# CUBA AFFECTS WALL STREET

## Market in a Condition to Be Influenced Easily by Small Matters.

## PREPARATIONS FOR ANNUAL SETTLEMENTS

### Present Relations Not Favorable for Exportation of Any Securities at This Time—Henry Clews' Weekly Letter.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Henry Clews, head of the banking house of Henry Clews & Co., writes of the situation in Wall street:

Affairs in Wall street during the past week have been what might be reasonably expected at the close of the year. There is the temporary withdrawal of attention from speculation always incident to the preparations for annual settlements, and among influential operators there is the usual December disposition to encourage declines in order to make a market favorable for buying preparatory to a January rise. Under these conditions, unfavorable influences have been made the most of. The imputed murder of Maceo, the attention paid to the Cuban situation in congress and the generally low earnings of the railroads have been used with some effect in the depression of prices, but also with the result of creating a considerably oversold condition of the market. There was, however, no abatement of the fundamental strength of prices, and no change from the expectation of a higher range of values with the opening of the new year until yesterday, when the Cameron resolutions on Cuban affairs being favorably passed upon by the subcommittee of the senate committee on foreign relations, there was immediately a severe lurch in prices.

The position of foreign exchange attracts more than usual attention, owing to the gratifying condition of our foreign trade balance. The official monthly statement of imports and exports reveals the surprising fact that, for the month of November, the exports exceeded the imports (in both cases exclusive of gold) by $62,250,000. This is the more important because it follows three other months of extraordinary trade balances in our favor. For the four months of August, September, October and November the surplus of merchandise exports over merchandise imports aggregates $192,000,000, while for the like months of 1895 the excess of exports was only $24,500,000. The current month also is likely to show an important commercial balance in our favor, though not so large as the rate shown for the last four months. It is perhaps safe to estimate it at about $30,000,000. That sum, added to the $192,000,000 surplus of the last four months, would make the merchandise balance, for the final five months of the year, about $222,000,000. This has been already liquidated to some extent by imports of gold and by other offsetting items not included in the official trade statements.

BIG IMPORTS OF GOLD.

Theh imports of gold for the last four months, less the exports, amount to $71,000,000. The unspecified items (debit and credit), including interest on our securities held abroad, may be estimated at the average net sum of about $12,000,000 per month; which, for the five months we are considering, would represent an offset amounting to $60,000,000. We must also charge ourselves with the net result of the securities movement, which will not be estimated at over $25,000,000 net against us, including the large amounts returned immediately following the election. Putting together these three items of offset—gold imports, miscellaneous minor movements and the transactions in securities—it would appear that the creditor trade balance of $222,000,000 for the last five months of the year is offset by items on the other side of the account aggregating $156,000,000. On the basis of these items it may be estimated that the foreign balance to our credit at the close of the year would approximate $66,000,0.0. This, however, takes no account of a considerable amount of export bills which have not been sent forward to Europe in the usual course, but are held here as virtually a temporary loan to foreign money markets payable on maturity of the bills. The amount of this exchange is variously estimated at from $15,000,000 to $25,000,000, and may perhaps be safely taken to amount to $20,000,000. Including this item, the net creditor balance payable to the United States at the end of the year may be estimated at about $85,000,000.

Financially, therefore, 1896 will close with a highly satisfactory position of our foreign relations. What may be the course of affairs beyond that date is, of course, largely a matter of conjecture. We may expect some considerable increase in our imports of merchandise as a result of the improved feeling in trade; but it is possible that the uncertainties connected with tariff legislation may hold that tendency in check for some months to come. While the imports are increasing, the exports will naturally be declining, both in cotton and breadstuffs. There is, however, a good-sized visible supply of wheat, which will admit of considerable further exports and at prices, which, with the corn exports, will make this an important source of exchange for the next two months. Ordinarily, the earlier months of the year are attended with considerable exports of gold; but, with probably more than an average surplus of food products and ample cotton yet awaiting export, and a creditor balance of $85,000,000 carried over from 1896, it is not easy to see any probability of important exports of gold for the next few months. Indeed, it is rather a question whether the situation does not suggest a probability that, before we have to make any shipments of gold, we may have some further imports. That must much depend upon the comparative rates of interest here and in Europe. A rise in the rate here, as compared with London and Berlin, would be very apt to bring gold this way. A rise abroad, not followed by New York, might possibly produce a renewal of local purchases of foreign bills, and might even cause some shipments of gold to Europe. One fact is to be kept sight of—that our recent imports of gold have affected London unfavorably and Berlin quite severely. Both the Bank of England and the Reichsbank may be expected to keep their discount rate high and use all other means in order to get back some of the metal; but the situation here is a stubborn one, and New York will be much more willing to extend credit to those centers than to let them have its gold. One thing is clear, however, that the present relations between London and Berlin on one side and New York on the other are not favorable to our exporting any securities.

MARKET MUST RUN ALONE.

For some time, therefore, the local stock market must expect to "paddle its own canoe." It is not unlikely that Germany may take some $3,000,000 of gold from us next week. If so, it will be for a necessary shipment by the Reichsbank to the Bank of Russia, and is therefore a wholly exceptional operation and will signify nothing as to any general tendency.

