COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Drops After it Was Thought the Bottom Was Reached.

GOES DOWN NEARLY TWO CENTS

Wheat Cables the Prime Cause, Followed by General Liquidation—Corn and Oats Fall in Sympathy.

CHICAGO, April 9.—It was supposed that Wednesday's decline of 3¾c marked the bottom of the descent which has played havoc with wheat prices lately. This was proven erroneous today by a decline of 1⅝c from yesterday's price, May closing at 64⅞c, the lowest price in many months. Weak cables started the rumpus and heavy liquidation kept it going. Corn and oats were weak in sympathy, declining ⅝c and ⅝c respectively. Provisions, on the contrary, were firm and scored advances ranging from 2½c to 10c.

Liverpool disappointed the wheat traders at the opening by quoting a decline of ¾d per cental in derision of Chicago's tip of the day before that the decline had gone far enough. That caused starting prices here to show a drop of from ⅝c to ⅝c per bushel; May commenced at 66¾c this morning and July at from 65⅞c to 66¼c. For about twenty minutes the tendency was downward, until at 66c the price for both months came together. That amalgamation of the quotations did not last over two or three minutes, however, and when they separated it was found that July had changed places with May, inasmuch as during an advance of 1c per bushel in May, which began after touching 66c, it led July by a little over ⅝c, for while May touched 67c, July could not be sold for more than 66⅝@66⅝c. The highest quotations referred to were made about 11 o'clock, and by 11:15 the prices were down again to 66⅝c for May and 66c for July. The advance was caused by a fresh batch of Kansas crop damage reports, and the stress of the St. Louis market, from where they were sent. Minneapolis and Duluth received 364 cars, against 289 last week and the same number a year ago. The large export business reported yesterday—900,000 bu.—was received with considerable suspicion by traders. The Liverpool Corn Trade News reported the decrease in European stocks and quantity afloat from March 1 to April 1 at 5,500,000 bu., which was much too small a diminution to be considered other than bearish. About 12 o'clock a stampede of holders commenced, which in fifteen minutes tumbled the price of May to 64½c. Closing cables were no weaker than those received earlier in the day, and the only cause for this fresh break, which threw everything into demoralization again, was the inviting field for short selling, which a market so devoid of support from outside speculation displayed. The break was partly due to the closing out of about 3,500,000 bu. of long wheat held for New York speculation. Numerous orders to stop long wheat losses at 64c contributed to the drop below that point. The closing price for May was 64¾c and for July 64½c. The latter sold as low as 64¼c.

Corn ruled weak, offerings to arrive being liberal and the demand rather slack. There was increased May liquidation and trading became heavy when stop orders were reached. Cables were better, but the influence of the wheat break was too strong to be moved. Exports were large again—738,000 bu. May opened a shade lower at 23½c. It sold as low as 22¾c and closed weak at 23⅛@23c.

Shorts were good sellers of oats, and, with the assistance of quite heavy liquidation by the "long" element on stop orders, created a very weak market. Buying was urgent, nevertheless, and especially by the elevators was large. The weakness in corn and wheat, and prospects of large receipts were features of the decline. Exports amounted to 207,000 bu. May opened about unchanged at 16¾@16⅝c, declined to 15⅞c and closed with sellers at 15⅞@16c.

Provisions opened strong and higher on a better hog market at the yards. Packers were the best buyers, Armour being reported as a large buyer of cash ribs, which ruled at July prices. Cash trade generally was reported good, both here and at outside packing points. Good support was given the market all through the session, and prices ruled firm. At the close May pork was about 5c higher at $8.20; July lard about 5c higher at $4.12½, and May ribs about 7½c higher at $4.55@4.57½.

