COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

December Wheat Strikes the Toboggan, Sliding Rapidly Downward.

ALMOST CREATES A PANIC IN THE PIT

Armour and Leiter Are Both Free Sellers, Which, with the Large Receipts, Causes the Break.

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—There was no premonitory symptoms today of the rumpus in December wheat that shook the pit to its center for fifteen minutes about an hour from the close of the session. That delivery was worth from $1.00½ to $1.05 most of the morning and all at once it began to show decided weakness. Before the crowd could realize what was happening it was being offered at 97½c and closed at 99½c, or at a decline of 5c a bushel since Saturday. May was comparatively steady, its loss for the day being only ⅝c. Both Armour and the Leiter crowd were said to have sold heavily and this selling was instrumental in the causing of the slump. The large amount of contract wheat which is arriving in Chicago made the decline easy. Corn, oats and provisions showed at the close very little change in prices.

Up to about the noon hour wheat was comparatively quiet and steady, May opened a shade higher than Saturday's closing price at 91⅝@91⅝c and during the morning fluctuated between that price and 91⅝@91⅝c. December, which broke loose during the afternoon, opened ⅛c higher at $1.05 and up to $1.05 had not sold below $1.04.

Traders were disposed to await the announcement of the government crop estimate before plunging too deeply into a sensitive market. The general impression was that the report would show a much larger acreage harvested this summer than the department had heretofore estimated, and this had a bearish influence on the scalping sentiment, although a firm and slightly higher opening at Liverpool caused the price of May to advance somewhat at first. The government report, when finally posted, estimated the yield at 330,000,000 bu. or from 50,000,000 to 70,000,000 bu. larger than statisticians generally have predicted. But the report had been pretty well discounted and, followed as it was by a surprise in the shape of a visible decrease of 380,000 bu. where an increase of 1,000,000 bu. had been expected, it had little or no effect.

A feature of the early market information was the large quantity of contract wheat added since Saturday morning to the stock in regular Chicago houses. From unlicensed elevators, or mixing and cleaning houses, as they are sometimes called, there were transferred 197 carloads and 50,000 bu. No. 1 northern spring; by lake, 135,800 bu. No. 1 northern spring and by rail 119 carloads No. 1 northern and No. 2 red winter, a total of about 425,000 bu. Nearly every receiving house in the trade was in receipt of inquiries from country shippers who had from one carload to 10,000 bu. they wanted sold to arrive for December. The uncertainty of its grading, however, made commission men averse to selling in advance of its arrival and inspection.

Northwest receipts were liberal, Minneapolis and Duluth reported 1,284 cars, against 1,315 cars a week ago and 810 the corresponding day of 1896. The total receipts by rail at Chicago were 271 cars and as already mentioned, 119 of them were of contract quality. Notwithstanding the heavy receipts in contract wheat here, the trade for a time did not appear to have any doubt of the ability of the bull clique to take care of all that could be brought in up to the end of the month.

About 11:30 a. m. the price of December began to weaken under a selling pressure which was credited to Armour. The decline was slow at first, but as the pressure increased and the fact developed that December was receiving practically no support, the market began to slide off in a way that was sensational in its rapidity.

By 12 o'clock December had declined to $1.02, when it rallied a little, but when finally broken the market began to slip away ⅛c and ¼c at a time and in fifteen minutes the price had struck 97½c. Then it rebounded to $1.02, but again declined to 99c and was bringing 99½c at the close, or 5c under Saturday's closing price.

May was of course affected, but not severely. It declined to 90½c during the headlong plunge of December, but by closing time had reacted to 91⅝c, a decline for the day of but ⅝c.

Undoubtedly the heavy arrivals of contract wheat had much to do with the decline, especially in starting it, but Allen & Grier, the bull clique brokers, were mainly responsible for the break to 97½c, their offerings being especially heavy. It was regarded by many as a move on the part of the clique to prevent further heavy shipments to this market, which have been natural in view of the much higher prices prevailing here than in other markets. The market was quiet, but rather nervous at the close.

Corn, though quiet, was firm. Small country offerings and bad weather west were helpful factors.

Oats was slow within an extremely narrow range.

Some strength developed in provisions during the morning on the small runs of hogs and prices opened slightly higher and improved to a limited extent. The rise in prices was taken advantage of by packers to sell, but the offerings were fairly well taken care of until the smash came in December wheat. This made buyers timid and in the absence of support the market lost its advantage. At the close May pork was 2½c lower at $3.95, May lard unchanged at $4.52½, and May ribs unchanged at $4.32½.

