutters and in brown goods, with converts. More business would be done all round if the goods could be had. There were no new developments and few are now expected. Business was fair in prints. Clothing woolens were in strong movement, for the next heavy weight season, but full lines of goods have not yet been opened. The outlook in all directions is better than could have been anticipated.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 15.—WHEAT—Was dull and lower; No. 2 hard, 65@65½c; No. 2 red, 69c.

CORN—Weak; No. 2 mixed, 33½@34c.

OATS—Barely steady; No. 2 mixed, 30@31c.

RYE—Firm; No. 2, 47@48c.

BUTTER—Fair demand; creamery, 25@28c; dairy, 14@18c.

EGGS—Firm at 18@22½c.

RECEIPTS—Wheat, 45,000 bu.; corn, 6,000 bu.; oats, 1,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 27,000 bu.; corn, 14,000 bu.; oats, 1,000 bu.

Oil Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—PETROLEUM—Neglected throughout. Pennsylvania oil, spot sales, none; January options sales, none; 53½c bid, 53¾c asked; Lima oil, sales, none, 17c bid. Total sales, none.

CORTONSEED OIL—Easier; crude, 36@36¼c; yellow, 39@39½c.

TALLOW—Easy, quiet; city @2.00 for packages, 4 1-16c.

ROSIN—Dull.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—CALCUTTA LINSEED—38s 6d per quarter.

Business Briefs.

Smith & Smith, who have been running a meat market at Benkelman, have dissolved.

Mason & Merrill, implement dealers at Pleasantdale, have filed a certificate of association.

Fred Sudman, who has been conducting a general store at Chappell, has been succeeded by Sudman & Fish.

Milwaukee Grain Market.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 15.—WHEAT—Firm; May, 71c; No. 2 spring, 66c.

CORN—Quiet; No. 3, 38c.

OATS—Dull; No. 2 white, 33½@34½c; No. 3, 32½@33½c.

BARLEY—65c.

RYE—53c.

Minneapolis Wheat Market.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 15.—Cash market active; May wheat went to 71½c but dropped to 71¼c at close. December closed at 65⅝c; No. 1 northern sold at 65c; No. 2 northern, 58@59c. Receipts, 470 cars. On track: No. 1 hard, 66½c; No. 1 northern, 65c; No. 2 northern, 58@60c.

Liverpool Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 15.—WHEAT—Dull; holders offer moderately; No. 1 California, 6s 6d@6s 6½d per cental; red western spring, 6s@6s 6½d; No. 2, red winter, 5s 7½d@5s 8d.

CORN—Dull; mixed western, 4s 3d per cental.

LARD—Prime western, 50s per cwt.

TALLOW—Fine American, 26s per cwt.

Coffee Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Options opened steady, 10 points lower; closing weak, 10 to 20 points down; sales, 26,000 bags, including December, 15.80@16.10 January, $15.40@15.70; March, $15.10@15.40; May, $14.80@15.10; September, $14.75@14.80. Spot Rio, dull, weak; No. 7, $16.00@16.50.

Cincinnati Markets.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 15.—WHEAT—Fair demand; No. 2 red, 70c.

CORN—Firm; No. 2 mixed, 44c.

OATS—Easy; No. 2 mixed, 34½@35c.

WHISKY—Active, strong; $1.30.

Cotton Market.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 15.—Firm; middling, 9 9-16c; low middling, 9 3-16c; net receipts, 12,124 bales; gross, 13,250 bales; exports coastwise, 250 bales; stock, 283,498 bales.

Baltimore Grain Market.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 15.—WHEAT—Dull; No. 2 red spot and December, 74⅛c.

CORN—Dull; mixed spot, 48½c.

OATS—Quiet; No. 2 mixed western, 38½c.

Toledo Grain Market.

TOLEDO, O., Dec. 15.—WHEAT—Dull; No. 2 cash, 71⅜c.

CORN—Dull; No. 2 cash, 43c.

OATS—Steady; cash, 35c asked.