At the moment, the most sensitive element in the stock market is the situation of affairs in Cuba. The feeling in Wall street, as well as in business circles generally, is very strongly against the United States committing itself unnecessarily to any serious complications with Spain. The paramount sentiment is that congress will not be serving the best interests of this country by plunging it into a war. Such a struggle would not bring to us any credit or prestige, or any gain of a substantial character, even if we got the best in it, which would undoubtedly be the case; and for a powerful nation to get the advantage of a weak one, under any circumstances, brings no glory. This country does not desire to make Cubans American citizens. We don't want any of the hot-blooded race as citizens through conquest. The Cubans are not, as a race, fitted to coalesce with our people. They are a great deal better adapted to remain by themselves and work out their own independence and destiny. What Spain should do is to give the island home rule, under a liberal policy, with the option on the part of the Cubans of buying the island at a set price, within, say, ten or twenty years, payable by annual installments. This country, especially after the last four years of disaster and bad times, wants a continuation of peace for the next four years at least. Besides, a war with Spain might in the end involve us with other European nations. At any rate, they would be likely to give aid and comfort to Spain to our great disadvantage during the struggle. It must be remembered too that Spain, after a war with us, will be too poor to pay an indemnity, so that no compensation can be had from that source. Wherein, then can this country gain any material benefit to compensate for years possibly of costly war with Spain? This country's best interests lie in following George Washington's parting words: "Avoid all entangling alliances." This government is a republic. European governments are the reverse, and in such a contest would be secretly against us by natural interests and instincts. France is a republic, it is true, but she is handicapped by imperialism and so cannot be considered as we are as being on a permanent republican basis. Under any circumstances, France would be controlled by Russia in a war between this country and Spain, and that undoubtedly would be in the interest of the latter. Hostilities should be shunned except as an inevitable last resort and to maintain the Monroe doctrine, which is certainly not menaced in the present Spanish-Cuban complications.

### Textile Market Picks Up.

MANCHESTER, Dec. 20.—The market has been much more active all around and the feeling is cheerful. Yarns were freely taken for exports, especially for Japan. Prices compare well and the decline was less than in cotton, the margin being somewhat better. Most spinners are now fairly engaged. In cloth there was considerable doing. India took shirtings, jaconettes and mulls. China took good lines of its specialties. The minor markets were fairly active. For the Levant the demand was improved. Prices were low, but were less irregular and the comparison of margins was certainly not for the worse. A fair number of looms are restarting. German spinners were quiet and less cheerful than recently. Rouen was doing well.

## UPSET BY CUBA AND MANHATTAN.

### Wall Street Deeply Interested in Two Sorts of Speculation.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Wall street is in feverish mood. The vote by senators at Washington to push on Monday for action recognizing Cuba as free has wholly upset the stock market.

When the news first reached Wall street there was a quick sequel close to a panic. Many stocks fell four or five points; those most conspicuous suffered largest losses.

The much-manipulated trust stocks ran off easiest. In Sugar trust the millionaire manipulators came within an ace of having their pool go to pieces on their hands. Even yet they are not out of trouble. It may not be long before even a scandal comes in that quarter.

One or two other stocks have also been specially conspicuous in the weakness. One of these is Manhattan Elevated. Plans were arranged a week ago to put Manhattan stock much above par before Christmas. Millionaire directors were in this deal. Of a sudden a row broke out; one of the biggest traders on the Stock exchange came out with public declarations that he had been trapped. He had bought 12,000 shares of Manhattan stock around 96 and a little investigation had disclosed to him that he was only holding the bag for insiders, who, while unloading on him, were at the same time treating him to pleasant tales of developments close ahead which would result in vastly increased net earnings for the property.

He was shown the propositions before the board of directors to put electricity upon the system and he knew that Russell Sage and George J. Gould had suddenly become enthusiastic for the electricity scheme, and he practically was taken into the Gould-Sage speculative family. They liked him and they were going to make him new wealth.

Some of the plans as explained to him were spoken of in this dispatch a week ago. Nothing develops to show that he was deceived in any statement.

At the close of the week comes a further incident in the same stock. A Wall street broker is greatly distressed over the discovery that the Manhattan company's dividends are not earned. He has asked the attorney general of New York to begin a suit obliging Mr. Sage and Mr. Gould to pay back into the company's treasury the dividends they distributed. This does not seem to be litigation so much aimed at the company as against some of the millionaires who run it. It will be decided in the next few days, and if it be dismissed, there will probably be cynical people in Wall street who will not hesitate to suggest that the whole proceeding was a job put up by insiders themselves. Meanwhile Manhattan has become one of the most active stocks on the list, and, like Sugar trust, is under continued and aggressive manipulation.

Some kind of stock market developments are impending in Chicago Gas. New York parties in interest profess to be indignant over reports from Chicago that the trust is after the Ogden plant and franchise. A director of Chicago Gas said to me today:

"This Ogden rumor is all stuff and nonsense. We can get the Ogden company if we want it. We don't want it. We don't want any property beyond what we already have. We are amply provided for. We are making money. We are giving Chicago satisfactory service. We are having friendly treatment there now instead of the continual attacks which we formerly had to stand. More Chicago Gas stock is today held in Chicago than at any time since 1893. Some of the new names on our stockholders' list are men of the highest local importance. They are not in the scheme for speculation. They are just as confident as our New York party is that our company, legitimately handled, will yield regular and permanent dividends."

Ex-Governor R. P. Flower, discussing the same subject, said today: "Quote me as saying that no credit need be given to these circulating stories to the effect that the Chicago Gas company is trying to merge with other properties, either by purchase or otherwise. We are amply satisfied to go ahead with what we have, develop our present system, give better service, and by proper economies make sure dividends. Other capitalists will not be interfered with by us, and they will not find any market with us for any properties which they may have for sale."

A New York Stock exchange firm is to be established here at New Year's, headed by Louis V. Bell, who only a little while ago got back from an extended visit to Chicago. Mr. Bell is one of the most conspicuous traders for his own account in the market. He has a commission firm now, but his new venture is more ambitious. Two or three of the most important traders in the street will be in the membership. But what is of interest in Chicago is the fact that the firm's plan was practically arranged a fortnight ago in Chicago. Three of the most important millionaires in Chicago are to have relations with it. One rumor has had it that P. D. Armour would be a special partner, but Mr. Bell himself says it is untrue. It is certain that the firm will more largely than any other here cater to important Chicago interests. Two or three Board of Trade firms are to have wire connections, but Chicago's local interest will largely center in the fact that close to $1,000,000 of Chicago money will be transferred here as a back log for this Stock exchange enterprise.