Estimated receipts Tuesday: Wheat, 378 cars corn, 560 cars; oats, 600 cars; hogs, 40,000 head.

Leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Saturdy.
*Wheat-					
Dec.....	1 05	1 05	97⅝	99⅝	1 04⅝
Jan.....	93⅝	93	92⅝	93⅝	93⅝
May.....	91⅝@⅝	92⅝	90⅝	91⅝	91⅝
*Corn-					
Dec.....	25⅝	25⅝@⅞	25⅛	25⅛	25⅝
Jan.....	25⅝	25⅝	25⅛	25⅛	25⅝
May.....	28⅝	28⅝	28⅛	28⅛@⅜	28⅝
*Oats-					
Dec.....	22⅝	22⅝	22	22	22
May.....	22⅝@⅝	22⅝	22⅛@⅜	22⅛	22⅝
Lard-					
Dec.....				4 42½	7 35
Jan.....	8 40	8 42½	8 30	8 32½	8 85
May.....	8 40	8 45	8 32½	8 55	8 37½
Ribs-					
Dec.....				4 20	4 25
Jan.....	4 40	4 40	4 35	4 35	4 55
May.....	4 55	4 57½	4 50	4 52½	4 52½
Sh'ths-					
Dec.....				4 22½	4 22½
Jan.....	4 25	4 27½	4 22½	4 22½	4 25
May.....	4 40	4 40	4 35	4 35	4 35

*No. 2

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Quiet and rather weak; hard patents, $4.00@4.20; soft, $4.40@4.60; soft bakers, $2.30@2.60; winter straights, $4.0@4.10.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 89@89c; No. 3 spring, 83@86c; No. 2 red, 91½@92½c.

CORN—No. 2, 25½@25⅝c; No. 2 yellow, 25⅝@25⅞c.

OATS—No. 2, 22½c; No. 2 white, 24½c; No. 3 white, 23½@24c.

RYE—No. 2, 40c.

BARLEY—No. 2, 1 c. b. f., 32½@37c.

FLAXSEED—No. 1, $1.20@1.17½.

TIMOTHY SEED—Prime, $2.42½@2.65.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $4.47½@4.75; lard, per 100 lbs., $4.30@4.35; short ribs, sides (loose), $4.47½@4.57½; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.30@4.75; short clear sides (boxed), $4.62@4.65.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1.19.

SUGARS—Cut loaf, $5.89; granulated, $5.39.

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls.....	12,000	15,000
Wheat, bu.....	677,000	56,000
Corn, bu.....	777,000	209,000
Oats, bu.....	361,000	328,000
Rye, bu.....	17,000	115,000
Barley, bu.....	73,000	62,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady; creameries, 19@22c; dairies, 12@18c. Cheese, quiet at 8@8½c. Eggs, steady at 18½@20c. Dressed poultry, easy; turkeys, 10@11c; chickens, 10@10½c; ducks, 7½@8c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations of the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—FLOUR—Receipts, 29,900 bbls.; exports, 2,700 bbls.; inactive and weak; city mill patents, $4.60@4.80; city mill clears, $3.60@3.80; winter straights, $3.50@4.05; Minnesota patents, $3.90@4.40. Rye flour, quiet, $2.70@2.85. Buckwheat flour, quiet, $1.40@1.60.

BUCKWHEAT—Quiet at 37@38c.

CORNMEAL—Steady; yellow western, 65c.

RYE—Dull; No. 2 western, 36c.

BARLEY—Quiet; feeding, 29½c.

BARLEY MALT—Steady; western, 55@60c.

WHEAT—Receipts, 79,550 bu.; exports, 57,302 bu.; spot easy; No. 2 red, Dec. options opened firm on better cables, broke badly under a bear raid, helped by weak late foreign news and light export inquiry, but rallied finally on covering and closed unsettled at ¼c net decline. December, 98⅝@97½c; closed at 97½c; May, 92⅝@92⅝c; closed at 92⅝c.

CORN—Receipts, 16,600 bu.; exports, 29,537 bu.; No. 2 Dec. options opened steady and were generally firm on covering, closing ¼c higher. December, 25⅝@25⅞c; closed at 25⅞c; May, 28⅛@28⅜c; closed at 28⅜c.

OATS—Receipts, 181,200 bu.; exports, 61,957 bu.; spot steady; No. 2, 22½@22⅝c. Options close but lightly steady with corn, closing unchanged to ⅛c net higher. December closed at 22c; February, closed at 22½c; May, 22⅝c.

HAY—Quiet, steady; choice, 90@95c; good to choice, 80@85c.