Traders' Talk.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 15.—Counselman & Day to Cockrell Bros. Commission company: Against generally bearish outside news and persistent opposition from local shorts, wheat sold no lower and closed ¼c higher than yesterday, continual absorption of cash and futures by a bull element, whose resources seem to be abundant and whose methods are unusually conservative, is causing more caution among some commission houses against further extending short sales from such low prices. We think there is some small chance of loss in purchases, and that almost any day the crowd may become furious buyers. Corn was strong and gained ¼c on buying by the southwest, probably on account of expected interruption of marketing owing to storms.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Speculation Turned Upon the Sterling Exchange Rates.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Speculation at the Stock exchange today turned upon the strength of the market for sterling exchange, the continued exports of gold to Europe and the flurry in the money market. The shipments of $500,000 gold today by the steamer Prussia, which is a slow boat, attracted attention, as it was looked upon as additional evidence that the foreign demand for the yellow metal was more urgent than had been generally supposed. On the top of these shipments came reports that $2,000,000 would be shipped by Saturday's steamers and that anywhere from $5,000,000 to $10,000,000 would go forward next week.

The sterling exchange market was unusually bare of bills, and rates are right up to the shipping point. These matters made an impression upon money lenders, who began to call in loans and caused money to jump suddenly from 4½ to 5 per cent. Many firms had loans called and they had to await their arrangements, thus precipitating a stringency for which brokers, in some instances, at least, were quite unprepared. The talk of heavy gold shipments directed attention to the compulsory silver coinage law, and induced speculators to make bids for calls on gold to render in 1893. So far as the advance in the money market is concerned, it is said that while it may have an adverse influence on the stock market, it will also tend to a freer movement of cereals and cotton held on speculation.

Holders of shares on slender margins showed great anxiety to reduce their ventures and of course there was no lack of manipulation for the purpose of helping the decline along. The bears had the assistance of certain operators, who recently turned paper profits into cash and are now desirous of repurchasing their stocks at a lower range of prices. The only rally of importance occurred between 11 and 12 o'clock under the leadership of New England, and the whole list improved ½ to 1 per cent. The lowest quotations were touched shortly before the close. Then Distilling and Cattlefeeding showed a decline of 3⅜ per cent; Missouri Pacific, Manhattan and Load common, ¾ per cent; American Cotton Oil, 2½ per cent; Lead preferred 2⅜ per cent; Chicago Gas and General Electric, 2½ per cent; American Sugar, 1½ per cent, and Western Union, 1¼ per cent. The remainder of the active list included ½ per cent. Among the specialties, Richmond Terminal broke 6 per cent from the last previously reported sale to 62. United States Rubber common fell off 2½, and Ohio Southern 1¼ per cent. Final Sales were at mostly fractional recovery outside of Manhattan and Lead common, which were 1 per cent above the lowest. Reading was conspicuous for firmness throughout and shows a net loss for the day of only ¼ per cent. The market closed unsettled.

The Post says: It was known before business opened today that an extra $500,000 of gold had been ordered late yesterday from the subtreasury for export by a slow Hamburg steamer today. This need not have been alarming, for the financial community had already made up its mind to a heavy gold export on next week. But this week's gold engagements have appeared at such unusual times and in such unusual quarters that Wall street has invariably been taken off its guard. The operators for lower prices made the most of their opportunity and attacked the market on all sides. Gold exports to England were predicted for Saturday. A more serious consideration was the fact that in today's report dealing with Tuesday's transactions the treasury's gold balance, which had slowly been increasing for a fortnight past, dropped abruptly down to $1,600,000, showing that the drain from gold exports has once more fallen directly on the government's supply.

