COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

All Markets Experience a Dull and Quiet Day in Trading.

MAY AND DECEMBER WHEAT ARE LOWER

Inactivity of the Bull Clique Gives the Impression that it is Going to Transfer from December to May.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—At the close of a dull but nervous and irregular wheat market today May wheat showed ⅛@¾c and December 2c lower. Practically no support was given the market and very little selling was sufficient to cause sudden and sharp breaks. Other grains and provisions were dull and a trifle lower, corn closing ⅛c lower and provisions unchanged to 2½c lower.

In wheat Liverpool cables showed about ⅝d decline at the opening here, which, although little more than half of the drop here yesterday, was apparently because of the easiness at the start. First trades in May were made at from 92⅝c to 92⅞c, or ⅛@⅜c under yesterday's closing price. Besides the decline at Liverpool, the northwestern receipts were quite liberal. Minneapolis and Duluth reported 583 cars, compared with 407 last week and 261 a year ago. Another good sized addition was likewise made to Chicago contract stocks. Receipts here by rail were 160 cars, of which 147 were contract. The quantity of contract wheat added to stocks in regular houses amounted to about 100,000 bu. Cablegrams were received reporting reductions in estimates of Argentine crop, of hot winds in the Argentine wheat lands, unfavorable weather for crops in the interior of Russia and of small stocks at the port of Odessa. The present amount is reported at 4,320,000 bu., against 12,800,000 bu. at the similar time a year ago. The export clearances from Atlantic and gulf ports were exceptionally heavy, 940,000 bu. in wheat and flour. The price of May sold 92⅞@93c for a few minutes after the opening, but soon declined again to 91⅝c. It rose again to 92⅝c on account of the enormous clearances, but weakness at once followed and reached the previous lowest price. The December wheat acted about as usual, doing for some days as if inclined to drop its premium over May. The trading in it was small, and as it would have advanced to almost any desired price by the buying of perhaps less than 100,000 bu., it is evident the bull party in it was favorable to its decline. It sold very sparingly at 96c to begin with and dropped to 94c. January, from having been at 4c to 5c premium over May, fell at one time today to a slight discount. It looks as if January wheat would, as a matter of policy, be allowed to drop a few points to remove the inducements for immediate delivery. May on the second big decline got down to 91½c. A little better feeling was noticeable just before the close. May recovered to 92¼@92⅜c under some covering by shorts. Those were the ruling figures at the close.

Corn was rather neglected by traders and ruled dull with very little of interest happening. There was some show of firmness a short time after the opening, but for most of the session the market was inclined to easiness, wheat being the principal factor. May ranged from 29⅛c to 29⅜c and closed ⅛c lower at 29⅛c.

In oats trading was fairly active, though prices kept within a comparatively narrow range. The tendency was downward in sympathy with wheat, but there were plenty of buyers at any concessions. Offerings were ultimately too much for the demand, however. Elevator people sold considerable. May ranged from 23⅜c to 23⅛c and closed ⅛c lower at 23⅛c.

Provisions were very slow and kept within a narrow range. Prices were affected in a small way by the decline in wheat, but the firmness of hog prices prevented any material decline. The market closed steady: May pork 5c lower at $8.97½, May lard unchanged at $4.77½ and May ribs unchanged at $4.55.

Estimated receipts Friday: Wheat, 115 cars; corn, 475 cars; oats, 363 cars; hogs, 30,000 head.

Leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yes'dy
Wheat—					
Dec....	96	96	94	94¼	96⅝
Jan....	92⅝	92⅝	91⅛	92¼	93
May...	92⅝@⅞	92⅞@93	91½	92¼@⅜	92⅞
*Corn—					
Dec....	27⅛	27⅛	27	27	27¼
Jan....				27¼	27¼
May...	29⅛@¼	29⅜	29⅛	29⅛	29⅜
July...	30⅛	30⅛@1	30⅛	30⅛	30⅜@⅜
*Oats—					
Dec....	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛	23
May...	23⅜@½	23⅜	22⅞	22⅞	23⅜@¼
Pork—					
Jan....	8 77½	8 82½	8 75	8 77½	8 80
May...	9 00	9 02½	8 95	8 97½	9 02½
Lard—					
Jan....	4 62½	4 65	4 62½	4 62½	4 62½
May...	4 77½	4 80	4 75	4 77½	4 77½
Sh'ribs—					
Jan....				4 40	4 40
May...	4 55	4 57½	4 52½	4 55	4 55

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Quiet; winter patents, $4.70@4.80; straights, $4.20@4.40; spring specials, $5.50; spring patents, $4.40@4.80; straights, $4.10@4.40; bakers, $3.50@3.80.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 87½c; No. 3 spring, 75@89c; No. 2 red, 93@94¼c.

CORN—No. 2, 27c.

OATS—No. 2, 23¼c, f. o. b.; No. 2 white, 24@26½c; No. 3 white, 24@25c.

RYE—No. 2, 46½c.

BARLEY—No. 2, f. o. b., 27@36c.

SEEDS—No. 1 flaxseed, $1.18@1.23½. Prime timothy seed, $2.67½.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $7.80@7.90. Lard, per 100 lbs., $4.62½. Short ribs sides (loose), $4.35@4.70; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.62½@4.75; short clear sides (boxed), $4.70@4.80.

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

SUGARS—Cut loaf, $6.14; granulated, $5.51.

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, bbls.	17,000	29,000
Wheat, bu.	157,000	11,000
Corn, bu.	282,000	117,000
Oats, bu.	343,000	412,000
Rye, bu.	15,000	4,000
Barley, bu.	34,000	20,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was firm; creameries, 13@21c; dairies, 12@18c. Cheese, quiet, 8@9½c. Eggs, fresh, 23c. Dressed poultry, market steady; turkeys, 8@10c; chickens, 5½@6c; ducks, 6@7c.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations of the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—FLOUR—Receipts, 23,258 bbls.; exports, 27,790 bbls.; quiet and steady, closing easy with final break in wheat; city mill patents, $5.35@5.50; city mill clears, $5.40@5.50; Minnesota patents, $5.10@5.40; Minnesota bakers', $4.25@4.50; winter patents, $4.90@5.15; winter straights, $4.50@4.65; winter extras, $3.40@4.00; winter low grades, $2.50@3.00. Rye flour, quiet at $2.60@3.25, latter for fancy. Buckwheat flour, dull at $1.25@1.40.

RYE—Dull; No. 2 western, 49½c.

BARLEY—Dull; feeding, 28½c.

BARLEY MALT—Steady; western, 52½@66c.

WHEAT—Receipts, 135,650 bu.; spot weak; No. 2 red, $1.00½. Options opened steady, declined under liquidation, large northwestern receipts and poor support, rallied later on heavy clearances, but broke a second time under renewed liquidation and closed ⅛@1c net lower; No. 2 red May, 93@93 15-16c, closed, 93½c.

CORN—Receipts, 30,225 bu.; spot easy; No. 2, 35½c. Options opened easy with wheat, rallied on clearances and good local buying, but finally eased off under realizing and closed partly ⅛c net higher; May, 34⅛@34 15-16c, closed, 34⅛c.

OATS—Receipts, 183,600 bu.; exports, 253,465 bu.; spot dull; No. 2, 28½c. Options dull and easier with the other markets, closing ¼c net lower; May closed 28⅛c.

FEED—Dull; bran, 62½@67½c; middlings, 75@77½c; rye, feed, 60@65c; city, 70c.

HAY—Dull; shipping, 25@40c.

HOPS—Firm; state common to choice, 1895 crop, 4@6c; 1896 crop, 7@10c; 1897 crop, 16@18c.

PROVISIONS—Beef, steady; family, $10.00@11.50; extra, $8.00@8.50; beef hams, $22.00@22.50; packet, $2.00@10.00. Cut meats, quiet; pickled bellies, $5.00@6.00; pickled shoulders, $5.00@5.25; pickled hams, $7. Lard, steady; western steam, $4.90; December, $4.90; refined, steady. Pork, dull; mess, $8.50@9.00; short clear, $10.00@12.00; family, $10.00@10.50. Tallow, firm; city, 3½c bid; country, 3⅝@3⅞c.