HOPS—Steady; state, common to choice, 1896 crop, 4@6c; 1896 crop, 6@9c; 1897 crop, 15@18c; Pacific coast, 1895 crop, 4@6c; 1896 crop, 6@9c; 1897 crop, 15@18c.

HIDES—Quiet; Galveston, 19c; Texas, dry, 12c; California, 24@26c.

LEATHER—Steady; hemlock sole, Buenos Ayres, 20½@21½c.

WOOL—Quiet; fleece, 27@31c; Texas, 13@17c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, quiet; family, $5.50@6.00; extra, $5.00@5.50; beef hams, $22.00@22.50; pocket, $9.00@10.00. Cut meats, quiet; pickled bellies, 5-7lbs., 5@5½c; shoulders, 4½@5c; hams, 8@8½c. Lard, steady; western steamed, $4.60; December closed $4.60 nominal; refined, steady at $4.60@4.75. Pork, dull; mess, $5.50@6.00; short clear, $10.00@12.00; family, $10.00@11.00. Tallow, firmer; city, 3½c; country, 2¾@3⅛c.

OILS—Linseed, steady; prime crude, 18½c; prime yellow, 21@22c; off summer yellow, 21½c; butter oil, 20@22c; prime winter yellow, 30@32c. Petroleum, quiet; united closed at 6½c asked. Rosin, steady; strained, common to good, $1.40@1.45. Turpentine, steady at 29@29½c.

RICE—Firm; fair to extra, 4½@5½c; Japan, 4@4½c.

MOLASSES—Steady; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 30@36c.

METALS—Pig iron, dull and weak; with the market for metals showing but little, if any, chance for the better. According to the New York Metal exchange pig warrants are quiet at $8.65 bid and $8.85 asked. Lake copper, quiet at $10.87½ bid and $11 asked. Tin, quiet at $12.62 bid and $12.75 asked. Spelter, quiet at $3.90@4.05 asked, and lead quiet at $3.87½ bid and $3.92½ asked. The firm that fixes the selling price for leading miners' and smelters' calls the lead market dull at $3.90.

BUTTER—Receipts, 7,006 pkgs.; easy; western creamery, 16@22c; Elgins, 22c; factory, 13@17c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 2,402 pkgs.; quiet; large, white, September, 8¼@8½c; small, white, September, 9@9½c; large, colored, September, 8¼@8½c; small, colored, September, 9@9½c; large, late made, 7¾@7¾c; small, late made, 8¼@8½c; light skims, 6@6½c; part skims, 4½@5½c; full skims, 2@3c.

EGGS—Receipts, 1,569 pkgs.; steady; state and Pennsylvania, 21@22c; western, 20@24c.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKETS.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Strictly fresh, 18c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 10@11c; choice to fancy, 14@17c; separator creamery, 22c; gathered creamery, 20c.

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

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens, 50@c; turkeys, 8@9c; geese, 8c; ducks, 7c.

GAME—Small rabbits, per doz., 20c; large, per doz., 30c; slow; prairie chickens, $3; quail, 90c@$1.00; squirrels, 50@60c.

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

HAY—Upland, $6.50; midland, $5.50; lowland, $5; rye straw, $4; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best; only top grades bring top prices.

VEGETABLES.

CELERY—Good stock, large, 40c; small, 25@30c.

ONIONS—Per bu., 60@65c.

BEANS—Hand-picked navy, per bu., $1.20@1.30.

SWEET POTATOES—Per bbl., $2.50.

CABBAGE—Good stock, per lb., 1½c.

POTATOES—Home grown, 45@55c; western stock, 45@70c.

FRUITS.

CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES—Per pt., 20@25c.

QUINCES—California, per box, $1.25.

APPLES—Winter stock, $2.75@3.00; California Bellefleur, boxes, $1.50; Colorado Jonathans, boxes, $1.75; Oregon, boxes, $1.25.

CRANBERRIES—Jerseys, per bbl., $7; Wisconsin Bell and Bugle, $6.50; Wisconsin Bell and Cherry, $6.50.

GRAPES—Malagas, 5-lb. baskets, 14@15c; Malagas, $5.00@6.00.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—Mexican, per box, $3.75@4.50; California navels, $4.00@4.25.

LEMONS—Messinas, 300, $3.00@3.50; 360, $4.00@4.50; California, 300, $3.25@3.50; 360, $3.75@4.00.