H. ALLAWAY.

## MONEY RATES HARDEN IN LONDON.

### Germany May Draw Gold from New York in a Short Time.

LONDON, Dec. 20—Money rates have been hardening and Germany's demand for gold continues keen. It is expected that shipments will be made thither from New York ere long. The dear money has made the best classes of securities a trifle easier. Uruguay securities were flat on the decision of the government to retain coupon money. Egyptian, Turkish, Mexican and Peruvian securities are all better. American securities were steady until yesterday, when the markets opened with a general decline. Spanish securities were less affected than might have been expected, both here and in Paris. Financial feeling evidently regards the situation as not serious. American securities did not respond very fully to the Wall street collapse and some investments were reported at the lowest quotations and at the close of business the market was fairly steady. The chief declines of the day were Reading preferred, 3½; Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul, 2⅞; Southern preferred, 2½; Louisville & Nashville, and Lake Shore, 2; Wabash, 1¾; Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe preferred, and Illinois Central, 1½; Denver & Rio Grande preferred and Reading, 1¼; Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, Baltimore & Ohio and Erie preferred, 1; New York Central and Erie, ¾; others fractional. Canadian securities declined in sympathy.

### Death of Frank Crowell.

Frank Crowell, a former Omaha man, died at Ottumwa, Ia., on the 8th instant of consumption. He was born in Omaha forty years ago, and grew to manhood here. His father, G. A. Crowell, was once prominent in Omaha Odd Fellow circles. Frank Crowell was a railroad man, and very popular among his fellows. He leaves a wife and two children. His mother also survives, after seeing her husband and three sons die from the same disease.

### Boys Make a Raid on the Candy.

Saturday night five boys named Charles Harvey, Charles Ellis, Herman Alexander, Sam Mazza and Clarence Gilmore, gained an entrance into D. J. O'Brien's candy factory, near Fifteenth street and Capitol avenue, and succeeded in making away with two boxes of candy valued at $3. The boys were arrested last night and locked up at the station.

### Turners Entertain L. A. W.

The Turner Wheel club tendered a smoker and sociable to the local members of the League of American Wheelmen at Germania hall yesterday afternoon, which brought out an attendance of about twenty-five. Cigars, stories and refreshments furnished the amusement of the afternoon.

When in want of a good liniment, buy Salvation Oil, which only costs 25 cents.

## THE REALTY MARKET.

INSTRUMENTS placed on record December 19, 1896:

WARRANTY DEEDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| J H Boutelle to J L Burgess, lot 2, block "D," Saunders & H.'s | $1,000 |
| M W Krueger to Matilda Hooper, undivided ½ e 50 feet of w 60 feet of n 120 feet lot 4, block 6, Park Place | 198 |
| I B Mapes and wife to C A Blomberg, lot 22, block 4, West End | 2,000 |
| M A Loudon and husband to A M Goodrich, lots 43, 44 and n½ lot 45, block 8, Hanscom Place | 1 |
| State to A A Furay, n½ se sw and part sw sw 36-15-11 | 1,800 |

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Richard Breitung to Newton Land company, lot 2, block 3, Central Park | 1 |

DEEDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Sheriff to Cyrus Brigham, lot 7, block 20, lot 10, block 20, Orchard Hill | 2,235 |
| **Total amount of transfers** | **$7,235** |

# OMAHA LIVE STOCK MARKET

## Stiff Saturday Run of Cattle Gets a Warm Reception.

## SELLERS INSIST ON STRONG PRICES

### All Grades Firm and Business Fairly Active with Early Clearance—Hogs Hold Steady and Sell Quickly.

SOUTH OMAHA, Dec. 19.—Receipts for the days indicated were:

| | Cattle. | Hogs. | Sheep. | Horses. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| December 19...... | 1,751 | 5,482 | 662 | .... |
| December 18...... | 1,948 | 5,947 | 1,087 | .... |
| December 17...... | 2,242 | 7,379 | 1,232 | 23 |
| December 16...... | 3,601 | 6,778 | 1,244 | .... |
| December 15...... | 3,299 | 8,416 | 2,950 | .... |
| December 14...... | 3,105 | 2,490 | 2,103 | .... |
| December 12...... | 952 | 3,923 | 779 | .... |
| December 11...... | 1,314 | 4,520 | 729 | .... |
| December 10...... | 2,363 | 5,393 | 546 | .... |
| December 9...... | 3,528 | 4,559 | 980 | .... |
| December 8...... | 3,258 | 4,292 | 2,655 | 56 |
| December 7...... | 2,700 | 1,730 | 833 | .... |

The official number of cars of stock brought in today by each road was:

| | Cattle. | Hogs. | Sheep. |
|---|---|---|---|
| C., M. & St. P. Ry.......... | .. | 3 | .. |
| O. & St. L. Ry.............. | 2 | 1 | .. |
| Mo. Pac. Ry................. | 13 | 5 | .. |
| Union Pacific System...... | 14 | 15 | 1 |
| F., E. & M. V. R. R...... | 15 | 20 | .. |
| C., St. P., M. & O. Ry.... | 7 | 5 | .. |
| B. & M. R. R. R........... | 5 | 21 | 3 |
| C., B. & Q. Ry............. | 1 | 6 | .. |
| C., R. I. & P. Ry, east.... | .. | 4 | .. |
| C., R. I. & P. Ry, west.... | 9 | 3 | .. |
| Total receipts ........... | 66 | 83 | 4 |