HIDES—Quiet; Galveston, 15c; Texas dry, 12c; California, 17@18c.

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

WOOL—Steady; fleece, 27@30c; Texas, 13½@17c.

OILS—Petroleum, dull; United, no market, 66½c; Pennsylvania crude, 75c. Rosin, steady; strained, common to good, $1.40@1.45. Turpentine, steady at 33¼@34c. Cottonseed, firmer and more active; prime crude, 18@19c; prime crude f. o. b. mills, 14@15c; prime summer yellow, 22c; off summer yellow, 21½c; prime winter yellow, 27@27½c.

RICE—Steady; fair to extra, 4½@6½c; Japan, 5@5½c.

MOLASSES—Quiet; New Orleans, open kettle, good to choice, 26@31c.

METALS—Pig iron warrants, quiet but firmer at $6.70@6.77½; lake copper, quiet at $10.85@10.95; tin, quiet but firm at $13.65@13.70; spelter, quiet at $3.90@4.00 and lead quiet at $3.70@3.75. The firm that fixes the settling price for leading miners and smelters calls the lead market strong at $3.50.

BUTTER—Receipts, 3,500 pkgs.; market firm; western creamery, 15@22c; Elgins, 22c; factory, 12@15c.

CHEESE—Receipts, 2,441 pkgs.; market steadier; large white, September, 8¾c; small white, September, 9@9¼c; large colored, September, 8¾c; small colored, September, 9@9¼c; large, October, 8@8¾c; small, October, 8½@8¾c; light skims, 6@6½c; part skims, 4½@5½c; full skims, 2½@3½c.

EGGS—Receipts, 3,076 pkgs.; market firm; state and Pennsylvania, 22@25½c; western, 22@25c.

Kansas City Grain and Provisions.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 30.—WHEAT—Market slow; hard 1@1½c lower; No. 1 hard, 86c; No. 2, 82@85c; No. 3, 78½@79½c; No. 4, 77½@78c; No. 1 red, 90c; No. 2, 89c; No. 3, 85c; No. 4, 84@85c; No. 2 spring, 80c; No. 3, 78@79c.

CORN—Market firm and active; No. 2 mixed, 24@24½c.

OATS—Market slow and unchanged; No. 2 white, 22½@23½c.

RYE—No. 2, 44c.

HAY—Market active and firm; choice timothy, $7.50@8.75; choice prairie, $7.20@7.75.

BUTTER—Supplies liberal; creamery, 17@19c; dairy, 14@15c.

EGGS—Market firm; fresh, 19c; storage, 11@13c.

RECEIPTS—Wheat, 36,800 bu.; corn, 41,900 bu.; oats, 3,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 21,000 bu.; corn, 41,307 bu.; oats, none.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKETS.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Strictly fresh, 18@20c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 10@11c; choice to fancy, 14@16c; separator creamery, 21c; gathered creamery, 18@19c.

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

DRESSED POULTRY—Chickens, 5@6c; turkeys, 8@10c; geese, 7c; ducks, 6c.

GAME—Small rabbits, per doz., 50c; large, per doz., 75c@$1.20; prairie chickens, $5; quail, $1@1.60; squirrels, 50@60c.

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

HAY—Upland, $6.50; midland, $5.50; lowland, $5.00; rye straw, $4; color makes the price on hay; light bales sell the best; only top grades bring top prices.

VEGETABLES.

QUINCES—California, per box, $1.25.

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

ONIONS—Per bu., 60@65c.

BEANS—Hand-picked navy, per bu., $1.25@1.30.

SWEET POTATOES—Per bbl., $2.50.

CABBAGE—Good stock, per lb., 1¼c.

POTATOES—Home grown, 50@55c; western stock, 70c.

FRUITS.

CALIFORNIA STRAWBERRIES—Per pt., 30c.

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

CRANBERRIES—Jerseys, per bbl., $7.00@7.25; Wisconsin Bell and Bugle, $7.50; Wisconsin Bell and Cherry, $7.00.

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

TROPICAL FRUITS.

ORANGES—Mexican, per box, $3.25@3.50; California navels, $3.50.

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

BANANAS—Choice, large stock, per bunch, $2.00@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, 5@6c; extra large, 10c; large hickory nuts, $1.00@1.10 per bu.; small, $1.25@1.35 per bu.; cocoanuts, per 100, $4.00; peanuts, raw, 5@5½c; roasted, 6@6½c.

FIGS—Imported fancy, 3 crown, 14-lb. boxes, 12c; 5 crown, 44-lb. boxes, 14@15c; 2-lb. 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@2.35.

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, 6c; Sair, 5½c; Fard, 9-lb. boxes, 9c.

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

FRESH MEATS.

DRESSED BEEF—Good native steers, 7c; good forequarters, steers, 6¼c; good hindquarters, 8¾c; western steers, 6¼c; fancy heifers, 6¾c; good heifers, 6½c; good forequarters, heifers, 5½c; good hindquarters heifers, 8c; good cows, 5½c; fair cows, 5¼c.

BEEF CUTS—Tenderloins, 18c; boneless strips, 10c; strip loins, 8c; rolls, boneless, 9½c; rolls, Spencer cuts, 9½c; sirloin butts, boneless, 9½c; shoulder clods, boneless, 6½c; rump butts, boneless, 5½c; No. 1 chucks, 5¾c; No. 2 chucks, 5c; No. 3 chucks, 4½c; boneless chucks, 5c; cow plates, 3½c; steer plates, 4½c; flank steaks, 6½c; loins, No. 1, 14c; loins, No. 2, 10½c; loins, No. 3, 8½c; short loins, market style, 2c above loins; short loins, hotel style, 5c above loins; cow loin ends, 8c; steer loin ends, 9c; hanging tenderloins, 4½c; ribs, No. 1, 12½c; ribs, No. 2, 8¾c; ribs, No. 3, 6¾c; steer rounds, 7c; cow rounds, 6½c; cow rounds, shank off, 8c; cow rounds, shank and rump off, 8½c; trimmings, 4½c; beef shanks, 3½c; brains, per doz., 25c; sweetbreads, per lb., 12½c; sweetbreads (calves), per lb., 40c; kidneys, per doz., 35c; ox tails, each, 3c; livers, per lb., 3c; hearts, per lb., 3c; tongues, per lb., 12½c; calf livers, each, 35c; calves, whole carcass or sides, 9c; calf head and feet, scalded, per set, 75c.

MUTTON—Spring lambs, 8¾c; lambs, 8c; sheep, 7c; market racks (long), 9½c; hotel racks (short), 11c; loins, 9c; saddles, 8¾c; legs, 9½c; lamb legs, 10½c; breasts and stews, 3½c; tongues, each, 2c; forequarters, 6c.

PORK—Dressed pigs, 5c; dressed hogs, 4½c; tenderloins, 12½c; loins, selected, 6c; regular, 5½c; spare ribs, 4½c; ham sausage, butts, 5¼c; Boston butts, 5c; shoulders, rough, 4¾c; shoulders, skinned, 5c; trimmings, 4½c; leaf lard, not rendered, 5c; heads, cleaned, 4c; snouts and ears, 4c; backbones, 2½c; slip bones, 2½c; cheek meats, 2½c; neckbones, 2c; pigs' tails, 4c; plucks, each, 5c; chitterlings, 5c; hocks, 4c; hearts, per doz., 25c; stomachs, each, 3c; tongues, each, 7c; 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, 7c; No. 2 green hides, 6c; No. 1 salted hides, 8¾c; No. 2 green salted hides, 7¾c; No. 1 veal calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 10c; No. 2 veal calf, 12 to 15 lbs., 8c.

SHEEP PELTS—Green salted, each, 15@75c; 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@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.