BANANAS—Choice, large stock, per bunch, $1.50@2.25; medium sized bunches, $1.75@2.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NUTS—Almonds, per lb., large size, 12½@13c; small, 11c; Brazils, per lb., 9@10c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy soft shell, 11c; standards, 9@10c. Filberts, per lb., 10c; pecans, polished, medium, 8@9c; extra large, 10c; large hickory nuts, $1.00@1.10 per bu.; small, $1.25@1.50 per bu.; cocoanuts, per 100, $4.00; peanuts, raw, 5@5½c; roasted, 6@6½c.

FIGS—Imported fancy, 2 crown, 14-lb. boxes, 12c; 3 crown, 44-lb. boxes, 14@15c; 2-layer boxes, 22@25c per box. California, 10-lb. box, $1.00.

HONEY—Choice white, 12c; Colorado amber, 10@11c.

KRAUT—Per bbl., $4.00; half bbl., $2.25@2.50.

MAPLE SYRUP—Five-gal. cans, each, $2.75; gal. cans, pure, per doz., $12.00; half-gal. cans, $6.25; quart cans, $3.50.

DATES—Hallowee, 60 to 70-lb. boxes, 5c; Satr, 5½c; Fard, 5-lb. boxes, 9c.

CIDER—Per half bbl., $3.00; bbls., $5.25.

FRESH MEATS.

DRESSED BEEF—Good native steers, 7c; good heifers, steers, 6½c; good hindquarters, 8½c; western steers, 6½c; fancy heifers, 6½c; good heifers, 6½c; good forequarters, heifers, 5½c; good hindquarters, heifers, 8c; good cows, 5½c; fair cows, 5c.

BEEF CUTS—Tenderloins, 15c; boneless strips, 10c; strip loins, 8½c; rolls, boneless, 8½c; rolls, Spencer cuts, 8½c; sirloin butts, boneless, 8½c; shoulder clods, boneless, 6½c; rump butts, boneless, 8½c; No. 1 chucks, 5½c; No. 2 chucks, 5½c; No. 3 chucks, 4½c; boneless chucks, 5½c; cow plates, 2½c; steer plates, 4½c; flank steak, 6½c; loins, No. 1, 14c; loins, No. 2, 10½c; loins, No. 3, 8½c; short loins, market style, 2c above loins; short loins, hotel style, 3c above loins; cow loin ends, 8c; steer loin ends, 8c; hanging tenderloins, 4½c; ribs, No. 1, 12c; ribs, No. 2, 8½c; ribs, No. 3, 6½c; steer rounds, 7½c; cow rounds, 6½c; cow rounds, shank off, 8c; cow rounds, shank and rump off, 8½c; stew trimmings, 4½c; beef shanks, 3½c; brains, per doz., 35c; sweetbreads, per lb., 12½c; sweetbreads (calves), per lb., 40c; kidneys, per doz., 35c; ox tails, each, 5c; livers, per lb., 5c; hearts, per lb., 5c; tongues, per lb., 12½c; calf livers, each, 25c; calf kidneys, each, 25c; calf heads, per head, 75c.

MUTTON—Spring lambs, 8½c; lambs, 8½c; sheep, 7½c; market racks (long), 10c; hotel racks (short), 11½c; loins, 9c; saddles, 9½c; legs, 9½c; lamb legs, 10½c; breasts and stews, 3½c; tongues, each, 2c; fringe, 2c.

PORK—Dressed pigs, 5c; dressed hogs, 4½c; tenderloins, 12½c; loins selected, 6½c; regular, 5½c; spare ribs, 5c; ham sausage butts, 5½c; Boston butts, 5c; shoulders, rough, 4½c; shoulders, skinned, 5c; trimmings, 5c; leaf lard, not rendered, 5c; heads, cleaned, 4c; snouts and ears, 4c; backbones, 2½c; slip bones, 2½c; chest meats, 4½c; neckbones, 2c; pigs' tails, 4c; plucks, each, 5c; chitterlings, 5c; hocks, 4c; hearts, per doz., 35c; tongues, each, 3c; tongues, each, 5c; kidneys, per doz., 10c; brains, per doz., 15c; pigs' feet, per doz., 25c; livers, each, 3c; hog rinds, 3c; blade bones, 5c.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 5c; No. 2 green hides, 4c; No. 1 salted hides, 5½c; No. 2 green salted hides, 4½c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 10c; No. 2 veal calf, 12 to 18 lbs., 8c.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each, 15@25c; green salted shearlings (short wooled early skins), each, 15c; dry shearlings (short wooled early skins), No. 1, each, 5c; dry flint, Kansas and Nebraska butcher wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 4@6c; 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@6c; dry flint Colorado murrain wool pelts, per lb., actual weight, 3@4c.