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

Atchison	39⅝	Norfolk & W. pfd	87¾
Adams Express	152	North American Co.	11⅛
Alton, T. H.	33	Northern Pacific	16¼
do preferred	150	L. P. Den & Gulf	16
American Express	117	Northwestern	115⅝
Baltimore & Ohio	94⅝	do preferred	141½
Canada Pacific	83⅝	N. Y. Central	110
Canada Southern	55½	N. Y. & N. E.	42¾
Central Pacific	37½	Ontario & Western	18⅝
Ches. & Ohio	22½	Oregon Imp.	19
Chicago Alton	141	Oregon Nav.	72
C. B. & Q.	97¾	O. S. L. & U. N.	21
Chicago Gas	92⅝	Pacific Mail	39
Consolidated Gas	172	Peoria, Dec. & E.	16¾
C. C. C. & St. L.	58⅞	Pittsburg	154
Colo. Coal & Iron	41½	Pullman Palace	193
Cotton Oil Cert.	41⅝	Reading	54
Del. Hudson	143⅝	Richmond Ter.	7¾
D. L. & W.	151¾	do preferred	26
D. & R. G. pfd	51⅝	Rio Grande West.	24
D. & C. F. Co	68	do preferred	63
East Tenn.	24	Rock Island	93
Erie	23¾	St. L. & S. F. 1st pfd.	75
do preferred	53½	St. Paul	77⅜
Fort Wayne	155	do preferred	121
Gt. Northern pfd	134	St. Paul & Omaha	42⅝
*C. & E. I. pfd	98½	do preferred	118
Hocking Valley	29¼	Southern Pacific	33¾
Illinois Central	98¾	Sugar Refinery	107
St. Paul & Duluth	24⅝	Tenn. Coal & Iron	35¾
Kan. & Tex. pfd	25¾	Texas Pacific	9¾
Lake Erie & West	22½	Tol. & O. Cent. pfd	75¾
do preferred	74¾	Union Pacific	38¾
Lake Shore	130¾	U. S. Express	50
Lead Trust	40⅝	W. St. L. & P.	10
Louis. & Nash.	76	do preferred	24
Louis. & New Alb'y	23¾	Wells-Fargo Exp.	145
Manhattan Con.	136½	Western Union	94¼
Memphis & C.	50	Wheeling & L. E.	20
Michigan Central	105	do preferred	62
Missouri Pacific	56⅝	Minn. & St. L.	17
Mobile & Ohio	35	D. & R. G.	46
Nashville Chatt.	86	General Electric	115¾
National Cordage	140¾	National Linseed	47⅝
do preferred	113¾	C. Fuel & Iron	65
N. J. Central	125	do preferred	113

* ex-div.

The total sales of stocks today were 427,237 shares, including: Atchison, 15,000; Burlington, 9,000; Chicago Gas, 19,300; Distillers, 59,000; Erie, 23,000; General Electric, 54,400; Louisville & Nashville, 5,700, Manhattan, 3,400; Missouri Pacific, 26,800; National Lead, 30,000; National Linseed, 4,000; New England, 8,800; Northern Pacific preferred, 9,300; Reading, 23,000; Rock Island, 16,900; St. Paul, 17,300; Sugar, 31,600; Union Pacific, 14,000; Western Union, 30,000.

London Financial Review.

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LONDON, Dec. 15.—[New York Herald Cable—Special to THE BEE.]—The settlement was satisfactorily concluded on the Stock exchange today. Only one comparatively unimportant failure has been announced. Business for the new account was very much restricted, operators not caring to do much so near the holidays. Indian rupee paper was ½d higher owing to a better tendency in silver. Foreign government securities close a little irregular. Americans have been quiet all day; in the course of the afternoon they became firm, but during the last hour the tone of the market changed for the worse. Illinois Central closed 1 per cent lower, Union Pacific ¾ per cent and several others ¼ to ½ per cent. Erie and Atlantic first mortgage were well maintained at an advance of ½ per cent and ⅝ per cent respectively. Canadians were rather bid for during the latter part of the afternoon. Grand Trunk issue and Canadian Pacific close ¼ to ¾ per cent higher. Mexican second preference improved; Mexican first preference ¾ per cent, and Central Argentine ½ per cent. Call money was slightly firmer at 1½ per cent, but beyond this the Stock exchange payments today had little effect. Discount rates were weaker, 1¾ to 1⅞ per cent being quoted for three months back bills.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—MONEY ON CALL—Strong; ranging from 4½ to 5 per cent; last loan 4 per cent, closed at 4 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—5@6 per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Strong; with actual business at $4.86¼@4.86½ for sixty day bills and $4.88½@4.88¾ for demand.

