

## COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Old Year Died with the Bears Much Discontented.

**WHEAT WAS UNSETLED AND WEAK**

Longs began to liquidate early in an effort to even up. Not being willing to carry the lines over.

**CHICAGO GENERAL MARKET.**

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

The offerings of poultry were extremely light and as there was some demand for the New Year's trade prices took a sharp upward turn. Quotations:

Eggs—Strickly fresh stock, 17c@18c.

BUTTER—Packing stock, 1c; fair to good country, 13c@14c; choice to fancy, 15c@16c.

VEAL—Choice fat, 70 to 100 lbs., are quoted at 25c@26c per lb.

CHEESE—Domestic, 15c@16c; Edam, per doz., 15c@16c; Club House, 4-lb. bars, per doz., 15c@16c; Gouda, 15c@16c; Gruyere, per doz., 15c@16c; Gruyere, per lb., 15c@16c.

HAM—HOG, Dec. 31—Quoted: unchanged to 5c@6c per lb.

BAKED HAM—HOG, Dec. 31—Steady: No. 1 Rio, 14c@15c; exchange 9c@10c; receipts, 23c@24c per lb.; three days cleared for the United States, 9c@10c; for Europe, 15c@16c; stock, 22c@23c per lb.

SHIPLMENTS—Flour, 1,500 bbls.; wheat, 6,100

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Wheat bid the old market, 14c@15c, dull, but showed on the side of its head and its nose in the air in decision of the discomfited bears. It closed with a gain of 5c, after an early decline of 3c. Corn and oats did not change their value materially for future deliveries, but the cash stuff was weaker. Provisions sold off on increased receipts of hogs.

The market was unsettled, showing decided weakness early in the session and settled off, but made a sharp reaction later and went up 5c from the low point, but eased off some. The only weak factor early was the Liverpool cable, which quoted that market as opening higher, but losing all the improvement. But trade was dull, the financial outlook unsatisfactory, with money said to be growing more scarce, and the situation was hardening, and as tomorrow will be a holiday, the longs, in view of the nervous uncertainty attending the market, began to liquidate and even up, which was an important factor in bringing about the early decline. Later, however, the trade began to consider the real bull news of the day, and the market improved, with money's support last week, were officially reported at only 5,000,000 bbls., or 1,000,000 bu. less than the estimated weekly consumption of 5,500,000 bbls., as shown by yesterday's report on the big decrease in the English visible supply, and there were no confirmatory reports from America.

Another strong factor was found in the big clearances from New York—nearly 600,000 bu.—and then the shorts got more room to move, and yesterday's market, to stand short over the holiday when there was so much that was bullish in the air. The New Year's trade was very active, and domestic markets were on the up grade. May sold from 50c@52c off to 58c, then up to 60c, off to 59c@60c, closing at 59c@60c.

The movement of the corn trade was dull, but prices were held steady by the anticipated effect of the adherence to tariff rates which the railroad are expected to observe from the time of the new year, and the bill of lading carloads were sold off from 4c to 1c under yesterday's rates, and local receipts, 25c@27c lower, continued to come in at 25c@26c. COTTON—California, per doz., 90c@100c; LIMA BEANS—No. 1, 15c@16c; WATER CRESS—Fres 16c@17c, per case, 11c@12c.

SCOTCH PEAS—17c@18c.

FRUITS.

CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES—None.

APPLES—Fancy, New York, 12c@13c; choice 13c@14c; per box, 10c.

CALIFORNIA QUINCES—None.

MUSHROOMS—Fresh, 15c@16c.

POTATOES—Fancy native stock, 30c; from small lots, regular Colorado stock, 25c@26c.

BEANS—Hand picked navy, per bushel, 15c.

DEAN'S—Pork neck, per bushel, 15c@16c.

SWEET POTATOES—Choice stock, 27c@28c per bushel.

CELERY—California, per doz., 90c@100c.

LIMA BEANS—No. 1, 15c@16c.

WATER CRESS—Fres 16c@17c, per case, 11c@12c.

SCOTCH PEAS—17c@18c.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—California budded seedlings, regular size, 3c@3.5c; 6c@7c; 12s.

LEMONS—California, per box, 7c@8c; 15s.

MELONS—California, per box, 12c@13c; 15s.

PEACHES—Fresh, 15c@16c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

OYSTERS—Market price, 15c@16c.

SEAFOOD—Market price, 15c@16c.

SHRIMP—Market price, 15c@16c.

CRAB—Market price, 15c@16c.

SHRIMP—KRAUT—Per bushel, 15c@16c; half bushel, 25c@26c.

PIG'S EYE—Per bushel, 15c@16c; 100 lbs., 25c@26c.