HORSE HIDES—Each, $1.50@2.25.

TALLOW, GREASE, ETC.—Tallow, No. 1, 2½c; tallow, No. 2, 2c; rough tallow, 1½c; white grease, 2½@2¾c; yellow and brown grease, 1½@2½c.

FURS—Bear (black or brown), $5.00@20.00; otter, $4.50@6.00; mink, 15@60c; beaver, $1.00@6.00; sacoon, 5@25c; muskrat, 2@8c; fox, 5@75c; wolf (timber), 25@125c; wolf (prairie coyote), 10@75c; wildcat, 10@25c; badger, 15@30c; silver fox, $50.00@75.00.

Weare Commission Company.

OMAHA OFFICE, Dec. 13.—The market started stronger this morning, with a small trade, being restricted by the uncertainty of statistical developments. Later the statement of the visible supply was published, showing a decrease of 380,000 bu. of wheat, 269,000 bu. of corn and 1,113,000 bu. of oats. These figures were rather a surprise to the trade, since an increase in both wheat and corn was expected.

This statement, assisted by the report of the northwestern receipts, which were but 89 cars, against 1,284 cars a year ago, held the market to practically an unchanged close, excepting December wheat, against the favorable reports of the India crop, coming cables to be a slightly lower level, and the government report, ranking the 1897 wheat crop at 330,000,000 bu., almost an unprecedented amount.

The above report would show the bear element to be much the strongest, and yet the prices of the deferred months were sustained with firmness, while the present option declined and closed ⅝c lower than Saturday, which regulators another one of those sharp and wide fluctuations which are believed to be injurious to the clique, and their arrangement for the exporting of this large amount of contract wheat evidences their preference to suffer their loss abroad rather than at home.

The moving out of this wheat from the visible supply of 24,000,000 bu., or about 20,000,000 bu. less than last year, will no doubt attract some attention, and perhaps bring liberal buying orders after its delivery, or the holidays, but in the interim it must be remembered that this is the dull and usually the declining month in the year when most traders wish to be evened up.

Corn and oats are firm and believe they are good property, as intimated in former letters.

Liverpool Markets.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 13.—WHEAT—Spot, No. 2 red western winter, steady, 5s 10d; No. 1 red northern spring, steady, 5s 9d.

CORN—Spot, American mixed, quiet, 3s 2d; December, 3s 3½d; January, 3s 1½d; February, 3s 1½d.

FLOUR—St. Louis fancy winter, steady, 30s.

HOPS—At London, Pacific coast, firm, £4 10s@£5.

PROVISIONS—Beef, extra India mess, 65s 3d; prime mess, 56s 3d. Pork, firm; prime mess western, 38s 3d. Hams, short cut, 14 to 16 lbs., steady, 36s 6d. Bacon, short ribs, 2 to 24 lbs., dull, 25s; long clear middles, light, dull, 25s; short clear backs, dull, 26s; long clear middles, heavy, dull, 26s; clear bellies, firm, 26s 6d; shoulders, square, firm, 23s. Lard, prime western, firm, 23s. Tallow, prime city, steady, 18s 6d.

CHEESE—American finest white and colored, steady 42s 6d.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, Dec. 13.—WHEAT—Lower; No. 2 cash and December, 96½c; mixed, 95½c.

CORN—Steady; No. 2 mixed, 26½c.

OATS—Dull and unchanged; No. 2 mixed, 22c.

RYE—Steady; No. 2 cash, 40½c.

CLOVER SEED—Active but steady; prime cash and December, $3.10.

Grain Receipts at Principal Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 13.—Receipts: Wheat, 121 cars.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 13.—Receipts: Wheat, 1,315 cars.

CHICAGO, Dec. 13.—Receipts: Wheat, 375 cars; corn, 595 cars; oats, 501 cars. Estimated carloads tomorrow: Wheat, 300 cars; corn, 520 cars; oats, 300 cars.

DULUTH, Dec. 13.—Receipts: Wheat, 49 cars.

PEORIA, Dec. 13.—Receipts: Corn, 34,100 bu.; oats, 16,400 bu.; rye and whisky, none; wheat, 600 bu. Shipments: Corn, 25,000 bu.; oats, 16,800 bu.; whisky, 1,767 bbls.

Baltimore Markets.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 13.—FLOUR—Dull; western super, $2.70; extra, $3.85@4.10; family, $4.40@4.65; winter western patents, $4.35@4.50; spring, $3.60@3.80; spring wheat stocks, $4.00@4.25. Receipts, 19,342 bbls.; exports, none.