The closing quotations on bonds:

U. S. 4s reg.	113	M. K. & T. Gen. 5s	42
U. S. 4s coupon	113	Missouri 6s	112
U. S. 4½s reg.	109	N. J. C. Int. Cert	111⅝
Pacific 6s of '95	105	Northern Pac. 1sts	118¾
Louisiana st'ped 4s	95¾	Northern Pac. 2nds	113½
Missouri 6s	100	N. W. Consols	137
Tenn. new set 3s	105	N. W. Deb. 5s	104
Tenn. new set 5s	101¼	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5s	84
Tenn. new set 3s	76	St. Paul Consols	109
Canada So. 2nds	102	St. P. C. & P. 1sts	120
Cen. Pacific 1st	107½	T. P. L. G. Tr. Rcts.	117
D. & R. G. 1sts	116	T. P. R. G. Tr. Rcts.	29¾
D. & R. G. 4s	86⅝	Union Pac. 1sts	107
Erie 2nds	103¾	West Shore	113⅝
M. K. & T. Gen. 6s	60	H. G. W.	79¾

Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 15.—The following are the closing stock quotations:

Atch. & Topeka	38¾	Kearsarge	12
Boston & Albany	205½	Osceola	35¾
Boston & Maine	174	Quincy	144
C. B. & Q.	97⅝	Tamarack	156
Pittsburg R. R.	75	Anaconda Land Co.	25
Flint & Pere M. pfd	121⅝	Boston Land Co.	7¾
Mass. Central	18	San Diego Land Co.	13
Mex. Cen. com	19¾	West End Land Co.	17¾
N. Y. & N. England	42⅝	Bell Telephone	203½
Old Colony	179½	Lamson Store S.	154
Rutland common	2⅝	Water Power	2 1-16
Wis. Cen. com	15¾	C. M.	7¾
Allouez M. Co. (new)	50	N. E. T. & T.	89
Boston & Mont.	33½	R. & B. C.	114
Calumet & Hecla	290	Thompson	114
Franklin	145¾		

San Francisco Mining Stocks.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 15.—The official closing quotations for mining stocks today were as follows:

Alta	50	Mexican	125
Bulwer	15	Mono	15
Belcher	102	Ophir	180
Best & Belcher	125	Potosi	190
Bodie Consolidated	15	Savage	110
Challar	65	Sierra Nevada	140
Con. Cal. & Va	175	Union Consolidated	115
Crown Point	95	Utah	5
Gould & Curry	60	Yellow Jacket	65
Hale & Norcross	120	North Queen	5

New York Mining Quotations.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—The following are the closing mining quotations:

Crown Point	70	Plymouth	50
Con. Cal. & Va.	140	Sierra Nevada	120
Deadwood	110	Standard	130
Gould & Curry	110	Union Con.	110
Homestake	1900	Yellow Jacket	40
Mexican	115	Iron Silver	40
*North Star	650	Quick Silver	350
Ontario	1300	do pref'd	1800
Ophir	190	Bulwer	15

* asked.

St. Louis Mining Quotations.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 15.—The following were the closing quotations on the Mining exchange:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.
Am. Not	$ .22½	$ .27	Hope	$ 4.25	$ 4.60
Bimet	10.25	....	Murphy	.04⅛	.06
Gran M.	6.00	6.25			

Financial Notes.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 15.—Clearings, $1,823,210.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—Clearings, $139,107,803; balances, $5,565,087.

BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 15.—Clearings, $2,556,338; balances, $382,017. Money 6 per cent.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 15.—Clearings, $15,480,515; balances, $1,118,509. Money, 4½ per cent.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 15.—New York exchange selling at par. Clearings, $428,638; balances, $78,249.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 15.—Money, 4@6 per cent. New York exchange, 15c discount. Clearings, $2,256,205.