The disposition of the day's receipts was as follows, each buyer purchasing the number of head indicated:

| Buyers. | Cattle. | Hogs. | Sheep. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Omaha Packing Co.......... | ..... | 1,261 | ..... |
| G. H. Hammond Co...... | 55 | 1,522 | ..... |
| Swift and Company...... | 91 | 1,421 | 79 |
| Cudahy Packing Co...... | 365 | 1,483 | 371 |
| R. Becker & Degan...... | 69 | ..... | ..... |
| J. L. Carey................ | 41 | ..... | ..... |
| Benton & Underwood.... | 62 | ..... | ..... |
| Huston & Co............. | 13 | ..... | ..... |
| R., B. & D., from K. C... | 293 | ..... | ..... |
| Hayes ........................ | ..... | ..... | 221 |
| Cudahy P. Co., K. C.... | 87 | ..... | ..... |
| Other buyers............. | 405 | 8 | ..... |
| Totals ................. | 1,481 | 5,695 | 671 |

CATTLE—The receipts of cattle today were slightly smaller than yesterday, but almost double what they were a week ago, a very liberal run for the last day of the week. The total for the week footed up 15,908, as against 14,115 for the previous week, a slight gain for the six days.

Today's market was without feature of any great importance, the trade partaking very largely of the humdrum character usual on the closing day of the week. Values were practically unchanged, the market being just about steady on all kinds.

There was a little sprinkling of cornfed steers in the yards, but nothing choice or especially attractive and no great number of any kind. The market on that kind was a little slow, due principally to the fact that salesmen generally had a pretty good opinion of their holdings and were asking pretty stiff prices.

Butchers' stock sold in the same notches as yesterday and the trade was fairly active, with the demand good on the more desirable grades of cows and heifers. The common and medium grades were inclined to drag a little, but the light offerings were soon exhausted.

Only a few stockers and feeders were in first hands and in spite of the fact that it was the last day of the week, when the demand is usually light, the offerings were all taken in good season. As was the case with killing cattle, values did not show any material change.

The cattle market of the past week has been in very satisfactory condition, viewed from the standpoint of the seller. The tendency of values was upward under the influence of stronger markets in the east and light receipts locally, coupled with the very good demand. There were not enough beef cattle of any kind to supply the demand and the large proportion of what was received here consisted of half fat and unfinished cornfed steers. Still the demand was sufficiently strong to keep the yards cleared and on most days the trade was reasonably active. Butchers' stock, like cornfed steers, was in good demand and the prices paid were high all the week. On Friday the market broke 5@10c under the influence of the heavy decline at other markets. The heaviest demand was for stockers and feeders, which met with ready sale at gradually stiffening prices. The supply of feeders was more than equal to the demand, the country being a heavy buyer all the week.

HOGS—It was another day of good hog receipts, the run being almost as large as yesterday, and larger than a week ago by 1,500 head. The total for the week was 36,490, as against 24,397 for the previous week.

The market was in a most healthy condition and entirely satisfactory to the sellers at least. At the opening values were just about steady, but under the influence of the very active demand values firmed up a little and the close was strong. By reason of the strong closing the average of all the sales was a cent or two above yesterday's average, but the prices paid for the two days were practically the same.

The heavy hogs sold mostly at $3.10@3.15, the same as yesterday, and the medium weights and light loads at $3.20@3.32½. Summed up in a few words it was a good strong and active market and everything in the yards changed hands early.

The hog market of the past week has been in a very gratifying condition, the receipts having been large and the demand good. The arrivals have met with ready sale on every day of the week, and the yards have been kept well cleared.

Monday was the high point of the week, values falling fully 10c on Tuesday. From Tuesday on until the close of the week the market did not show any change sufficiently marked to admit of any difference in the quotations. The average of all the sales did not vary more than 1 or 2 cents from one day to the next. It has been a long time since the market has remained stationary for so long a time. The market at the close of the week was only 10@15c lower than a year ago.

SHEEP—The market was again steady today and the offerings met with ready sale at fully steady prices. The market on sheep has been active all the week, and arrivals have sold freely at good prices, values showing very little change during the six days.

## CHICAGO LIVE STOCK.

### Usual Saturday Market, with Hogs Some Higher.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Today's cattle market was of the usual Saturday character, receipts being light and quotations as a consequence largely nominal. The few trades made were at prices unchanged from yesterday's figures.

Although the receipts of hogs were large for Saturday, there was such a good demand that prices ruled strong to a nickel higher. Common to choice droves sold at $2.95 to $3.40, with the bulk of the transactions at from $3.15 to $3.25; a year ago the best hogs sold at $3.57½.

The supply of sheep was disposed of on the basis of $2 to $2.50 for the poorest up to $3.50 to $4 for good to choice wethers. Sales were largely at from $3 to $3.40 for westerns, and not many sales of sheep occurred above $3.50. Yearlings sold at from $2.50 to $4.10, and lambs brought from $3.50 to $5.50 for common to choice.

Receipts: Cattle, 800 head; hogs, 21,000 head; sheep, 2,000 head.

## St. Louis Live Stock.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19.—CATTLE—Receipts, 100 head; market steady; native shipping steers, $3.90@4.90; dressed beef and butchers' steers, $3.40@4.50; stockers and feeders, $1.75@3.65; Texas steers, $2.40@3.90.

HOGS—Receipts, 3,000 head; market steady; light, $3.15@3.25; mixed, $3.00@3.20; heavy, $2.85@3.25.

SHEEP—Receipts, 300 head; market steady; muttons, $2.50@3.75; lambs, $3.00@3.75.

## Kansas City Live Stock.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 19.—CATTLE—Receipts, 400; market steady and firm; only retail trade.

HOGS—Receipts, 7,000; market steady; bulk of sales, $3.15@3.25; heavies, $3.00@3.15; packers, $3.05@3.20; mixed, $3.15@3.30; lights, $3.15@3.25½; Yorkers, $3.22½@3.27½; pigs, $3.00@3.15.