WHEAT—Easy; spot and month, 90½@90⅝c; May, 91⅛c bid; steamer No. 2 red, 91½@92c; receipts, 41,948 bu.; exports, 96,000 bu.; southern wheat, 87@99½c; on grade, 92@95c.

CORN—Dull and steady; spot, 22@22½c; month, 22⅛@22⅜c; December, new or old, 22@22½c; steamer mixed, 21@21½c; receipts, 205,382 bu.; exports, 12,000 bu.; southern white and yellow corn, 22@22½c.

OATS—Firm; No. 2 white, 25½@26c; No. 2 mixed, 24@24½c; receipts, 2,140 bu.; exports, 40,000 bu.

RYE—Quiet; No. 2 nearby, 41½c; No. 2 western, 42c; receipts, 16,322 bu.; exports, 17,016 bu.

HAY—Steady; choice timothy, $13.00 asked.

GRAIN FREIGHTS—Steamers, easy; parcel to Liverpool, 2½d; steam to Liverpool, per bu., 4½c December. Cork for orders, per quarter, 3s 6d@3s 9d, December; 3s 6d January.

BUTTER—Firm; fancy creamery, 20@24c; fancy imitation creamery, 18@19c; good ladle, 15@16c; store packed, 12@14c.

EGGS—Steady; fresh, 19@20c.

CHEESE—Steady and unchanged; market stock heavy; fancy New York, large, 9¼@10c; fancy New York, small, 10¼@10½c.

Coffee Markets.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—COFFEE—Options opened steady at 5 points decline, ruled quiet with a weak undertone following disappointing European cables, and reduced heavy receipts at Rio and Santos, and entire absence of investment support and stock spot demand. The close was quiet and 10@15 points lower. Sales, 10,750 bags, including: December, 7c; March, 7.05@7.10c. Spot Rio, quiet; No. 7 invoice, 6½c; No. 7 jobbing, 7½c; mild, quiet; Cordova, 8½@11c, sales, 800 bags Maracaibo.

SANTOS, Dec. 13.—COFFEE—Firm; good average Santos, 8,000 reis; receipts, 19,000 bags; stock, 1,094,000 bags.

HAMBURG, Dec. 13.—COFFEE—Opened ¼pfg lower and closed ¼@½pfg net decline; sales, 47,000 bags.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 13.—COFFEE—Steady; No. 7 Rio, 8,175 reis; exchange, 7¼d; receipts, 24,000 bags; cleared for the United States, 16,000 bags.

HAVRE, Dec. 13.—COFFEE—Closed ½@¾f net lower; sales, 27,000 bags.

St. Louis Grain and Provisions.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 13.—WHEAT—Lower; No. 2 red cash, elevator and track, 86c; December, 86½c; January, 87c; May, 88⅝c; July, 89c; No. 2 hard cash, 85@88c.

CORN—Lower; No. 2 cash, 24½c; December, 24c bid; January, 25@25⅛c; May, 26⅝@26⅞c.

OATS—Lower; No. 2 cash elevator, 21c; track, 21c; December, 21c; May, 22⅞c; No. 2 white, 24½c.

RYE—Quiet at 40c.

FLAXSEED—Higher; $1.16½.

PORK—Steady; standard mess, jobbing, $8.75.

LARD—Lower; prime steam, $4.22; choice, $4.27.

LEAD—Firm; $3.40@3.52.

SPELTER—Firm; $3.45@3.47.

POULTRY—Chickens, firm at 50@7c; ducks, 5@6c; geese, 5@6c; turkeys, 8@9c.

BUTTER—Quiet; creamery, 18@22½c; dairy, 11@19c.

EGGS—Steady at 17c.

Sugar Markets.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 13.—SUGAR—Open kettle steady; fair to prime, 2 9-16@2 11-16c; centrifugal, steady; granulated, 4⅝@4 5-16c; whites, 3 13-16@4⅛c; yellows, 3⅝@3⅞c; seconds, 2¼@3½c. Molasses, kettle steady at 11@23c; centrifugal, easy at 4@12c; syrup, steady at 17@22c.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13.—SUGAR—Firm; hard refined, 4.65@5.65.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—SUGAR—Beet sugar, December, 9s 3d.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—SUGAR—Raw, firm; fair refining, 3⅝@3 7-16c; centrifugal, 96 test, 3 15-16@4c; refined, firm; crushed, 5 11-16c; powdered, 5⅛c; granulated, 4 15-16c; molded, A, 5 3-16c; standard A, 4 15-16c; confectioners' A, 4 15-16c; cut loaf, 5 11-16c; cubes, 5⅛c.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 13.—FLOUR—Firm; fancy, $4.25@4.40; family, $3.35@3.40.