HORSE HIDES—Each, $1.00@2.25.

TALLOW, GREASE, ETC.—Tallow, No. 1, 3¾c; tallow, No. 2, 2¼c; rough tallow, 1½c; white grease, 2½@2¾c; yellow and brown grease, 1½@2½c.

FURS—Bear (black or brown), $5.00@20.00; otter, $1.50@8.00; mink, 15@60c; beaver, $1.00@6.00; skunk, 15c, 25c, 50c; muskrat, 3c, 5c, 7c; raccoon, 15@50c; red fox, 25c@$1.25; grey fox, 25@50c; wolf (timber), 25c@$2.50; wolf (prairie coyote), 10@50c; wildcat, 10@25c; badger, 5@40c; silver fox, $50.00@75.00.

St. Louis General Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—FLOUR—Quiet, with a small decline; patents, $4.70@4.80; straights, $4.35@4.50; clear, $4.00@4.25; medium, $3.50@3.75.

WHEAT—Lower, closing 1¼c below yesterday; No. 2 red, cash, 95c; elevator, 95@95½c, track; December, 95¾c; January, 92 chid; May, 93⅛c; July, 80⅝c.

CORN—Fraction off at close; No. 2 cash, 26¼c; December, 26¼c bid; January, 25¾c; May, 27⅝c; July, 28¾c.

OATS—Easy and a shade off; No. 2 cash, 23c, elevator, 23¼c track; December, 23c; May, 24¼c.

RYE—Quiet, 45½c.

BARLEY—Fairly active, 29½@49c, by sample on track.

Butter, $1.45½.

TIMOTHY SEED—Quiet, $2.25@2.50.

CLOVERSEED—Fair to good, $3.00@4.70.

BRAN—Quiet, 53c on east track.

HAY—Dull; timothy, $7.50@10.00; prairie, $5.50@8.50.

BUTTER—Quiet; creamery, 17@23c; dairy, 9@17c.

EGGS—Steady, 18c.

WHISKY—Steady, $1.18.

METALS—Lead, nominal, $3.53. Spelter, nominal, $3.72.

COTTONTIES—68c.

BAGGING—6½@6¾c.

PROVISIONS—Pork, standard mess, $8.75. Lard, prime steam, $4.45; choice, $4.52½. Bacon, boxed lots jobbing sales, extra short clear, $5.12½@5.25; clear ribs, $5.25@5.37½; clear sides, $5.37½@5.50. Dry salt meats, boxed lots jobbing sales, shoulders, $4.75@5.00; extra short clear, $4.62½@4.75; clear ribs, $4.75@4.87½; clear sides, $4.87½@5.00.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 4,000 bbls.; wheat, 20,000 bu.; corn, 128,000 bu.; oats, 24,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 2,000 bbls.; wheat, 12,000 bu.; corn, 129,000 bu.; oats, 19,000 bu.

Baltimore Markets.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 30.—FLOUR—Quiet; western superfine, $2.70@3.00; western extra, $3.35@4.10; western family, $4.40@4.65; spring wheat patents, $5.00@5.20; spring wheat straights, $4.80@4.95; receipts, 6,235 bbls.; exports, 13,532 bbls.

WHEAT—Dull and easy; spot, month and January, 97½@97⅝c; May, 96c bid; steamer No. 2 red, 92½@92¾c; receipts, 72,602 bu.; exports, 176,000 bu.; southern wheat by sample, 92@98½c; southern wheat on grade, 93@98c.

CORN—Easy; spot and month, 33⅛@33⅜c; December, new or old, 33⅛@33⅜c; steamer mixed, 31⅜@32c; receipts, 234,789 bu.; exports, 158,570 bu.; southern white corn, 33@35c; southern yellow, 30@34c.

OATS—Quiet but firm; No. 2 white, 29½@30c; No. 2 mixed, 27½@28c; receipts, 21,029 bu.; exports, 169,408 bu.

RYE—Easier; No. 2 nearby, 52½c; No. 2 western, 53½c bid; receipts, 25,305 bu.; exports, 47,143 bu.

HAY—Steady; choice timothy, $13 asked.

GRAIN FREIGHTS—Dull; demand flat and unchanged; rates barely steady; steam to Liverpool, per bu., 4d, January; Cork, for orders, per quarter, 3s 6d, January.

BUTTER—Quiet; fancy creamery, 23c.

EGGS—Steady; fresh, 17c.

CHEESE—Steady; fancy New York, large, 9¼@10c; fancy New York, medium, 10@10½c; fancy New York, small, 10¼@10½c.

New Orleans Markets.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30.—HOG PRODUCTS—Steady; pork, mess standard, 9¾c; lard, refined tierce, 3⅝@3⅞c; boxed meats, D. S. S., 4⅞c; sides, 4⅝c; bacon, clear rib sides, 5⅜@5½c; hams, clear sugar cured, 7@8⅝c.

COFFEE—Firm; Rio, ordinary to fair, 7½@9¼c.

FLOUR—Extra fancy, $4.50@4.60; patents, $4.90@5.00.

CORN MEAL—Quiet, $1.60.

BRAN—Quiet, 65@70c.

HAY—Easy; prime, $11.00@12.50; choice, $14.00@15.00.

CORN—Steady; No. 2 sacked white, 35@36c; mixed, 35@36c; yellows, 36@37c.

OATS—No. 2 sacked, 29½@30c.

RYE—Quiet; ordinary to good, 3⅝@4½c.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—FLOUR—Dull; fancy, $4.20@4.40; family, $3.55@3.80.

WHEAT—Quiet; No. 2 red, nominal, 94½c.

CORN—Strong; No. 2 mixed, 30c.

OATS—Firm; No. 2 mixed, 24½c.

RYE—Quiet; No. 2, 47c.

PROVISIONS—Lard, firm, $4.35; bulk meats, easy, $4.45; bacon, easy, $5.50.

WHISKY—$1.19.

BUTTER—Dull; Elgin creamery, 25c; Ohio, 14@20c; dairy, 11@12c.

EGGS—Quiet at 16c.

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

Weare Commission Company.

OMAHA OFFICE, Dec. 30.—The market opened at practically yesterday's closing figures for all kinds of grain. Wheat soon lost ground and showed some weakness, later advanced, touched 92⅞c for May, or ⅝c over last night's close, again weakened and declined to 91½c, and later advanced and closed at 92¼@92⅜c bid. During this action of May, December lost just 2c, netting 2⅜c decline in the last two days, with a prospect of a further reduction tomorrow. These antics of the May option would indicate that the old tactics pursued in the September and December options would be carried into May, which also indicates that the bulls and bears are nearly evenly tied for strength, though the bears evidently made about a ⅛c extra touchdown to their credit. December is apparently the leader in the wheat market, which would lead one to believe that after tomorrow there might be a different action in the May option, in which case you do not want to forget that these large breaks are buying ground.

The corn and oats markets were inclined to be independent of wheat today and fluctuated at ranges of ⅛c and closed about the same as last night, making ⅝c break for corn in two days, while wheat lost 2⅛c in the same time for the same month, which would indicate the virtue there is in either corn or oats.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon the curb was up ½c for wheat, and our wire, "London Central News says the British government has decided to call out naval reserve forthwith," which, if verified, would be ground for a liberal advance in prices.

Grain Receipts at Principal Markets.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—Receipts: Wheat, 20 cars.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 30.—Receipts: Wheat, 411 cars.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Receipts: Wheat, 160 cars; corn, 549 cars; oats, 481 cars. Estimated car lots tomorrow: Wheat, 115 cars; corn, 475 cars; oats, 363 cars.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 30.—Receipts: Wheat, 49 cars.

DULUTH, Dec. 30.—Receipts: Wheat, 172 cars.

PEORIA, Dec. 30.—Receipts: Corn, 87,650 bu.; oats, 36,000 bu.; rye, 600 bu.; whisky, 75 bbls.; wheat, 3,600 bu. Shipments: Corn, 204,600 bu.; rye, none; whisky, 740 bbls.; wheat, none.