SHEEP—Receipts, 500; shipments, 1,600; market steady; lambs, $3.75@4.00; muttons, $1.75@3.15.

## Stock in Sight.

Record of receipts of live stock at the four principal markets for Saturday, December 19, 1896:

| | Cattle. | Hogs. | Sheep. |
|---|---|---|---|
| South Omaha .................. | 1,713 | 5,480 | 662 |
| Chicago ........................ | 800 | 21,000 | 2,000 |
| Kansas City ................... | 400 | 7,000 | 500 |
| St. Louis........................ | 100 | 3,000 | 300 |
| Totals ........................ | 3,013 | 36,480 | 3,462 |

## Liverpool Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 19.—WHEAT—Spot, quiet; demand poor; No. 2 spring, 6s 9d; No. 1 California, 7s 1d. Futures closed firm, with February ¼d lower and other months unchanged from yesterday's closing prices; business about equally distributed; December, nominal; January, 6s 7d; February, 6s 7½d; March, 6s 8d; April, nominal; May, 6s 8d.

CORN—Spot, quiet; American mixed, new, 10s ¼d. Futures closed quiet, with near positions unchanged to ¼d lower and distant positions ¼d lower; business about equally distributed; December, January, February and March, 2s 9¼d; April and May, 2s 9½d.

FLOUR—Dull; demand poor; St. Louis fancy winter, 8s 2d.

BUTTER—Finest United States, 90s; good, 55s.

OILS—Linseed, 14s 6d; petroleum, refined, 6½d.

REFRIGERATOR BEEF—Forequarter, 3⅝d; hindquarter, 5¼d.

## London Grain Review.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The wheat crop is rather backward in some parts of the United Kingdom, owing to cold, damp and occasionally frosty weather. In the market wheat was without any important change. Buyers were very reserved, but sellers were not pressing. Russian wheat was freely offered at weaker rates. Heavy shipments of American and European wheat de-

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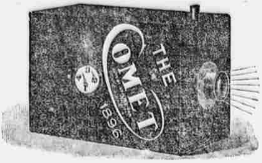

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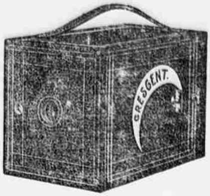

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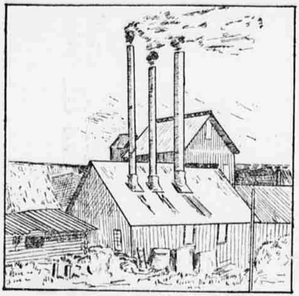

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pressed the market, but the Argentine crop news made the tone steadier. General trade, however, was extremely dull. California wheat, afloat, was quoted at 33s 6d to 34s 6d. Northern spring parcels, January and February delivery, were quoted at 32s 3d. Spot prices were 6s down. Flour was quiet and easier. Maize was quiet and partially cheaper. Old mixed, American maize, January delivery, buyers, was quoted at 13s 6d. Barley was slow and firm. Oats were slow. American white, clipped oats, afloat, were quoted at 12s 3d.

## OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

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

EGGS—Fresh gathered, 19@20c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 8@9c; choice to fancy, roll, 13@15c; separator creamery, 21c; gathered cream, 18@20c.

GAME—Prairie chickens, per doz., $6.00@6.25; quail, $1.00@1.50; blue winged teal ducks, $1.50@1.75; green wing, $1.25; redheads and mallards, $3.50; small rabbits, 25@40c; jacks, 75c; squirrels, 60@75c; deer saddles, 14@16c; carcasses, 10@11c; antelope saddles, 13@14c; carcasses, 9c; Canada geese, large, $6.00@7.00; small, $4.00@5.00.

CHEESE—Domestic brick, 10½c; Edam, per doz., $9.00; club house, 1-lb. jars, per doz., $3.15; Limberger, fancy, per lb., 9½c; Roquefort, ½-lb. jars, per doz., $3.60; Young Americas, 10¾c; twins, fancy, 10½c.

VEAL—Choice fat, 80 to 120 lbs., are quoted at 7@8c; large and coarse, 4@5c.

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens, 5½@6c; turkeys, 10@11c; geese, 7@8c; ducks, 7@8c.

LIVE POULTRY—Not wanted.

PIGEONS—Live, 75@90c; dead pigeons not wanted.

HAY—Upland, $5.00; midland, $4.50; lowland, $4; rye straw, $4; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best; only top grades bring top prices.

BROOM CORN—Extremely slow sale; new crop, delivered on track in country; choice green self-working carpet, per lb., 2¾c; choice green, running to hurl, 2½c; common, 1½c.

VEGETABLES.

SWEET POTATOES—On orders, per bbl., $2.00.

ONIONS—Good stock, per bu., 25@40c.

LIMA BEANS—Per lb., 4c.

BEAENS—Hand picked navy, per bu., $1.25.

CABBAGE—Home grown, per hundred, 90c @$1.00.

CELERY—Per doz., 25@30c; fancy, large, 45@50c.

POTATOES—Good stock, per bu., 25c; Wyoming stock, sacked, 80c per 100 lbs.

TOMATOES—Texas, per bushel crate, $2.25.

FRUITS.

GRAPES—Crates, 15 pony baskets, Concords and Catawbas, per crates, $3.00.

MALAGA GRAPES—Per keg, $7.

CRANBERRIES—Cape Cod, per bbl., $6.

APPLES—Cooking, per bbl., $1.65@1.75; fancy New York, $1.75.

CALIFORNIA PEARS—Per box, $2.00@2.25; New York, per bbl., $3.50@4.00.

QUINCES—Per bbl., $4

TROPICAL FRUITS.

PINEAPPLES—Per crate of two to three doz., $4.00@5.00.