Estimated receipts for Saturday: Wheat, 8 cars; corn, 145 cars; oats, 185 cars; hogs, 10,000 head.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yest'y.
*Wheat—					
April..	66	66¾	64⅝	64⅝	66⅜
May...	66¾	67⅜	64⅝	64⅝	66⅜
July...	65⅞@66	66¼@66⅜	64⅜	64½	66½@66⅝
Sept..	64⅜-65	65⅛	63¾	63¼@63⅜	65¼@65⅜
*Corn—					
April..	23¼	23¼	22½	22⅝@⅝	23⅝@⅝
May...	23⅝	23⅝	22⅝	22⅞-23	23⅝@⅝
July...	24⅞	24⅛	24⅛	24⅛@⅜	24¾-25
Sept..	26¼	26¼	25½	25⅝	26¼@⅜
*Oats—					
May...	16⅝@⅝	16⅝	15⅞	15⅞-16	16⅝
July...	17⅜	17⅜	17⅛	17⅛	17⅜
Sept....	18½	18½	18¼	18¼@⅜	18⅝
Pork—					
May....	8 20	8 25	8 17½	8 20	8 12½
July....	8 32½	8 32½	8 27½	8 32½	8 22½
Lard—					
May....	4 10	4 12½	4 10	4 12½	4 10
July....	4 22½	4 22½	4 20	4 22½	4 20
Sh't Ribs					
May....	4 52½	4 57½	4 52½	4 57½	4 47½
July...	4 52½	4 57½	4 52½	4 57½	4 50

* No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Quiet; winter patents, $4.30@4.50; winter straights, $4.00@4.15; Minnesota spring straights, $4.00@4.10; spring patents, $4.00@4.10; straights, $3.40@3.70; bakers, $3.00@3.30.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 64½@65⅝c; No. 2 red, 65⅝@66⅝c.

CORN—No. 2, 22½@23c; No. 2 yellow, 22¼c.

OATS—No. 2, f. o. b., 16c; No. 2 white, 20½@20c; No. 3 white, f. o. b., 20½c.

RYE—No. 2, 30c.

BARLEY—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, 27@31c; No. 4, 26c.

FLAXSEED—No. 1, 72c.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.62½@2.65.

PROVISIONS—Pork, steady, per bbl., $8.15@8.20. Lard, per 100 lbs., $4.10@4.12½. Bacon short ribs sides (loose), $4.40@4.65. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), $5.12½@5.50; short clear sides (boxed), $4.62½@4.75.

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

SUGAR—Cut loaf, $5.64; granulated, $5.01.

The following were the receipts and shipments today:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls	7,000	4,000
Wheat, bu	2,000	88,000
Corn, bu	142,000	24,000
Oats, bu	213,000	113,000
Rye, bu	3,000	.....
Barley, bu	26,000	5,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady; creamery, 14@18c; dairy, 9@16c. Eggs, firm; fresh, 8½c. Cheese, firm; 10½@10¾c. Dressed poultry, firm; turkeys, 9c; chickens, 8c; ducks, 9@10c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations of the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, April 9.—FLOUR—Receipts, 14,467 bbls.; exports, 19,452 bbls.; opened steady, but was weak, followed by a later break in wheat; winter straights, $4.00@4.15; Minnesota patents, $3.85@4.10; Minnesota bakers, $3.35@3.60. Rye flour, steady. Cornmeal, steady.

BARLEY—Steady at 24c.

PEANUTS—Steady; fair to prime, 4½@5c.

WHEAT—Receipts, 12,875 bu.; exports, 15,296 bu.; spot, weak; No. 2 red, 75¾c; No. 3 hard, winter, 71¾c. Options opened weak under disappointing cables, reflected shortly on bad crop news, but collapsed in the afternoon under extensive liquidation, general discouragement and weak late cables; closed 1¾@2c lower; No. 2 red, May, 71 3-16@71⅞c.

CORN—Receipts, 64,687 bu.; exports, 31,519 bu.; spot, weak; No. 2, 29¾c. Options opened easy and sold off during the day with wheat and under local unloading closed at a 2c decline; April closed at 25¾c; May, 28¼@28c, closed 28⅛c.

OATS—Receipts, 66,000 bu.; exports, 61,243 bu.; spot, quiet; May, 21@21¼c, closed 21c.

HAY—Quiet; shipping, 75@85c; good to choice, 72½@75c.

HIDES—Firm, but quiet; western, 20 to 25 lbs., 14c; Buenos Ayres, 15½@19c; Texas, 11c; California, 18½c.

HOPS—Quiet; state, common to choice, 1896 crop, 2½@6c; 1896 crop, 5@10¾c.

LEATHER—Firm; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, light to heavy, 20@21c.

BUTTER—Receipts, 3,349 pkgs.; western, 15@20c; Elgins, 20c; factory, 15@18c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 853 pkgs.; market quiet; state, large, 8@12¼c; state, small, 9@12¾c; part skims, 5@8c; full skims, 2½@3c.