Liverpool Market.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 30.—PROVISIONS—Bacon, easy; short ribs, 32s; long clear middles, light, 28s 6d; clear bellies, 12 to 14 pounds, steady, 3s 2½d; shoulders, square, 28s 6d.

LARD—Prime western, steady, 24s 6d.

WHEAT—Spot No. 1 red northern spring, steady, 7s 10d.

CORN—January, steady, 4s 2⅝d; February, steady, 3s 2⅝d.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, Dec. 30.—WHEAT—Irregular; No. 2 cash and December, 94½c; May, 93⅜c.

CORN—Steady; No. 2 mixed, 28c.

OATS—Steady; No. 2 mixed, 23c.

RYE—Unchanged; No. 2 cash, 46½c.

CLOVERSEED—Active; prime cash, December and January, $3.20.

Peoria Markets.

PEORIA, Dec. 30.—CORN—Market slow; No. 2, 26½c.

OATS—Market slow; No. 2 white, nominal at 24c.

RYE—Market quiet; No. 2, 46c.

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

Detroit Market.

DETROIT, Dec. 30.—WHEAT—No. 1 white, 91c; No. 2 red, 91c; May, 92½c.

CORN—No. 2 mixed, 30c.

OATS—No. 2 white, 25½c.

RYE—No. 2, 48½c.

Philadelphia Produce.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—BUTTER—Unchanged; fancy western creamery, 22½@23c; western prints, 24c.

EGGS—Dull and 1c lower; fresh nearby, 22c.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Strength of Foreign Exchange is the Feature of the Day.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Today's stock market was remarkably narrow and irregular, the highly speculative securities absorbing practically the whole of the limited dealings, in which no one but professional room traders took any part. There was no reflection of any news in the course of prices. There was evidence of large realizing in some of the securities of local corporations, which have recently been advanced by the buying of a combination of interests. But the declines thus effected in these stocks invited buying again and restored the earlier losses, in some cases carrying them essentially above the previous level. Metropolitan Street Railway was the most conspicuous in the group, moving over a range of over 3 points. Manhattan moved less extensively in sympathy. Consolidated Gas fell 3 points on the admitted failure of the attempted local gas combination, but covering of shorts brought it back to last night's close. The other specialties moved with equal irregularity and the changes on the day are small. Pennsylvania enjoyed the benefit of current reports of heavy earnings by that company, and touched 115, but reacted on profit-taking. Of stocks not usually active Mobile & Ohio and Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg came into prominence by reason of advances of about 2 points each. Otherwise the changes were unimportant. A feature of the day in Wall street was the enormous strength of the foreign exchange market, actual rates for sterling advancing ⅛ to ½ over yesterday's quotation. There is still some demand to satisfy for remittance to Europe in payment of dividends and interest on American securities held abroad coming due at the first of the year. Exchange bankers attribute the strength of today's market to an investment demand and this investment they say is based on prospects of cheaper local rates for money. A fall in the local rates for money would lead to a renewal of the lending of credits abroad. Nevertheless there was no evidence of softening in today's money market, no loans being reported at less than 3½ per cent, and others being made at 4 per cent. The subtreasury was a debtor at the clearing house again today to the extent of over $1,000,000, and the repletion of the money market from that quarter is expected to continue until after the end of the year. Transactions in bonds were not on a large scale, but prices were firmly held. Total sales, $1,675,000. United States 4s rose ⅛ bid, the 5s coupon ⅝ and the new 4s ⅛.

The Evening Post's London financial cablegram says: The stock markets were quiet and steady today, with consols prominently firm. Americans had a dull opening, but later recovered. There was no business anywhere. Three months' treasury bills sold today at an average of £2 11s 2d, and were afterward discounted in the markets at 2⅛. It is expected that a fair amount of gold will go into the bank tomorrow from Australia, the demand in the open market having slackened considerably.

Following are the closing quotations of the leading stocks on the New York market today:

Atchison	12⅝	St. Paul	94⅜
do pfd	30¼	do pfd	144¼
Baltimore & Ohio	13¼	St. P. & Om	77⅛
Canada Pacific	80¾	do pfd	148
Canada Southern	52⅜	St. P. M. & M	122
Central Pacific	11⅝	So. Pacific	20¾
Ches. & Ohio	22	So. Railway	8⅝
Chicago & Alton	161	Texas & Pacific	11
C. B. & Q.	95⅛	*Union Pacific t. r.	25¼
C. & E. I.	12⅛	U. P. D. & G.	6¾
C. C. C. & St. L.	34⅝	Wabash	7
do pfd	78	do pfd	18
Del. & Hudson	11⅛	Wheel. & L. E.	2
Del. L. & W.	155⅝	Wheel. & L. E. pfd	8
Den. & Rio G.	11	Adams Ex	159
do pfd	45⅜	American Ex	115
Erie (new)	14⅝	United States Ex	39
Erie 1st pfd	38	Wells Fargo Ex	119
Ft. Wayne	168½	A. Cot. Oil	22
Great Northern pfd	130	do pfd	75
Hocking Valley	5¼	Am. Spirits	7⅜
Illinois Central	103⅝	Am. Spirits pfd	18⅝
Lake Erie & W.	16⅝	Am. Tobacco	88
do pfd	71	do pfd	113⅜
Lake Shore	171	People's Gas	96
Louisville & Nash	56¼	Cons. Gas	177
Manhattan L.	11⅛	Com. Cable Co.	175
Met. St. Ry.	128⅛	Col. F. & Iron	20⅛
Michigan Central	103	do pfd	25
Minn. & St. L.	25⅛	Gen. Electric	34⅝
do 1st pfd	88	Illinois Steel	45
Mo. Pacific	33⅝	La Clede Gas	43¾
Mobile & Ohio	29⅜	Lead	37⅞
Mo. K. & T.	12⅛	do pfd	105
do pfd	25¼	Nat. Lin. Oil	17
New Alb. & Cin.	8¼	Oregon Imp. Co.	17⅛
do pfd	30	Pacific Mail	30⅛
N. J. Central	105	Pullman Pal	172
N. Y. Central	107	Silver Certificates	57⅛
N. Y. Chi. & St. L.	13	Stand. Rope & T.	8
do 1st pfd	65	Sugar	139⅛
do 2d pfd	32⅛	do pfd	114
Norfolk & Western	14	T. C. & Iron	25⅜
No. Amer. Co.	4⅜	U. S. Leather	6⅛
No. Pacific	21⅛	do pfd	63⅛
do pfd	58⅛	U. S. Rubber	25¼
Ontario & W.	15⅛	do pfd	64⅛
Ore. R. & Nav.	35⅛	Western Union	91⅛
Ore. Short Line	18	Northwestern	120⅛
Pittsburg	169	do pfd	163
Reading	22⅛	Rio Grande West	22
Rock Island	90⅛	do pfd	61¼
S. L. & S. F.	7⅛	Chicago, G. W.	14⅛
St. L. & S. F. 2d pfd	26⅛	S. L. & S. W.	6⅛

Total sales of stocks today, 162,400 shares, including: Atchison preferred, 4,685; Manhattan, 23,650; Metropolitan Street Railway, 13,072; Northern Pacific preferred, 4,439; St. Paul, 7,260; American Tobacco, 14,340; Chicago Great Western, 3,550; Peoples' Gas, 10,261; Consolidated Gas, 3,741; Sugar, 17,985.

Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—Call loans, 2½@4 per cent; time loans, 3@4 per cent. Closing prices for stocks, bonds and mining shares:

A. T. & S. F.	12⅝	W. Elec	29⅛
American Sugar	139⅛	W. Elec. pfd	51
Am. Sugar pfd	114	Wis. Cent	1
Bay State Gas	1 15-16	Ed. Elec. Il	150
Bell Telephone	266½	Gen. Elec. pfd	84
Boston & Albany	218⅛	Atchison pfd	30⅛
Boston & Maine	167⅛	Atchison 4s	88
do pfd	157⅛	N. Eng. 6s	100
C. B. & Q.	99⅛	General Elec. 5s	34
Fitchburg	100	Allouez Mining Co	3
General Electric	34⅛	Atlantic	25⅛
Illinois Steel	47	Boston & Montana	149⅛
Mexican Central	5⅛	Butte & Boston	24⅛
N. Y. & N. E.	80	Calumet & Hecla	485
Old Colony	186⅛	Centennial	10⅛
O. S. L.	18⅛	Franklin	16
Rubber	15⅛	Osceola	39
Union Pacific	25⅛	Quincy	117
West End	84⅛	Tamarack	129
do pfd	102	Wolverine	19⅛

San Francisco Mining Quotations.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—The official closing quotations on mining stocks today were as follows:

Alta	4	Julia	1
Alpha Con	8	Justice	41
Andes	15	Kentucky Con	5
Belcher	46	Mexican	32
Best & Belcher	55	Occidental Con	120
Bullion	6	Ophir	65
Caledonia	22	Overman	13
Challenge Con	30	Potosi	44
Chollar	38	Savage	7
Confidence	99	Sierra Nevada	71
Con. Cal. & Va.	130	Silver Hill	5
Con. Imperial	1	Union Con	25
Crown Point	32	Yellow Jacket	23
Gould & Curry	45	*Standard	155
Hale & Norcross	160		

*asked.

Silver bars, 57½c; Mexican dollars, 47½@48c; drafts, sight, 15c; telegraph, 17½c.

Bank of England Statement.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes, as compared with the previous week: Total reserve, decrease, £130,000; circulation, decrease, £280,000; bullion, decrease, £329,890; other securities, increase, £2,270,000; other deposits, increase, £2,083,000; public deposits, increase, £24,000; notes reserve, decrease, £105,000. Government securities unchanged. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 42.67 per cent, is now 40.00 per cent. The bank's rate of discount remains unchanged at 3 per cent.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—MONEY ON CALL—Firm at 2½@4 per cent; last loan, 3 per cent; closed, 2½@3 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—3½@4½ per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4.84¾@4.85 for demand and at $4.82@4.82¼ for sixty days. Posted rates, $4.82½@4.83 and $4.85½@4.86.

COMMERCIAL BILLS—$4.81.

SILVER CERTIFICATES—57½@58½c.

BAR SILVER—57⅛c.

MEXICAN DOLLARS—46½c.

GOVERNMENT BONDS—Strong.

STATE BONDS—Dull.

RAILROAD BONDS—Firm.

Closing quotations on bonds were as follows:

U. S. new 4s reg	127⅝	N. J. C. 5s	112⅝
U. S. new 4s cou	127⅝	N. C. 6s	125
U. S. 4s reg	112⅝	N. C. 4s	103
U. S. 4s coup	114⅛	No. Pacific 1sts	118⅛
U. S. 2s reg	100	No. Pacific 3s	60⅛
U. S. 5s reg	114	No. Pacific 4s	93⅛
U. S. 5s coup	114⅛	N. Y. C. & St. L. 4s	104⅛
District 3. 65s	109⅛	N. & W. 6s	124⅛
Ala., class A	108	N. W. Consols	145
Ala., class B	108	N. W. Deb. 5s	114⅛
Ala., class C	100	Ore. Nav. 1sts	115⅛
Ala. Currency	100	Ore. Nav. 4s	93⅛
Atchison 4s	89⅛	O. S. L. 6s, t. r.	123
Atchison adj. 4s	58⅛	O. S. L. 5s, t. r.	98⅛
Canada So. 2ds	108⅛	O. Imp. 1sts, t. r.	102⅛
C. & N. P. t. r. 5s	46	O. Imp. 5s, t. r.	45⅛
C. & O. 5s	112⅛	Pacific 6s of '95	103⅛
C. H. & D. 4½s	104⅛	Reading 4s	86⅛
D. & R. G. 1sts	109⅛	R. G. West 1sts	85
D. & R. G. 4s	95	St. L. & I. M. Con. 5s	108
East Tenn. 1sts	110	St. L. & S. F. Gen. 6	119⅛
Erie Gen. 4s	71⅛	St. P. Consols	141
F. W. & D. 1s, t. r.	70	St. P. C. & P. 1sts	122
Gen. Elec. 5s	100⅛	St. P. C. & P. 5s	118
G. H. & S. A. 6s	105	S. C. nonfund	⅛
G. H. & S. A. 2ds	101⅛	Southern Ry. 5s	94⅛
H. & T. Cent. 5s	112	S. R. & T. 6s	53
H. & T. C. con 6s	103	Tenn. new set 3s	90
Iowa C. 1sts	98⅛	Tex. Pac. L. G. 1sts	97⅛
K. P. Con., t. r.	83	Tex. Pac. Rg. 2ds	28⅛
K. P. 1sts, t. r.	115	U. P. 1sts	102⅛
La. New Con. 4s	101⅛	U. P. D. & G. 1sts	48⅛
L. & N. Uni. 4s	87⅛	Wab. 1st 5s	107⅛
Missouri 6s	100	Wab. 2ds	80⅛
M. K. & T. 2ds	63	West Shore 4s	111
M. K. & T. 4s	86⅛	Va. Centuries	69⅛
N. Y. C. 1sts	119	Va. deferred	3⅛

New York Mining Quotations.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The following are the closing mining quotations:

Chollar	30	Ontario	330
Crown Point	21	Ophir	60
Con. Cal. & Va.	115	Plymouth	12
Deadwood	90	Quicksilver	100
Gould & Curry	35	Quicksilver pfd	900
Hale & Norcross	120	Sierra Nevada	68
Homestake	35	Standard	150
Iron Silver	40	Union Con	20
Mexican	25	Yellow Jacket	35

London Stock Quotations.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—4 p. m.—Closing:

Consols, m'y	112 5-16	St. Paul common	97⅝
Consols, acct	113	N. Y. Central	119⅛
Can. Pacific	83⅛	Pennsylvania	58⅛
Erie	14⅛	Reading	11⅝
Erie 2ds	39	Mex. Cen. new 4s	18
Ill. Central	107⅛	Atchison	12⅝
Mexican ordinary	18	L. & N.	58⅛

BAR SILVER—26⅝d per ounce.

MONEY—2@3 per cent. The rate of discount for three months' bills, 2 per cent.

Financial Notes.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Clearings, $18,389,805; New York exchange, 40c premium; posted rates, $4.83 and $4.86. The stock market today was the dullest in several weeks. Closing: West Chicago, 102; Diamond Match, 129; North Chicago, 227; Lake Street L, 17⅛; New York Biscuit, 42⅛; Strawboard, 270; South Side L, 42.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30.—Clearings, $1,817,873; New York exchange, bank par; commercial, $1 per $1,000 discount.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 30.—Clearings, $2,492,311; balances, $321,000.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—Clearings, $6,592,218; balances, $1,658,817.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Clearings, $133,231,677; balances, $6,626,041.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—Clearings, $10,587,000; balances, $2,088,000.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—Bank clearings, $3,115,481; balances, $488,244. Money steady, 5@8 per cent; exchange on New York, 25c premium bid, 50c asked.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 30.—Clearings, $450,594; balances, $38,518; New York exchange, par.

Foreign Financial.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—International securities were quiet on the bourse today. Northern Pacifics were weaker and Canadian Pacific was firm. Bank shares were weaker on realizations. Gold is quoted at Buenos Ayres today at 140.25.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—Three per cent rentes, 103f 5c for the account; exchange on London, 25f 23c for checks. Business opened weak in the bourse today on the belief that the Bank of England would raise its rate of discount. Advices regarding Chinese affairs also depressed the market. Later there was a small rally on the strength of the London Stock exchange prices, which induced purchases of international securities and improved their prices. Rio Tinto and De Beers shares were firm, the latter on a satisfactory dividend.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 30.—The Bank of Bengal has raised its rate of discount from 8 to 9 per cent.