ORANGES—Mexican, $3.75; California navels, $4.00; Redlands, $3.00@3.25.

LEMONS—Messinas, $5.00; choice California, $3.50@3.75; fancy, $4.00.

BANANAS—Choice, large stock, per bunch, $2.00@2.25; medium-sized bunches, $1.50@2.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HONEY—Fancy white, per lb., 14c; choice, 15c; California, amber color, 10c.

CIDER—Clarified juice, per half bbl., $2.50; per bbl., $4.25@4.50.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five-gal. cans, each, $2.75; gal. cans, per doz., $12; half-gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.50.

SAUER KRAUT—Per half bbl., $1.75.; bbls., $3.00@3.25.

FIGS—Imported fancy, 5 crown, 30-lb. boxes, 15c; choice, 10-lb. boxes, 3-crown, 11c.

NUTS—Almonds, California, per lb., large size, 13c; Brazils, per lb., 10c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy, soft shell, 12@12½c; standards, 11@11½c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished, large, 9@10c; jumbo, 11@12c; large hickory nuts, $1.25 per bu.; small, $1.50; cocoanuts, 5c each.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 5c; No. 2 green hides, 4c; No. 1 green salted hides, 7c; No. 2 green salted hides, 6c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 5c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 to 15 lbs., 4c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 9@10c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 8@9c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 8@9c; part cured hides, ½c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEP YELTS—Green salted, each, 25@60c; green salted, shearings (short wooled early skins), each, 15c; dry shearings (short wooled early skins), No. 1 each, 5c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 3@4c; dry flint Colorado butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@5c; dry flint Colorado Murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 3@4c; feet cut off, as it is useless to pay freight on the ...

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

WOOL—Unwashed, fine, heavy, 6@7c; fine, light, 8@9c; quarterblood, 10@12c; seedy, burry and chaffy, 8@9c; cotted and broken, coarse, 7@9c; cotted and broken, fine, 6@8c. Fleece Washed—Medium, 15@18c; fine, 14@16c; tub washed, 16@18c; black, 8c; bucks, 6c; tag locks, 2@3c; dead pulled 5@6c.

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 meaty, per ton, $6.00@8.00.

## CHICAGO GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

### Features of the Trading and Closing Prices on Saturday.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Wheat today managed to recover ⅝c of yesterday's decline on a dull market. The steadiness displayed by foreign markets and another batch of Argentine crop damage reports, were the principal factors in the advance. Corn and oats were heavy and declined ⅛c and ¼c respectively. Provisions made small advances.

In wheat the bearish feeling which has been so prominent the past week was less in evidence at the opening. Liverpool quotations were unchanged, and that in itself was influential in creating a better feeling, coming as they did after a ⅝c decline here yesterday. Liverpool also sent reports on the wheat crop in various provinces of Argentina, showing a serious condition of affairs in some instances. Opening quotations for May were from 80⅛c to 80¾c, compared with yesterday's closing price of 79½c. The price took a dip to 79⅝c soon after the opening on the throwing over of a lot of long wheat, but the market had too much statistical support to break badly from such a cause and as soon as the pressure was removed prices went up again. The receipts at both the northwest points and in Chicago were very small. Minneapolis and Duluth reported 376 cars and Chicago 36 cars, a total of 412 cars, compared with 605 on the same day last week and 872 on the corresponding day of the year before. The official figures on the New South Wales wheat crop showed a shortage of 1,250,000 bu. over requirements. The seaboard reported a good inquiry for export, one dispatch from New York said it was known there that a good steady business was being done in Chicago wheat, all rail shipments via Boston. Millers took 30,000 bu. here. The visible supply is not expected to show over 250,000 bu. decrease on Monday, and some look for a small increase. The pronounced weakness of oats made its influence felt shortly before the close. Realizing was also indulged in to a moderate exent, and May, which in the meantime had crept up to 80½c, broke to 79⅞c. That was the price at the close.

Corn was very quiet, with trading chiefly among scalpers. Prices during the morning were helped to a moderate extent by the strength of wheat and free exports, but weakened later, principally, perhaps, in sympathy with oats, and closed at a slight decline. May opened a shade higher at 25⅝c, sold at 25¾c to 25½c, then eased off to from 25⅝c to 25¾c, where it closed.

Oats started rather firm in common with the other grain markets, but later fell off decidedly. Liberal receipts and a heavy estimate for Monday was good material for the raiding crowd to work with, and they pressed their advantage. Trading was never heavy and fluctuations were narrow. May opened a shade higher at from 20c to 20⅛c, declined to 19⅝c and closed weak at 19¾c.

The feeling in the provision pit was not pronounced in either direction for an hour or so, but became firm toward the end and closed quite firm at slight advances all around. There was not any more than the recent moderate volume of business done but packers were not inclined to sell as freely as of late. May pork closed 5c higher at $7.92½; May lard 2½c higher at from $4.97½ to $5.02½; May ribs about unchanged at $4.02½.

Estimated receipts Monday: Wheat, 48 cars; corn, 300 cars; oats, 405 cars; hogs, 40,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