EGGS—Receipts, 10,991 pkgs.; market steady; state and western, 9¾@10c; Pennsylvania, 9½c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, steady; packet, $8.50@9.50. Cut meats, steady; pickled bellies, $5.50; pickled hams, $9.00@9.50. Lard, steady; western steam, $4.35; May, $4.40. Pork, steady; mess, $9.00@9.25. Tallow, steady.

OILS—Cottonseed, steadier; prime, 20c asked; yellow, 22½@23c. Petroleum, weak; United closed with no price given; Pennsylvania crude, steady; May, 87½c bid; sales, none. Rosin, steady; strained, common to good, $1.60@1.67½. Turpentine, firm at 29½@30c.

RICE—Steady at 4¼@6¼c; Japan, 4¾@4¾c.

MOLASSES—Steady; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 23@30c.

METAL—Pig iron, easy; southern, $10.00@11.00; northern, $10.50@12.50. Copper, easy; brokers, $11.50; exchange, $11.10. The lead market closed dull and weak at the decline, with spot lots quoted by the exchange at $3.30@3.32½. Leading brokers quote lead at $3.32.

Cotton Markets.

NEW YORK, April 9.—COTTON—Spots, firm; middling, 7 7-16c; middling, uplands, 7 7-16c; middling, gulf, 7 11-16c; sales, 8,425 bales. Futures, quiet; sales, 110,000 bales; January, 16.89; February, 16.98; April, 17.05; May, 17.09; June, 17.13; July, 17.18; August, 16.10; October, 16.81; December, 16.85. The market opened steady at 2 to 5 points higher on favorable Liverpool cables and reports of heavy rain in southern Mississippi valley. Selling by commission houses and Liverpool broke the market 3 to 4 points after the call, but the market steadied soon after on rumors of heavy sales of spot cotton. At 11 a. m. the market was steady at a net advance of 19 to 20 points, with sales of 5,000 bales.

NEW ORLEANS, April 9.—COTTON—Firm; middling, 7¾c.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Bulk of sales, 7@7½c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 9@10c; choice to fancy roll, 12@14c; separator creamery, 21c; gathered creamery, 18c.

GAME—Blue winged teal ducks, $1.50; green wing, $1.25; redheads and mallards, $2.50@2.75; canvasbacks, $2.00; Canada geese, large, $5.00@6.00; small, $2.00@3.00.

VEAL—Choice fat, 80 to 120 lbs., are quoted at 8@8½c; large and coarse, 4@5c.

LIVE POULTRY—Hens, 6@6½c; cocks, 5@5c. Broilers, 20c per lb. less than fully cured.

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

HAY—Upland, $4.50; midland, $3.50; lowland, $3.00; rye straw, $2.50; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best; only top grades bring top prices.

BROOMCORN—Extremely slow sale; new crop, delivered on track in country; choice green self-working carpet, per lb., 2½@2½c; choice green, running to hurl, 2@2½c; common, 1½c.

VEGETABLES.

GREEN PEAS—Per 20-lb. box, $2.25.

CUCUMBERS—Per doz., $1.75.

CAULIFLOWER—Per crate, $3.00@4.00.

ASPARAGUS—Per lb., 15c.

SPINACH—Per bu. box, $1.00; per basket, 75c.

TOMATOES—Per 7-basket crate, $5.00.

WATER CRESS—Per 16-qt. crate, $1.75.

PIE PLANT—Illinois, 50-lb. boxes, $1.25@1.50.

TURNIPS—Per bbl., $1.50.

OLD VEGETABLES—Beets, carrots, parsnips, per bbl., $1.50.

RADISHES—Per doz., 30c.

LETTUCE—Per doz., 20c.

WAX BEANS—Bu. boxes, $3.00.

ONIONS—Per doz., 20@30c.

PARSLEY—Per doz., 25c.

BERMUDA ONIONS—Per crate, $4.50.

SWEET POTATOES—Fancy Illinois, per bbl., $1.75; seed, $1.25@1.50.

ONIONS—Good stock, per bu., $1.25@1.50.

LIMA BEANS—Per lb., 3c.

BEANS—Hand-picked navy, per lb., $1.00@1.10.

CABBAGE—California, $1.75.

CELERY—Per doz., large, California, 75c.

POTATOES—Good native stock, per bu., 25@30c; early Ohio seed potatoes, Red river valley, 45@50c; Minnesota early Ohio, 40@45c.

FRUITS.

STRAWBERRIES—Texas, per 24-qt. cases, $5.00; Louisiana, 24 pints, $2.50.