WHEAT—Steady; No. 2 red, 95½c.

CORN—Active; No. 2 mixed, 26½c.

OATS—Active; No. 2 mixed, 22½@24½c.

RYE—Firm; No. 2, 47c.

LARD—Steady, $4.20.

BULK MEATS—Firm, $4.30.

BACON—Easy, $5.50.

WHISKY—Steady, $1.19.

BUTTER—Dull; fancy Elgin creamery, 24½c; Ohio, 14@20c; dairy, 12@13c.

EGGS—Steady; prime to prime Ohio flint, 18½@19c.

CHEESE—Steady; good to prime Ohio flint, 8½@9c.

Kansas City Grain and Provisions.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 13.—WHEAT—Somewhat lower; August, No. 1 hard, 84@85½c; No. 2, 81½@82½c; No. 3, 78@80c; No. 4, 65@68c; No. 2 spring, 86c; No. 3, 80@82c.

CORN—Steady; No. 2 mixed, 22½@22½c.

OATS—½@1c lower, slow; No. 2 white, 22@22½c.

RYE—No. 2, 42@44c.

HAY—Quiet, receipts heavier; choice timothy, $8.50@9.00; choice prairie, $7.25@7.50.

BUTTER—Steady; creamery, 17@19c; dairy, 13@17c.

EGGS—Strong under tone; fresh, 17c; storage, 11@13c.

Visible Grain Stores.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—The statement of visible supply of grain in store and afloat Saturday, December 11, as compiled by the New York Produce Exchange, is as follows: Wheat, 24,746,000 bushels; decrease, 380,000 bushels. Corn, 40,681,000 bushels; decrease, 269,000 bushels. Oats, 14,321,000 bushels; decrease, 1,116,000 bushels. Rye, 2,207,000 bushels; increase, 115,000 bushels. Barley, 688,000 bushels; increase, 129,000 bushels.

Detroit Market.

DETROIT, Dec. 13.—WHEAT—No. 1 white, 90½c; No. 2 red, 91½c; May, 92⅝c.

CORN—No. 2 mixed, 28½c.

OATS—No. 2 white, 24½c.

RYE—No. 2, 47c.

Peoria Markets.

PEORIA, Dec. 13.—CORN—Higher; No. 2, 25½c.

OATS—Firm, higher; No. 2 white, 22c.

WHISKY—Market steady; high proof spirits, $1.18.

San Francisco Wheat Market.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 13.—WHEAT—Quiet; December, $1.43½; May, $1.47½.

BARLEY—$1.20; May, 87½c.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Southern Railroads Lose a Part of Their Late Strength.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Today's market for securities has every appearance of breadth and strength, the buying being vigorous and aggressive and well distributed. The fact was not to be ignored, however, that stocks of southern and southwestern roads, which were favorites with the bulls last week, did not share in the advance proportionately, the price being kept down by liberal offerings. A decrease in earnings for the first week in December reported for Louisville and a somewhat unfavorable showing for the same period by Chesapeake & Ohio may have accounted for this, but there was a suggestion of profit taking in the movement of these stocks in the face of the great strength manifest elsewhere in the market.

The jump in Sugar, 16¼ in the course of the first hour, stimulated the whole market. The dissemination of rumors that an extra dividend was again under consideration was the instrument employed to effect this rise and the manner in which it operated was very obvious at the high level. The stock was supported, however, at a certain stage of any decline all day and closed at a net advance of over a point.

The government crop report, with its revised estimate of a wheat crop of 330,000,000 bushels, caused a lively outbreak of speculation in the grangers, though the ruling price for wheat with this heavy yield to draw on was regarded as insuring prosperity to the wheat carrying railroads.

Still another element of strength in the day's market was the jump in the price of Metropolitan. The closing price of 225 is startling in contrast to the heaviness in Manhattan, which dropped at one time nearly 2 points on account of published reports that syndicates had already been formed to finance the proposed underground rapid transit plan. Manhattan fully recovered before the close and shows a small fractional gain.

Union Pacific showed a sharp rally from its recent depression on strength of reports that the reorganization would be carried through at a moderate increase of the proposed bonded indebtedness on preferred stock and that the subsidized portion of the Kansas Pacific was not deemed essential to the success of the plan. There was some heaviness in local securities, owing to current rumors of difficulty in the way of the proposed amalgamation of the local companies.