| Articles. | Open. | High. | Low. | Close. | Yest'y. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Wheat— | | | | | |
| Dec.... | 76¾ | 77¼ | 76¾ | 76⅞ | 76¼ |
| May.... | 80⅛@¾ | 80⅜@½ | 79⅞ | 79⅞ | 79½ |
| July.... | 74⅝@¾ | 75 | 74¼ | 74⅝ | 74 |
| *Corn— | | | | | |
| Dec.... | 22⅝ | 22⅝ | 22½@⅝ | 22½@⅝ | 22⅝ |
| Jan.... | 22¾ | 22¾ | 22⅝@¾ | 22⅝@¾ | 22⅝ |
| May.... | 25⅝ | 25⅝@¾ | 25½@¾ | 25½@¾ | 25⅝@¾ |
| *Oats— | | | | | |
| Dec.... | 16¾ | 16⅞ | 15⅞ | 16½ | 16¾ |
| May.... | 20⅛ | 20⅛ | 19⅝ | 19¾ | 20 |
| Pork— | | | | | |
| Jan.... | 7 62½ | 7 65 | 7 60 | 7 65 | 7 60 |
| May.... | 7 90 | 7 95 | 7 87½ | 7 92½ | 7 87½ |
| Lard— | | | | | |
| Jan.... | 3 82½ | 3 85 | 3 82½ | 3 85 | 3 82½ |
| May.... | 4 02½ | 4 05 | 4 00 | 4 05 | 4 02 |
| Sh't Ribs | | | | | |
| Jan.... | 3 85 | 3 87½ | 3 85 | 3 87½ | 8 35 |
| May.... | 4 02½ | 4 05 | 4 00 | 4 05 | 4 02½ |

* No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Steady; winter patents, $4.50@4.75; straights, $4.50@4.75; spring specials, 4.50; spring patents, $4.15@4.50; straights, $3.75@4.00; bakers, $3.10@3.15.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 76⅝@77⅛c; No. 3 spring, 74c; No. 2 red, 88⅝@89c.

CORN—No. 2, 22⅝@22⅞c; No. 2 yellow, 22⅝@22⅞c.

OATS—No. 2, 16⅜c; No. 2 white, f. o. b., 19½@21c; No. 3 white, 17½@19c.

RYE—No. 2, 37½c.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $6.85@6.90; lard, per 100 lbs., $3.77½@3.80; short ribs sides (loose), $3.75@4.00; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.25@4.50; short clear sides (boxed), $4.00@4.12½.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, f. o. b., 22@28c; No. 4, f. o. b., 22@25c.

FLAXSEED—No. 1, 73½@75c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.60.

BUTTER—Firm; creamery, 15@20½c; dairy, 10@17c.

EGGS—Firm; fresh, 19½@20c.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.18.

SUGARS—Cut loaf, $5.26; granulated, $4.63.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

| Articles. | Receipts. | Shipments. |
|---|---|---|
| Flour, bbls.................... | 6,000 | 10,000 |
| Wheat, bu.................... | 23,000 | 20,000 |
| Corn, bu.................... | 172,000 | 39,000 |
| Oats, bu.................... | 368,000 | 233,000 |
| Rye, bu.................... | 9,000 | ...... |
| Barley, bu.................... | 110,000 | 22,000 |

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was firm; creamery, 15@20½c; dairy, 10@17c. Eggs, firm; fresh, 19½@20c. Cheese, steady; 8½@9c.

## NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

### Quotations of the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—FLOUR—Receipts, 29,309 bbls.; exports, 2,920 bbls.; dull, but fairly steady, except for spring patents; Minnesota patents, $4.45@4.65; Minnesota bakers, $3.40@4.00; winter patents, $4.40@5.10. Rye flour, dull; superfine, $2.85@2.65. Buckwheat flour, dull; $1.30@1.40.

BUCKWHEAT—Dull at 35c.

CORN MEAL—Yellow eastern, 59c.

RYE—Nominal; 40@42c.

BARLEY—Dull; 28@28½c.

BARLEY MALT—Western, $5.20@5.50.

WHEAT—Receipts, 185,900 bu. Spot dull, but firm; No. 1 hard, 92⅝c. Options opened stronger and except for one brief reaction, ruled firm all the morning, influenced by firmer cables, light spring wheat receipts, light covering and unfavorable Argentine news; closing ½@¾c net higher; No. 2 red, May, 85¼@85⅝c, closed at 85⅝c; December, 86½@86⅞c, closed at 86⅝c.

CORN—Receipts, 17,600 bu.; exports, 67,615 bu. Spot steady; No. 2, 28½c. Options quiet, but steadier, with wheat; closing at ⅛c net advance; May, 31⅝@31⅝c, closed at 31⅝c; December closed at 28½c.

OATS—Receipts, 42,000 bu.; exports, 2,034 bu. Spot dull; No. 2, 22c. Options dull and nominal; closing at ⅛c net higher; May closed at 24⅝c; December closed at 21⅝c.

HAY—Dull; shipping, $5.50@6.00; good to choice, $7.00@7.50.

HOPS—Dull; 1895 crop, 3@7½c; 1896 crop, 8@13c; Pacific coast, 1895 crop, 3@7½c; 1896 crop, 9@13c; London market dull.

HIDES—Dull; Galveston, 12@13c; Buenos Ayres, dry, nominal; Texas, dry, 9½c; California, 15½c.

LEATHER—Steady; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, light to heavy weight, 19½@20½c.

WOOL—Quiet; fleece, 15@20c; pulled, 15@18c.

PROVISIONS—Beef hams, $18.00 asked; packet, $8.00@9.50. Cut meats, quiet; pickled bellies, $4.25@4.75; pickled shoulders, $4.00@4.25; pickled hams, $8.50@8.75. Lard, steady; western steam, $4.15; refined, firm. Pork, firm; mess, $8.25@8.75; short clear, extra prime, $8.75@10.50. Tallow, steady; city, 3⅛@3¼c; country, 3¼@3⅜c.

BUTTER—Receipts 3,590 pkgs.; steady; western creamery, 13@22c; Elgins, 22c; factory, 7@12c.

EGGS—Receipts 3,292 pkgs.; steady; state and Pennsylvania, 21@23c; western, 15@22c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 2,000 pkgs.; quiet; large, 7½@10½c; small, 8½@10½c; part skims, 3½@7c; full skims, 2½@2c.

OILS—Petroleum dull; United closed at 97c bid. Rosin, quiet; strained, common to good, $1.10. Turpentine, quiet at 27@27½c. Cottonseed, nominally steady; prime crude, 20c; prime summer yellow, 23c, off summer yellow, 22½@23c.