MALAGA GRAPES—Per keg, $7.00.

CRANBERRIES—Per crate, $1.50.

APPLES—Fancy, large, $2.25; choice, $2.00.

TROPICAL FRUIT.

ORANGES—California navels, 150s to 200s, $3.75; large sizes, $3.25@3.50; seedlings, $2.25@2.65; Mediterranean sweets, fancy, $3.00; choice, $2.50@2.75.

LEMONS—Messinas, $2.00@3.25; choice California, $2.75; fancy, $3.00.

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

MISCELLANEOUS.

NUTS—Almonds, California, per lb., large size, 13c; Brazils, per lb., 10c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy, soft shell, 12@12½c; standards, 10@11c; filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished, large, 9@10c; jumbo, 11@12c. large hickory nuts, $1.25 per bu.; cocoanuts, 4½c each.

HONEY—Choice, fancy 4 crown, 20-lb. boxes, 12@13c; 5 crown 50-lb. boxes, 12@14c.

HONEY—Choice, 13@14c.

CIDER—Clarified juice, per half bbl., $2.50; per bbl., $4.00@4.25.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five gal. cans, each, $2.50; gal. cans, pure, per doz., $12; half gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.50.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 6c; No. 2 green hides, 5c; No. 1 green salted hides, 7½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 6½c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 7c; No. 2 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 6c; No. 1 dry flint hides, 9@10c; No. 2 dry flint hides, 8@9c; No. 1 dry salted hides, 8@9c; part cured hides, 6c per lb. less than fully cured.

SHEEP PELTS—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 them.

TALLOW AND GREASE—Tallow, No. 1, 2½c; tallow, No. 2, 2c; grease, white A, 2c; grease, white B, 2c; grease, yellow, 2c; grease, dark, 1¾c; old butter, 2@2½c; beeswax, prime, 15@22c; rough tallow, 1c.

WOOL—Unwashed, fine heavy, 6@7c; fine light, 8@9c; unmerchantable, 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; burry, bucks, 6c; tag locks, 2@3c; dead pulled, 5@6c.

BONES—In car lots, weighed and delivered in Chicago: Dry Buffalo, per ton, $12@14; dry country, shrunken, per ton, $10@12; dry country, damp and meaty, per ton, $6@8.

FRESH MEATS.

DRESSED BEEF—Good native steers, 400 to 600 lbs., 6½c; good forequarters steers, 5½c; good hindquarters, 8½c; western steers, 6¼c; fancy heifers, 8½c; good heifers, 6c; good forequarters, 5c; good hindquarters, 8c; good cows, 6c; fair cows, 5½c; common cows, 5c; cow forequarters, 4½c; cow hindquarters, 7½c.

BEEF CUTS—Tenderloins, 20c; boneless strips, 12½c; sirloin rolls, 9c; strip loins, 12½c; ribs, 8c; shoulder clods, 5½c; rump butts, 5c; steer chucks, 4¼c; cow chucks, 4c; boneless chucks, 4¼c; cow plates, 3½c; steer plates, 4c; flank steak, 6c; loins, No. 1, 14c; loins, No. 2, 12c; loins, No. 3, 10c; No. 1 short loins, 16c; No. 2 short loins, 14c; No. 3 short loins, 12c; sirloin ends, 7½c; ribs, No. 1, 12c; ribs, No. 2, 10c; ribs, No. 3, 7c; steer rounds, 6c; cow rounds, 5½c; cow rounds, shank off, 7c; cow rounds, shank and rump off, 7¼c; trimmings, 4c; beef shanks, 2½c; brains, per doz., 25c; sweetbreads, per lb., 12c; sweetbreads (calves), per lb., 40c; kidneys, per doz., 45c; ox tails, each, 3c; livers, per lb., 2½c; boneless rump, 7c; 2c tongues, per lb., 12c.

MUTTON—Lambs, 8c; yearlings, 7¼c; sheep, 5½c; market racks, long, 9c; hotel racks, short, 12c; legs and saddles, 9c; lamb legs, 10c; breasts and stews, 3c; tongues, each, 5c; plucks, each, 5c.