Bank of France Statement.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The weekly statement of the Bank of France shows the following changes as compared with the previous account: Notes in circulation, increase, 120,500,000 francs; treasury accounts current, increase, 42,650,000 francs; gold in hand, decrease, 11,250,000 francs; discounts, increase, 164,600,000 francs; silver in hand, decrease, 5,905,000 francs.

American Securities in London.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—American securities were dull and inactive all day, trading being merely professional. The close was steady, with light demand.

COTTON MARKETS.

Larger Degree of Investment Than for Some Time Past.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Today's market for cotton developed a larger degree of investment than has been shown for some time past. The shorts were also in a buying mood and the market developed an unusual degree of activity for a holiday week. Opening quotations were firm at an advance of 1@2 points. Speculation broadened and the gain was advanced to 6@7 points. The phases of the general situation were in the main bullish, including continued firmness at Liverpool and a surprising increase in the already unusual spot demand in the English markets, two spot sales at Liverpool reaching 14,000 bales, at an advance of 1-16d. In the afternoon there was considerable liquidation, but the market absorbed the offerings without yielding to any considerable extent and was finally steady in tone at a net advance of 5@7 points. Spot, dull but steady; middling, 6 13-16c; net receipts, 756 bales; gross, 9,765 bales; exports to the continent, 701 bales; forwarded, 2,816 bales; sales, none; stock, 119,981 bales. Total today: Net receipts, 38,701 bales; exports to Great Britain, 23,657 bales; to the continent, 5,355 bales; stock, 1,215,155 bales. Consolidated: Net receipts, 229,832 bales; exports to Great Britain, 69,413 bales; to France, 9,784 bales; to the continent, 55,925 bales. Total since September 1: Net receipts, 5,449,955 bales; exports to Great Britain, 1,736,665 bales; to France, 497,994 bales; to the continent, 431,321 bales.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30.—COTTON—Futures steady; sales, 23,000 bales; December, nominal; January, $5.41@5.42; February, $5.44@5.47; March, $5.51@5.52; April, $5.56@5.57; May, $5.61@5.62; June, $5.67@5.69; July, $5.72@5.74; August, $5.76@5.77; September, $5.78@5.81; October, $5.83@5.85. Spot, firm; sales, 7,100 bales; ordinary, 4⅛c; good ordinary, 4⅝c; low middling, 5 1-16c; middling, 5⅝c; good middling, 5⅝c; middling fair, 6c; receipts, 12,025 bales; stock, 434,522 bales.

MEMPHIS, Dec. 30.—COTTON—Steady; middling, 5 5-16c; receipts, 4,856 bales; shipments, 8,229 bales; stock, 149,874 bales; sales, 6,350 bales.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—COTTON—1-16c better; middling, 5 5-16c; sales, 521 bales; receipts, 4,726 bales; shipments, 4,770 bales; stock, 65,843 bales.

GALVESTON, Dec. 30.—COTTON—Firm; middling, 5⅝c.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 30.—COTTON—Spot, good business done; prices higher; American middling fair, 3⅝d; good middling, 3⅝d; middling, 3⅝d; low middling, 3 13-16d; good ordinary, 2 15-16d; ordinary, 2 25-32d. The sales for the day were 14,000 bales, of which 2,000 bales were for speculation and export and included 13,000 bales American; receipts, 31,000 bales, including 25,600 bales American. Futures opened quiet and steady with a moderate demand and closed steady; American middling, L. M. C., December, 3 12-64d, buyers; December and January, 3 12-64d, value; January and February, 3 11-64d, buyers; February and March, 3 11-64@3 12-64d, buyers; March and April, 3 12-64d, buyers; April and May, 3 13-64d, buyers; May and June, 3 14-64@3 15-64d, sellers; June and July, 3 15-64@3 16-64d, sellers; July and August, 3 16-64@3 17-64d, sellers; August and September, 3 17-64@3 18-64d, sellers; September and October, 3 18-64d, buyers; October and November, 3 19-64d, buyers.

Wool Markets.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—WOOL—The following are the quotations for the leading descriptions: Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces, X and above, 28c; XX and XX above, 28@30c; delaine, 30c; No. 1 combing, 29c; No. 2 combing, 29@30c; Michigan, Wisconsin, etc., X, Michigan, 23@24c; No. 1 Michigan combing, 28@29c; No. 1 Illinois combing, 28@29c; No. 2 Michigan combing, 28@29c; No. 2 Illinois combing, 28@29c; X New York, New Hampshire and Vermont, 23@24c; No. 2 New York, New Hampshire and Vermont, 27c; delaine, 27c; unwashed medium, Kentucky and Indiana quarter-blood combing, 23@24c; Kentucky and Indiana three-eighths blood combing, 24@25c; Missouri quarter-blood combing, 23@23c; Missouri three-eighths blood combing, 23@24c; braid combing, 21c; lake and Georgia, 22@23c; Texas wools, spring medium (12 months), 16@18c; scoured price, 43@45c; spring fine (12 months), 17@18c; scoured price, 50@52c. Territory wools, Montana fine medium and fine, 16@18c; scoured price, 48@50c; staple, 52@55c; Utah, Wyoming, etc., fine medium and fine, 15@17c; scoured price, 48@50c; staple, 52@55c. Australian wools, scoured basis, combing, superfine, 70@72c; good, 68@68c; average, 62@65c. Queensland combing, 65c.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—WOOL—Quiet and unchanged; medium, 15@20c; heavy fine, 8@14c; light fine, 13@17c; tub washed, 22@30½c.

Sugar Markets.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 30.—SUGAR—Open kettle, steady at 2⅝@3⅜c; centrifugal, steady; granulated, 4⅝@4 13-16c; whites, 4@4⅛c; yellows, 3 13-16@4⅛c; seconds, 2⅝@3⅝c. Molasses, kettle, 16@25c; centrifugal, easy at 4@12c; syrup, steady at 15@21c.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—SUGAR—Firm; hard refined, $4.15@6.10.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—SUGAR—Raw, firm; fair refining, 3⅝c; centrifugal, 96 test, 4⅛c; refined, firm; crushed, 5⅝c; powdered, 5 1-16c; granulated, 5⅛c; mould A, 5⅛c; standard A, 5⅛c; confectioners' A, 5⅛c; cut loaf, 5⅝c; cubes, 5 15-16c.

OMAHA LIVE STOCK MARKET

Light Receipts of Cattle and Heavy Run of Hogs.

CATTLE BUYERS STILL VERY BEARISH

Short Supply Insufficient to Start Lively Competition—Hogs Strong and Active, Heavies Leading the Procession.

SOUTH OMAHA, Dec. 30.—Receipts for the days indicated were:

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.	Horses.
December 30	902	7,004	1,584	....
December 29	905	5,388	2,951	....
December 28	1,570	3,842	2,041	....
December 27	1,516	2,359	564	....
December 24	812	5,049	1,019	....
December 23	751	10,312	1,263	....
December 22	1,049	11,325	1,150	3
December 21	1,119	9,778	1,561	....
December 20	871	4,235	1,113	84
December 18	694	7,982	1,343	17
December 17	1,871	4,974	2,625	....
December 16	2,270	6,817	2,969	....
December 15	2,484	5,131	1,880	80
December 14	2,467	6,679	3,420	....
December 13	2,991	2,819	2,042	1

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

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
C., M. & St. P. Ry.	1	3	..
O. & St. L. Ry.	1	3	..
Missouri Pacific Ry.	1	5	..
Union Pacific System	1	17	4
C. & N. W. Ry.	3	1	..
F., E. & M. V. R. R.	6	29	2
S. C. & P. Ry.	2	..	..
C., St. P., M. & O. Ry.	..	8	..
B. & M. R. R. R.	16	21	..
C., B. & Q. Ry.	2	9	..
K. C. & St. J.	1	3	..
C., R. I. & P. Ry., east	..	6	..
C., R. I. & P. Ry., west	2	1	..
Total receipts	36	106	6

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.	46	1,180	....
The G. H. Hammond Co.	82	1,039	....
Swift and Company	179	1,970	504
The Cudahy Packing Co.	304	2,182	561
R. Becker & Degan	31	....	....
Livingston & Shaler	162	....	....
H. Hamilton	25	....	....
Hammond, from K. C.	....	170	....
Cudahy P. Co., K. C.	22	477	....
Other buyers	50	....	1,538
Left over	....	100	....
Totals	901	7,118	2,603

CATTLE—Only thirty-six loads of cattle of all kinds were reported in the yards today, which was not enough to make a fair test of the market.