The day's buying was in large part professional and commission house business was on a small scale. London was, however, a liberal buyer of stocks in this market. Quite a marked feature of the day was the large number of small lots of dividend-paying stocks which were bought. This class of buying appeared in gilt-edged investment stocks which rarely move, but was also manifest all through the list of dividend stocks.

A feature of the day was a stiffening of call loan rates to 5 per cent, though the rate sagged off again before the close. The rise in the rate was attributed to a sudden and rather urgent demand, while offerings were rather light for the time being. Other departments were not affected.

Net results of the day's trading are very uneven, net gains being a point in the grangers, the coalers and Baltimore & Ohio, the others showing small fractions, for the most part in the general list.

The bond market continued active and strong, the Atchison and Northern Pacific issues being prominent. Net advances of from 1 to 2 points are shown in a number of bonds. Total sales, $3,850,000. United States old 4s registered, were advanced ¼ per cent bid, United States 4s, coupon, ¼ per cent bid, while the new 4s declined ¼ per cent bid.

The Evening Post's London financial cablegram: The tone of the stock market here was good today, but business was checked by the commencement of settlements. Money was dearer, the rate being 4 per cent. Consequences on Americans averaged ½ per cent. Americans showed an excellent tone, although business was confined to professional operations. Prices closed at the best features, there being a sharp jump in Union Pacific on the report that the Kansas Pacific matter had been settled. I have interviewed many leading houses concerning the positions and prospects of Americans, and am impressed by the unanimity of the favorable view held of the prospect in the next six months or so. At the same time it should be said that such views are mainly based on news from New York, such as the conditions of trade and the aspect of Wall street, for on this side the public still abstains from dealing freely. Grand trunks are still booming. Mines were distinctly better, including Anacondas, which were bought in good quarters, though probably speculatively. Argentines were strong. I am told that during the week ended yesterday there had been no take from the Bank of England certain assets held on behalf of the old firm of Baring Brothers, is about to pay off all its debentures. This means the end of all of the Baring affairs liquidation in Argentine, the remaining securities reverting to the firm of Baring Brothers. The Union Pacific preferred shares were largely dealt in today for a special settlement. The money rate here was strong at 5 per cent, the bank lending extensively.

The following were the closing quotations on the leading stocks of the New York exchange today:

Atchison	18⅝	St. P. & Om.	74⅝
do pfd	30⅝	do pfd	136⅝
Baltimore & Ohio	14⅝	St. P. S. & M.	153
Canada Pacific	80⅝	So. Pacific	20
Canadian Southern	50⅝	So. Railway	9⅝
Central Pacific	16⅝	do pfd	35⅝
Ches. & Ohio	22⅝	Texas & Pacific	11⅝
Chicago & Alton	162	Union Pacific & P.	29⅝
C., B. & Q	76⅝	Wabash, D. & G.	7⅝
C. & E. I	82⅝	Wabash	18⅝
C. C. C. & St. L.	85⅝	do pfd	29⅝
do pfd	80	Wheel. & L. E.	2
Del. & Hudson	104⅝	Wheel. & L. E. pfd	10
Del. L. & W.	151⅝	Adams Ex.	156
Den. & Rio G	11⅝	American Ex.	115
do pfd	42⅝	United States Ex.	40
Erie (new)	12	Wells Fargo Ex.	115
Erie 1st pfd	35⅝	A. Cot. Oil	23⅝
Erie 2d	17⅝	do pfd	75
Great Northern pfd	130	Am. Spirits	8
Hocking Valley	5	Am. Spirits pfd	19⅝
Illinois Central	102⅝	Am. Tobacco	88
Lake Erie & W	18	do pfd	143
do pfd	70⅝	Peoples Gas	96⅝
Lake Shore	174	Cons. Gas	179
Louisville & Nash.	58⅝	Com. Cable Co.	173
Manhattan L.	107⅝	Col. Fuel & Iron	29⅝
Michigan Central	94⅝	do pfd	75
Minn. & St. L.	26⅝	Gen. Electric	30⅝
do 1st pfd	88	Illinois Steel	45
do 2d pfd	75⅝	Lac Cede Gas	44⅝
Mobile & Ohio	20	Long Isl.	91⅝
Mo. K. & T.	13⅝	do pfd	104⅝
do pfd	36⅝	Nat. Lin. Oil	16⅝
Mo. Pacific	20⅝	Oregon Imp. Co.	15
Nashville	71⅝	Pacific Mail	19
N. J. Central	80⅝	Silver Certificates	58⅝
N. Y. Central	100⅝	Stand. Rope & T.	4⅝
N. Y. Chi. & St. L.	18⅝	Sugar	144⅝