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 15.—Clearings, $2,467,883. New York exchange, sight, 50c premium; bank, $1.00 premium.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 15.—Clearings, $15,720,080; balances, $1,754,869. Money, 5 per cent. Exchange on New York par to 8c discount.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The bullion in the Bank of England increased £65,000 during the past week. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 47.9 per cent, now 48.9 per cent. Amount of bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance today, £12,000.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 15.—Clearings, $4,347,077; balances, $466,906. Money quiet, 6@7 per cent. Exchange on New York 25c discount.

CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 15.—Clearings, $18,382,024. New York exchange 30c premium. Sterling exchange—Strong; sixty day bills, $4.86; sight, $4.88½. Money—Easy, 6 per cent.

PARIS, Dec. 15.—The weekly statement of the Bank of France shows an increase of 8,400,000f gold and a decrease of 150,000f silver. Three per cent rentes, 99f 57½c for the account.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Cattle Trade Demoralized—Hogs in Strong Demand and Higher.

OMAHA, Dec. 15.—Receipts so far this week foot up 13,123 cattle, 22,066 hogs and 3,675 sheep against 10,883 cattle, 18,672 hogs and 2,221 sheep the same four days.

The cattle market was in very bad shape. Demoralization fairly expresses the situation. This market, as well as others, has been flooded all week with fair to pretty good cattle, and this circumstance, taken in connection with the usually restricted demand at this season explains why the market has broken from 25c to 50c this week. About the only inquiry from the dressed beef men is for cattle good enough for the Christmas trade, as with the general public poultry and game, being as cheap or cheaper at this season of the year, in a great measure, at least, take the place of ordinary beef. The yards were full of cattle, including plenty of good fat beeves, but it was hard work to get buyers to look at them, to say nothing of trying to buy them. The market was about the worst this year—it could hardly be worse. Good to choice 1,200 to 1,400-lb. steers sold at from $3.75 to $4.65, with fair to pretty good stuff at from $3.05 to $3.65. Some very fair westerns sold at from $3.15 to $3.50. The movement was as slow as molasses about this season of the year and a good share of the offerings were still unsold in the pens at the close.

There was more life to the trade in butchers' stock and canners than there was in beef steers, but it took the good to choice cows and heifers to bring steady prices while prices continued to shade lower on the medium and common stuff. Good to choice cows and heifers sold at from $2.50 to $3.35, fair to good cows from $1.75 to $2.40, while common and canning grades sold all the way from $1.70 down to 50c. Bulls and oxen sold freely at about steady prices from $1.50 to 2.50. Common large calves and yearlings to choice veal calves sold at from $1.50 to $5.00 or at full last week's quotations.

There was a good trade in stockers and feeders as far as it went, but the volume was rather limited on account of the light receipts. Good smooth stock sold strong. A bunch of branded grass western cattle sold for $3.40 and fifty head of good westerns were retailed to a southern Nebraska feeder for $3.65. The big bulk of the fresh offerings left first hands at from $2.30 to $3.15. Representative sales:

DRESSED BEEF.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
8	987	3 05	21	1064	3 25
29	875	3 10	20	1078	3 50
15	1044	3 15	11	1016	3 65
1	750	3 15	22	1205	3 75
41	1113	3 25	40	1294	3 25
1	1000	3 25	37	1424	4 65

SHIPPING AND EXPORT.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
1	1250	3 75	44	1325	3 75

COWS.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
1	740	50	19	1034	2 10
1	1170	1 40	1	910	2 10
1	1100	1 40	17	832	2 10
1	1070	1 45	20	934	2 10
5	856	1 50	25	954	2 15
1	1020	1 50	7	954	2 15
1	1030	1 50	8	1121	2 15
1	1190	1 50	16	984	2 15
12	875	1 50	12	922	2 20
2	1090	1 50	10	1053	2 20
16	839	1 50	22	845	2 20
1	1000	1 60	3	1053	2 20
3	1100	1 65	22	1010	2 20
21	887	1 65	1	1020	2 25
23	885	1 65	32	1086	2 25
7	1043	1 65	7	1205	2 25