As an additional bull influence Chicago reported an advance, so that it was not at all surprising that the feeling should be considerable better at this point. Still the market was not much improved, and it is very apparent that liberal receipts at present would be very much against shippers.

In some instances handy cattle, which happened to just suit the buyers, sold possibly a little stronger. At the same time holders of heavy cattle reported that it was not possible to obtain any more than steady prices. One bunch of good, heavy cattle that had been on feed five months and were well finished sold up to $4.60.

Medium and common kinds of cows and heifers were no more than steady, but the more desirable of the offerings sold to a little better advantage than yesterday. As there were only eight loads on sale the supply was soon exhausted, still the demand was far from large and had there been many more they would have gone begging.

The few scattering lots of feeders sold at firm prices. Representative sales:

NATIVES.

BEEF STEERS.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
19	965	$3 75	26	1291	$4 15	23	1150	$4 30
19	1210	4 35	39	1253	4 45	19	1442	4 55
18	1269	4 40	18	1452	4 60	1	1140	3 85
19	995	4 10	18	1252	4 35	1	1170	4 40
13	1036	4 40						

COWS.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
8	1167	2 85	5	1110	3 10	4	1162	3 20
8	1220	2 40	1	980	2 40	1	840	2 00
8	958	2 75	1	620	2 00	1	1400	3 15
28	1117	3 20	1	1220	3 50	21	936	3 55
1	890	2 00	2	865	2 00	1	910	2 00
2	1110	2 25	1	860	2 50	2	1125	2 75
8	968	2 80	1	1110	2 85	16	1093	2 85
1	1290	2 90	1	1260	2 90	1	1400	3 00
1	880	3 00	15	1050	3 10	2	1185	3 20
3	1140	3 25	2	1050	3 25	2	1155	3 40
2	1350	3 40	2	1295	2 40	1	730	3 45
26	1075	3 45						

HEIFERS.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
2	410	3 50	1	730	3 60	2	795	2 75
1	810	3 15	2	635	3 20	1	710	3 25
1	660	3 25	2	570	2 50	5	448	2 55
3	640	3 25	2	940	3 50	1	450	3 50
10	956	3 70	9	837	2 80			

BULLS.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
1	710	2 35	1	1410	2 60	2	1155	2 50
1	1290	2 50	1	1260	3 00	19	1252	2 50
2	1405	2 50	1	2120	3 40	2	1260	2 65
1	1390	2 70	1	1350	3 50	1	710	3 00
6	1380	3 00	1	1070	3 60	1	1110	2 80
1	1350	2 85	1	1100	3 00	1	1450	3 00
1	1700	2 30						

CALVES.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
18	356	3 75	4	370	4 25	3	250	3 50
1	120	3 50	10	228	4 60	4	165	5 25

STAGS.

No.	Av.	Pr.
2	1575	3 25

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS.

No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Pr.
1	930	3 60	1	640	4 25	22	410	4 50
2	985	3 00	10	800	3 60	1	700	4 00
56	890	4 10	16	424	4 45	1	1000	3 00
1	1110	3 50	31	889	3 50	1	600	3 50
1	920	3 75	1	650	4 00	2	790	4 00
1	580	4 00	20	675	4 20			

HOGS—Receipts of hogs were the heaviest of any day since Thursday of last week, when 10,312 were reported in the yards. In spite of the large receipts, however, the market was better under the influence of the strong closing of yesterday's provision market and the very good demand. The packers want the hogs and in that fact lies the chief strength of the market.

What improvement there was centered chiefly on heavy hogs, which were active and a shade higher. The prices paid ranged from $3.25 to $3.30, the same as yesterday. The proportion of sales at $3.25, however, was much smaller today, the bulk of the heavy loads bringing $3.27½ and $3.30.

The light and light mixed loads did not sell much different from yesterday, the sales on both days being principally at $3.35@3.40.

Under the influence of the active demand an early clearance was effected.

The average of all the sales was 1½c higher than yesterday. Representative sales:

No.	Av.	Sh.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Sh.	Pr.
52	290	80	$3 25	11	409	80	$3 25
54	320	80	3 25	33	252	160	3 25
19	375	80	3 25	60	325	80	3 25
50	291	40	3 25	65	142	...	3 25
59	302	120	3 27½	53	331	120	3 27½
61	268	...	3 27½	45	350	120	3 27½
56	318	120	3 27	58	253	...	3 27½
59	334	...	3 27½	62	274	80	3 27½
51	341	320	3 27½	48	253	80	3 27½
52	357	28	3 27½	51	295	...	3 27½
55	296	...	3 27½	61	315	...	3 27½
58	294	160	3 27½	57	327	160	3 27½
57	307	80	3 27½	61	252	80	3 27½
58	240	120	3 27½	56	312	80	3 27½
62	335	80	3 27½	49	343	160	3 27½
60	344	160	3 27½	54	347	...	3 27½
66	246	120	3 27½	21	330	40	3 27½
49	310	120	3 27½	116	327	160	3 30
74	276	160	3 30	55	316	80	3 30
58	262	40	3 30	59	315	120	3 30
61	342	...	3 30	79	280	80	3 30
12	267	...	3 30	68	271	200	3 30
53	312	...	3 30	56	302	40	3 30
62	300	240	3 30	59	275	160	3 30
51	349	...	3 27	47	339	120	3 30
61	332	80	3 30	64	291	40	3 30
60	288	80	3 30	56	358	80	3 30
51	342	...	3 30	53	335	80	3 30
52	315	80	3 30	62	251	160	3 30
62	265	200	3 30	61	282	160	3 27
65	291	120	3 30	65	282	160	3 30
54	287	160	3 30	59	286	200	3 30
66	272	120	3 30	20	284	...	3 30
63	263	240	3 30	60	306	120	3 30
44	331	...	3 30	115	316	80	3 30
56	311	120	3 30	40	308	40	3 30
45	295	120	3 30	67	312	200	3 30
65	252	120	3 32½	66	322	160	3 32½
56	298	240	3 32½	53	268	80	3 32½
59	322	80	3 32½	79	273	80	3 32½
68	306	...	3 32½	60	289	40	3 32½
57	264	80	3 32½	65	244	240	3 32½
64	255	80	3 35	86	201	160	3 35
52	279	40	3 35	68	267	40	3 35
67	234	80	3 35	15	164	...	3 35
68	247	40	3 35	58	264	160	3 35
73	259	40	3 35	80	221	...	3 37½
62	219	...	3 37½	222	128	...	3 37½
41	221	...	3 40	47	246	40	3 40
122	162	...	3 40				
67	219	40	3 40	102	157	...	3 40
65	210	80	3 40	70	221	120	3 40

PIGS, ODDS AND ENDS.