PORK—Dressed pigs, 5½c; dressed hogs, 5¼c; tenderloins, 14c; loins, 7½c; spare ribs, 5¼c; ham sausage, butts, 5½c; shoulders, rough, 5½c; shoulders, skinned, 5¾c; trimmings, 5c; leaf lard, not rendered, 5c; heads, cleaned, 4c; snouts and ears, 4c; backbones, 3c; cheek meats, 2½c; neck bones, 3c; pigs' tails, 2½c; plucks, each, 5c; chitterlings, 5c; pigs' feet, 4c; hearts, per doz., 25c; stomachs, each, 3c; tongues, each, 7c; kidneys, per doz., 10c; brains, per doz., 15c; pigs' feet, per doz., 20c; livers, each, 3c.

CONDITION OF THE WOOL MARKET.

Sales Are Less Than Last Week, Due to Sellers Holding Back.

BOSTON, April 9.—The American Wool and Cotton Reporter says of the wool trade: The wool market may be characterized as somewhat less excited than the week before, but it can nevertheless be described as active and firm. The lessened activity may be ascribed to two causes, smaller offerings and the uncertainty attending the retroactive clause in the new tariff bill. In a word, it is not that the dealers cannot sell wool, but that they will not. Quotations appear to have reached the point where the manufacturers have become conservative. Many of them are fond of letting the fact be known that they have got at least a year's supply of wool on hand, evidently with the hope that by so doing they can stem the current of rising quotations. At any rate, they have not been in the market during the past week in quite such full numbers as previously. A constant diminution is taking place in the offerings of territory wools. These wools are now being bought on the sheep's back and with great eagerness by not a few persons, and it is persisted that in their excitement the buyers will eventually allow themselves to pay unduly high figures. Scoured and pulled wools continue active, although sales are greatly reduced in comparison with a year ago. The demand for foreign wools continues brisk, large sales of Australian, greasy Capes and South American crossbreds being noted. Good sales of foreign scoured are also reported. Sales in Boston the past week aggregate 5,326,600 pounds, domestic, 4,170,000 pounds being domestic and 4,356,000 pounds foreign, compared with a total of 12,839,000 pounds last week. Sales in Boston, New York and Philadelphia for the week aggregate 12,726,400 pounds, 8,238,500 pounds being domestic and 6,840,-000 pounds foreign. Sales since January 1, 151,-071,000 pounds, compared with 61,540,515 pounds last year.

The Boston Commercial Bulletin will say tomorrow of the wool market: "The demand has dropped off and the market is quiet. Prices are, however, stronger than ever. There is a great scarcity of medium wool. Super-pulled wools have advanced 3c. the scoured pound. Sales of fine wools for the United States in the London auction just closed are more than double all previous purchases. They aggregate 160,000 bales. Wool is largely held out of the market for an advance and western growers are declining to contract further for wool on the sheep's backs. The sales of the week are 3,-000,000 lbs. domestic and 2,925,000 lbs. foreign, against 5,108,000 lbs. domestic and 5,080,000 lbs. foreign for the same week last year. The sales to date show an increase of 29,659,800 lbs. domestic and 20,802,400 lbs. foreign from the sales to the same date in 1896. The receipts to date show an increase of 13,295 bales domestic and 76,196 bales foreign."

NEW YORK, April 9.—WOOL—Firm.

ST. LOUIS, April 9.—WOOL—Steady.

Kansas City Markets.

KANSAS CITY, April 9.—WHEAT—Good grades steady early, closing weak; low grades lower throughout; No. 2 hard, 52c; No. 3, 50½@52c; No. 4, 48@49c; rejected, 45@46c; no grade, 42@43c; No. 2 red, 93c; No. 3, 87@91c; No. 4, 76@80c; No. 2 spring, 52@53c; No. 3, 50@51c.

CORN—Market about steady, rather quiet; No. 2 mixed, 21½@22c, latter for special billing.

OATS—Market firm, fairly active; No. 2 white, 19@22c.

RYE—Market steady; No. 2, 31c.

HAY—Market firm and unchanged; timothy, $8.50@9.00; prairie, $5.50@6.00.

BUTTER—Creamery slow and weak; southern stock strong; creamery, 16c; dairy, 10@14c.

EGGS—Market firm and in better demand; strictly fresh, 7½c; cases included, 8½c.

Sugar Markets.

LONDON, April 9.—SUGAR—Beet, April 8s 9d. Cane, Muscovado, 10s 2½d; centrifugal, 10s 8d.

NEW YORK, April 9.—SUGAR—Raw, dull; fair refining, 3c; centrifugal, 96 test, 3¾c. Refined, dull; crushed, 6c; powdered, 5c; granulated, 4¾c.