RICE—Steady; fair to extra, 3½@6½c; Japan, 4¼@4⅝c.

MOLASSES—Quiet; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 26@34c, for new crop.

METALS—Pig iron, quiet; southern, $11.00@12.25; northern, $11.00@13.00. Copper, quiet; brokers, $11.25. Lead, strong; brokers, $2.75. Tin plates, dull.

### London Financial Review.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The New York Financier says: The statement issued by the New York clearing house banks for the week ending December 19 seems to indicate a partial cessation of the sterling exchange buying movement, which has been a marked feature in this center for over a week past. Although the expansion in loans is far from being unsatisfactory, the accumulation of funds continues in larger proportion, and the excess reserve has again increased, up to $483,275,775, which is higher than reported since February 15 last. This accumulation of money congesting the market beyond all means of relief, even with London drawing on New York for accommodation, of course, has reacted on the rates until they have touched the lowest figure of the year, but there were unmistakable signs at the closing of the week of a firmer tendency, due partly to the Cuban resolutions, which affected the market in other cities, and to the approaching probability of gold exports to Germany, where the situation is becoming stringent. With sterling exchange at present prices these exports now would not be profitable, but this country might welcome at present an efflux of funds, which would put the local money market in a more normal condition. Money is still flowing from the interior to New York, and the cash gains of the banks for the week were $3,416,600. The increase in deposits was $6,984,800. The close of the present year may mark several heavy changes in these items, as the January disbursement period is at hand, and will call for large sums both here and abroad.

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### St. Louis General Market.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19.—FLOUR—Dull and weak; patents, $4.60@4.75; extra fancy, $4.10@4.20; fancy, $3.40@3.50; choice, $3.00@3.10.

WHEAT—The market was decidedly erratic and the business light. Spot, higher; No. 2 red, cash, elevator, 90½c bid; track, 91½@92c; No. 2 hard, cash, 86c asked; December, 90c; May, 89½c.

CORN—Futures dull, weak and lower, the receipts continuing heavy and the demand light. Spot, lower; No. 2 cash, 20½c; December, 20⅝c asked; May, 22⅜@22½c.

OATS—Futures dull and weak, the receipts being heavy and the market overstocked. Spot, lower; No. 2 cash, 17½c; May, 20¾c asked.

RYE—Dull; 37@28c.

BARLEY—Quiet, 30@40c.

CORN MEAL—$1.25.

FLAXSEED—Steady; 72c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.40.

HAY—Dull; timothy, $6.00@11.00; prairie, $4.00@7.50.

EGGS—Steady; 17c.

WHISKY—$1.18.

LEAD—Quiet; $2.75@2.82½.

PROVISIONS—Pork, steady; standard mess, jobbing, $7.15@7.40. Lard, steady; prime steam, $3.60; choice, $3.75. Bacon (boxed), shoulders, $4.55; extra short clear, $4.62½; ribs, $4.70; shorts, $4.87½. Dry salt meats (boxed), shoulders, $4; extra short clear, $3.87½; ribs, $4.25; shorts, $4.37½.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 5,000 bbls.; wheat, 10,000 bu.; corn, 115,000 bu.; oats, 45,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 7,000 bbls.; wheat, 22,000 bu.; corn, 25,000 bu.; oats, 8,000 bu.

### Sugar Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—SUGAR—Raw, quiet; fair refining, 2⅝c; centrifugal, 96 test, 3¼c. Refined, quiet; mold "A," 4⅝c; standard "A," 4¼c; confectioners' "A," 4⅛c; cut loaf and crushed, 5c; powdered and cubes, 4⅝c; granulated, 4⅜c.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—SUGAR—Cane, quiet; centrifugal, Java 11s 3d. Muscovado, fair refining, 9s 9d. Beet, quiet; nothing doing; December and January, 9s 1½d.

### Fall River Print Market.

FALL RIVER, Mass., Dec. 19.—The print cloth market has been dull during the week and the quotation, which was nominally at 2⅝c at the beginning, has settled to 2 9-16c. Even at this price no business is being done and sales at 2½c are reported from other centers. The total amount of sales were of odd goods, there being no demand for regular weaves.

### Minneapolis Wheat.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 19.—WHEAT—December closed at 76c; May, 78⅝c. On track: No. 1 hard, 77⅝c; No. 1 northern, 76⅝c; receipts, 206 cars.

FLOUR—Quiet and dull; first patents, $4.25@4.45; second patents, $4.10@4.20; first clears, $2.40@2.60; second clears, $2.30@2.50.

### Toledo Grain.

TOLEDO, Dec. 19.—WHEAT—Dull; steady; No. 2 cash and December, 93¼c; May, 94⅝c.

CORN—Active; steady, No. 2 mixed, 22½c.

OATS—Quiet; No. 2 mixed, 18½c.

RYE—Quiet; No. 2 cash, 35c.

CLOVER SEED—Dull; higher; prime December, $5.27½.

### Week's Exports of Specie.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The exports of specie from the port of New York for the week amounted to $26,685 in gold and $953,260 in silver. The imports were: Gold, $29,358; silver, $50,209; dry goods, $1,596,813; general merchandise, $5,768,155.

### Cotton Market.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 19.—COTTON—Easy; middling, 6 13-16c; low middling, 6 9-16c; good ordinary, 6 5-16c.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—COTTON—Quiet; middling, 7 3-16c.

### Oil City Market.

OIL CITY, Pa., Dec. 19.—Credit balances, 95c; certificates, 91c bid; no sales.

### Petroleum Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—PETROLEUM—Pennsylvania crude, steady; January, 95c bid.

### 'Frisco Wheat.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19.—WHEAT—Inactive; May, $1.53⅝.