STATISTICS OF FAILURES

Figures for the First Quarter in 1897 Carefully Compiled.

GIVE ROOM FOR MUCH ENCOURAGEMENT

Returns, Compared with Those of Three Previous Years, Disclose Considerable Improvement and a Bright Prospect.

NEW YORK, April 9.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade will say:

Out of 4,066 failures with liabilities of $69,572,-561 in the first quarter, seventy-four banking failures covered more than a fifth of the amount, $12,744,626, and 3,345 failures, with liabilities of $35,947,892, or nearly three-fifths, are classified this week, according to branches of business, leaving only 587 failures, and less than a fifth of the liabilities, $12,060,949, in branches of manufacture or trade not specified. Only two of the thirteen manufacturing classes, and only four of thirteen trading classes show liabilities for the quarter larger than in that year, and only in manufacturing and three trading show larger average liabilities. For the month of March, only three manufacturing and three trading classes show larger amounts than last year, and only two manufacturing and five trading show a larger average of liabilities. In almost every case, also, it is shown that the increase is due to one or two exceptionally large failures in that class. The returns, compared with those of three previous years disclose much improvement already, and a bright prospect for more hereafter.

A sudden collapse in the wheat market, exceeding 3 cents in a day, appears to have no other cause than a belated perception that past accepted estimates of yield and consumption, official and otherwise, have been misleading. Floods and other unfavorable weather for seeding have no weight. Speculation in spreading news and high prices burst like a bubble, and for a time the only support was the taking of profits by speculators for a fall. Receipts have not warranted hopes of a great advantage, nor do they now warrant much expectation of a decline. Western receipts are smaller than last year, and Atlantic exports not large, though over 60 per cent larger than a year ago.

Corn receipts continue heavy and exports for the week were 2,323,337 bushels, against 1,112,719 bushels last year, and against Atlantic exports of wheat, amounting, flour included, to only 1,521,122 bushes, against 967,553 bushels last year.

In spite of floods, which must have materially affected the prospect, cotton has only advanced an eighth during the week. The fate of those who were absolutely certain that the crop of 1896 was very short has left but little confidence for further speculation. Receipts thus far still indicate a supply of American considerably greater than has ever been consumed in a year, but uncertainty about the coming crop induces much buying. The demand for cotton goods does not increase, although sales of fair magnitude continue, but printing cloths are dull.

Speculation in wool has been checked by the possibility that duties may take effect April 1, and some large shipments abroad have been countermanded, while traders here are less disposed to sell. But trading between dealers makes up more than half the sales of 12,730,400 pounds for the week, and since sales in 100 weeks at three markets have been 76,461,600 pounds, it is not improbable that many mills have, as is claimed, a full year's supply. The demand for men's goods has diminished, the first round of purchases having been completed by many buyers, with results fairly encouraging to the manufacturer. The demand for dress goods, especially of the lower grades, has caused an advance of 5 per cent. in some lines.

The iron industry is hampered by the contest between Mesaba ore interests, which prevents as yet any settlement of iron prices, and leads many to expect further decline in finished products. The Illinois steel works, the Lake Erie works at Cleveland, and the works of Oliver & Co. and Byers & Co., at Pittsburg, are stopped because of difficulties, and some furnaces have stopped because the production of pig had outrun the demand for finished products and heavy stocks remained unsold. Bessemer, at Pittsburg, for pig brings only $10, and Gray forge only $8.75, the lowest on record, but no quotable decline is seen in finished products, and nails are strong.

WEEKLY CLEARING HOUSE TOTALS.

Aggregate of Business Transactions of the Associated Banks.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The following table, compiled by Bradstreet's, shows the total clearances at the principal cities and the percentage of increase or decrease, as compared with the corresponding week last year:

CITIES.	Clearings.	Inc.	Dec.
New York	$ 561,219,025	7.6	.....
Chicago	74,483,267	.....	3.3
Boston	106,606,214	4.1	.....
Philadelphia	70,225,197	19.1	.....
St. Louis	24,238,467	2.6	.....
San Francisco	11,935,516	2.5	.....
Baltimore	16,085,053	.....	20.9
Pittsburg	15,466,084	2.6	.....
Cincinnati	13,185,450	3.1	.....
Kansas City	10,726,318	14.5	.....
New Orleans	7,243,12	.....	13.3
Buffalo	3,796,695	.....	11.2
Milwaukee	4,742,511	20.3	.....
Detroit	5,632,08	.....	8.8
Louisville	6,511,401	14.6	.....
Minneapolis	6,040,347	.....	2.8
Providence	4,174,469	.....	.....
Cleveland	6,173,653	17.8	.....
Houston	5,025,806	27.5	.....
St. Paul	3,768,811	.....	23.5
Denver	2,444,541	.....	25.7
Indianapolis	4,246,475	1.0	.....
Columbus, O	3,941,600	3.4	.....
Hartford	2,875,842	3.6	.....
Richmond	1,957,228	.....	19.2
Washington	2,233,571	4.7	.....
Peoria	2,309,755	4.4	.....
St. Joseph	1,305,772	10.1	.....
Salt Lake	1,524,066	.....	20.4
Memphis	1,974,633	.....	.....
Portland, Ore	1,872,862	13.1	.....
Worcester	1,573,354	.....	4.3
New Haven	1,573,416	12.1	.....
Savannah	2,157,515	43.3	.....
Springfield, Mass	1,382,241	.....	13.2
Worcester	1,252,148	.....	.....
Portland, Me	1,321,250	19.8	.....
Atlanta	1,395,901	17.9	.....
Fort Worth	1,320,886	.....	18.2
Waco	977,385	.....	16.2
Syracuse	1,028,200	3.3	.....
Des Moines	1,142,598	.....	4.2
Grand Rapids	724,164	.....	4.3
Seattle	549,876	3.4	.....
Lowell	879,449	47.4	.....
Wilmington, Del	719,361	.....	2.0
Norfolk	853,384	.....	5.2
Sioux City	586,962	13.7	.....
Los Angeles	1,366,661	.....	6.2
Tacoma	464,559	.....	3.5
Spokane	545,379	19.3	.....
Jacksonville	286,769	.....	29.2
Lincoln	329,698	3.2	.....
New Bedford	486,352	.....	9.1
Wichita	410,544	.....	40.0
Birmingham	464,259	.....	8.8
Topeka	321,616	2.2	.....
Lexington, Ky	320,154	5.9	.....
Binghamton	369,000	18.2	.....
Bay City, Mich	179,162	.....	25.8
Fall River	708,735	.....	22.7
Akron, O	275,300	19.5	.....
Springfield	147,705	.....	29.3
Canton, O	240,100	23.7	.....
Sioux Falls	39,732	.....	51.8
Fremont	55,03	.....	.....
Hastings, Neb	80,215	31.1	.....
Chattanooga	271,000	.....	1.4
Nashville	1,213,374	17	.....
Galveston	4,983,400	14.2	.....
Salt Lake	1,429,861	9.2	.....
Scranton	833,717	.....	15.1
Augusta	917,221	21.7	.....
Dayton	1,748,087	.....	17.2
Knoxville	484,418	8.7	.....
Kalamazoo	229,819	6.1	.....
Rockford	1,901,695	21.1	.....
Davenport	711,326	.....	4.1
Toledo	1,421,683	11.8	.....
Totals United States	$1,016,093,321	9.2	.....
Exclusive of New York	454,874,296	11.5	.....

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Montreal	$ 11,918,724	60.7	.....
Toronto	7,320,074	37.1	.....
Halifax	1,310,481	37.7	.....
Hamilton	833,57	20.1	.....
Winnipeg	990,246	1.2	.....
St. Johns, N. B	563,311	.....	.....
Totals	$ 22,342,799	45.7	.....

REVIEW OF THE STOCK MARKET.

Week Has Been a Professional One and Exhibited Heaviness.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Bradstreet's Financial Review tomorrow will say:

Altogether the market has been a processional one, and at the beginning of the week exhibited further heaviness. Covering of shorts on an extensive scale set in on Wednesday and carried prices in many instances to a considerably better level. This movement was not attended by any very striking news, but would seem to be the result of overselling by the professional traders and their allies. The fact that the railroads did not justify the hopes of the bears in regard to their action upon the transmissouri decision and have studiously refrained from injudiciously any rate war was probably an important factor in this connection, and it may also be observed that except in a few stocks like Jersey Central, where special reasons for liquidation existed, no large volume of investment stock came upon the market during the recent declines. Loosely held long stock was, however, forced out, but it is now evident that the short selling was upon a much more extensive scale than had been supposed, and as further unfavorable developments seemed far off, uneasiness on the part of professionals caused a general desire to close their contract on the bear side. But this disposition has doubtless been accelerated by manipulation on the part of some leaders of the bears, and it may be remarked that communication house buying, indicative of renewed public interest in the market has been lacking. The reduction of the Bank of England rate with the decline of the money markets, both in London and on the continent, pointing as they do, to decreased apprehensions that war will grow out of the Cretan question, are considered favorable factors. At the same time London has been inactive and shows little or no interest in our market.

BRADSTREET'S WEEKLY REVIEW.

Floods Have a Depressing Effect Generally Upon Business.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

The situation as a whole shows no gain. Staple lines are only fairly active. Overflows, washouts and floods continue to do great damage in the Mississippi and Missouri river valleys, through a portion of which the general trade regains practically all its standstill. Rainy weather extending from the central western to the northwestern spring wheat states has rendered country roads almost impassable, with the natural effect upon business. As the region threatened by floods includes the richest portion of the cotton belt, the prospect for delay in planting a second time indicates the possibility of a heavy reduction in acreage this year; hence the advance in cotton this week.

Pig iron, steel billets and cast iron pipe are lower in price and the demand for steel and iron is not as heavy as it has been, although the price of lake ore has been fixed at a low figure and an ore pool formed.

Wheat has continued a disappointment as to price, dropping nearly 4 cents a bushel on Bradstreet's report of an increase in the world's visible supply last week. Instead of a decrease, as expected, due to a larger quantity of wheat in sight abroad.

Chicago has only about held its own, little if any improvement being reported in trade there. Louis, more dependent on traffic with the flooded region, reports a decrease in the volume of business. Jobbers at Omaha, St. Paul, Milwaukee and Portland, Ore., report a better demand, notably in dry goods, oils, paints, glass, shoes and leather. Prospective advances in the wool tariff are behind another rise in the price of wool and woolens, but cotton goods thus far fail to advance, because of the restricted production in meeting the current demand. Nearly all staples, except those mentioned as having advanced, have declined.

Exports of wheat (flour included) from both coasts of the United States and St. John, N. B., this week amount to 2,036,797 bushels, compared with 2,464,000 bushels last week, 1,764,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 2,934,000 bushels in the week two years ago, 1,925,000 bushels three years ago and contrasted with 2,948,000 bushels in the like week of 1893. Exports of indian corn amount to 1,645,585 bushels this week, compared with 4,970,000 bushels last week and 1,291,000 bushels in the week a year ago, 814,000 bushels two years ago, 1,457,000 bushels three years ago and as contrasted with 908,000 bushels in the like week of 1893.

Business failures reported at the lower level recently reported, 232 this week, compared with 212 last week, 231 in the week a year ago, 225 two years ago and 211 three years ago. There are thirty-two banking failures reported from the Canadian dominion this week against thirty-eight last week, thirty in the week a year ago and twenty-six two years ago.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

More Animation is Observed on Wall Street Than on Recent Days.

NEW YORK, April 9.—Compared with the trading of some days of this week, there was considerable animation in business on the Stock exchange today, though the market has by no means attained large proportions yet. Nearly half the sales today were of Sugar and Chicago Gas, and the grangers and coalers took up a large part of the remaining half, so that the apparent increase in business was largely confined to a few stocks. The market opened with quite a marked upward tendency and as prices worked upwards there was a broadening in the scope of the dealings. But a number of unfavorable influences developed and induced the traders to take their profits. This proved too much for the market and values sagged off. Closing prices showing in most cases sharp net losses. There was quite a notable demand at one time during the day for the Vanderbilts, which have come to be looked upon of late as the first returning indication of an outside interest in the market. This was largely established as the market gave way to depression. Some of the buying of Sugar in the early part of the day seems to have been influenced by reports that the sugar schedule in the new tariff bill by foreign governments, the dealers in stocks apparently considering from this the tariff bill as a whole was likely to fail and to leave the sugar duties as at present. This is an example of the irrational character of the dealings in Sugar and the manner in which the price has been manipulated. The selling to realize was large and affected the price not only of Sugar, but the market in dividuals in general. After touching 115 the price fell 1¾ per cent. Chicago Gas was almost as largely dealt in as Sugar and was strong nearly all day, closing 1¼ per cent, as compared with 1¾ at yesterday's close. The strength in local gas securities continued a feature also. Brooklyn Union rose 2¾ per cent, but reacted 1½ per cent. The course upwards of the grangers was checked by the renewed weak