No.	Av.	Sh.	Pr.	No.	Av.	Sh.	Pr.
10	89	...	2 60	1	290	...	3 25
1	340	...	2 50	1	410	...	3 25
1	150	...	3 00	1	260	...	3 25
1	195	...	3 00	4	210	...	3 30
13	228	...	3 00	2	250	...	3 30
24	111	...	3 15	4	230	...	3 30
4	280	40	3 15	5	196	...	3 30
4	147	...	3 20	7	169	40	3 30
4	412	...	3 20	4	235	...	3 32½
5	282	...	3 25	6	180	...	3 35
6	283	...	3 25	6	150	...	3 35
4	442	...	3 25	6	166	...	3 35
1	340	...	3 25	6	186	...	3 35
1	470	...	3 25				

SHEEP—There were six loads of sheep in the yards and the market was strong under the influence of the good demand. Representative sales:

No.		Av.	Pr.
558	Mexican yearlings	74	$4 45
504	Western lambs	79	5 25
41	stockers	75	4 15

Cincinnati Live Stock.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30.—HOGS—Strong, $3.00@3.50.

CATTLE—Steady, $2.25@4.65.

SHEEP—Steady, $2.75@4.65.

LAMBS—Steady, $4.00@5.65.

St. Louis Live Stock.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—CATTLE—Receipts, 2,600 head; shipments, 800 head; market strong; fair to fancy shipping steers, $4.25@5.25; dressed grades, $3.75@4.90; light steers, under 1,000 lbs., $3.40@4.50; stockers and feeders, $2.30@3.45; cows and heifers, $2.00@4.25; Texas and Indian steers, $2.70@4.00; cows and heifers, $2.00@3.25.

HOGS—Receipts, 8,400 head; shipments, 1,700 head; market active; light, $3.30@3.40; mixed, $3.20@3.45; butchers', $3.40@3.50.

SHEEP—Receipts, 1,100 head; shipments, none; market steady; native muttons, $3.50@4.30; culls and bucks, $2.00@3.50; stockers, $2.00@2.75; lambs, $5.00@5.90.

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK MARKET.

Steady Demand for Cattle and Prices Somewhat Higher.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—With an active demand for cattle today, prices were steady for the greater part of the supply and strong to 10c higher for the better grades. Sales were largely at $4.15@4.90, common steers being purchased by dressed beef concerns at $3.80@4.00, while choice to prime shipping and export cattle were in quick demand at $5.00@5.40. There was a fair stocker and feeder trade at $3.10@4.25 and cows and bulls were active at steady prices. Calves were scarce and a little higher, choice lots selling at $6.50@6.60. Texas cattle are arriving in fair numbers and slaughterers are receiving trains of these cattle from other markets.

There was an active demand for hogs and prices were strong early, gathering strength later. The late sales were largely at an advance of 2½c and the market closed strong. Today's sales were largely at $3.40@3.50, prime butcher weights selling up to $3.55, while heavy packing lots brought $3.30@3.45. Pigs sold largely at $3.35@3.45.

Prices for sheep and lambs were steady as a rule. Sheep were salable at $3.00@4.75 for inferior to prime lots, with sales mostly at $3.75@4.45. Westerns, which comprised the great bulk of the offerings, sold at that range. Lambs were in good demand at $3.75@5.90 for inferior to extra flocks, with most of the sales at $5.00@5.75. Yearlings sold at $4.35@4.75. Heavy sheep were neglected.

Receipts—Cattle, 7,500 head; hogs, 35,000 head; sheep, 12,000 head.

Indianapolis Live Stock.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 30.—CATTLE—Receipts, 1,400 head; shipments fair; market fairly active; good to fancy steers, $4.65@5.00; good to choice steers, $4.25@4.60; common to good stockers, $2.75@3.50.

HOGS—Receipts, 6,500 head; shipments, 2,700 head; market active, all sold at a general advance; good to choice medium and heavy, $3.45@3.50; mixed, $3.40@3.45; common lights, $3.25@3.45.

SHEEP—Receipts, 150 head; shipments fair; market continues quiet at strong prices for all good kinds; good to choice lambs, $5.00@5.75; common lambs, $3.25@5.15; common sheep, $2.25@2.75.

Kansas City Live Stock Market.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 30.—CATTLE—Receipts, 5,000 head; market steady to strong; Texas steers, $3.65@4.15; Texas cows, $2.30@3.25; native steers, $3.50@4.90; native cows and heifers, $1.50@4.00; stockers and feeders, $2.25@4.40; bulls, $2.50@3.25.

HOGS—Receipts, 15,000 head; market active and strong; bulk of sales, $3.35@3.45; heavies, $3.00@3.37½; packers, $3.30@3.50; lights, $3.25@3.45; Yorkers, $3.40@3.45; pigs, $3.00@3.27½.

SHEEP—Receipts, 1,600 head; market stronger; lambs, $4.25@5.70; muttons, $3.25@4.40.

East Liberty Live Stock.

EAST LIBERTY, Dec. 30.—CATTLE—Steady; prime, $4.80@4.90; common, $3.25@3.60; bulls, stags and cows, $2.00@3.70.

HOGS—Steady; prime assorted medium, $3.60@3.65; best yorkers, $3.60; common to fair yorkers and pigs, $3.50@3.60; heavy, $3.50@3.55; good roughs, $2.75@3.15; common, $2.25@2.60.

SHEEP—Steady; choice, $4.60@4.75; common, $3.00@3.65; choice lambs, $5.90@6.10; common to good, $4.50@5.90; veal calves, $6.50@7.25.

East Buffalo Live Stock.

EAST BUFFALO, Dec. 30.—CATTLE—Fairly steady; extra to prime export steers, $4.90@5.70; good to choice, $4.65@4.80.

HOGS—Yorkers, good to choice, $3.75@3.80; roughs, common to choice, $3.00@3.20; pigs, common to choice, $3.15@3.50.

LAMBS—Choice to extra, $6.00@6.15; culls to common, $4.25@5.50.

SHEEP—Choice to selected wethers, $4.60@4.85; culls to common, $2.50@3.20.

New York Live Stock.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—BEEVES—Receipts, twenty head; none on sale and no trading. Cables quote American steers at $10.00@11.50; refrigerator beef, 8@8½c; exports, 530 beeves; calves, 72 head; steady. Veals, $5.00@8.50; grassers, $3.00@3.50.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Receipts, 2,500 head; sheep, $4.00@4.75; lambs, $6.25@6.37½.

HOGS—Receipts, 2,730 head; weak at $3.85@4.10.

Louisville Live Stock.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 30.—HOGS—Receipts, 3,000 head; market steady; tops, $3.50; light shippers, $3.00@3.40.

SHEEP—Market shade off; best fat, $3.40@3.60; lambs, $4.50@4.85.

Stock in Sight.

Record of receipts of live stock at the four principal markets for December 30:

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Omaha	902	7,004	1,584
Chicago	7,500	35,000	12,000
Kansas City	5,000	15,000	1,000
St. Louis	2,600	8,400	1,100

Coffee Markets.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—COFFEE—Options opened quiet at 5@15 points decline, ruled inactive and featureless with weak undertone following European decline and entire absence of outside interests, selling checked by continued large United States warehouse deliveries; closed steady with prices 10@15 points net lower; sales, 12,750 bags, including March, $6.00@6.05. Spot coffee, Rio, dull; No. 7, invoice, 6¾c; No. 7, jobbing, 7¼c; mild, quiet, Cordova, 8½@15c. Total warehouse deliveries from the United States, 20,615 bags, including 19,620 from New York; New York stock today, 601,409 bags; United States stock, 705,622 bags; afloat for the United States, 465,000 bags; total visible for the United States, 1,170,632 bags, against 758,225 bags last year and 611,472 bags in 1895.

SANTOS, Dec. 30.—COFFEE—Firm; good average Santos, 9,000 reis; receipts, 18,000 bags; stock, 871,000 bags.

HAMBURG, Dec. 30.—COFFEE—Opened at a decline of ¼ to ½ pfg., closed weak at a loss of ¾ to 1 pfg.; sales, 17,000 bags.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 30.—COFFEE—Quiet; No. 7 Rio, 8,750 reis; exchange, 7⅛d; receipts, 10,000 bags; cleared for the United States, 9,000 bags; cleared for Europe, 8,000 bags; stock, 402,000 bags.

HAVRE, Dec. 30.—COFFEE—Closed ¼@½f net lower; sales, 19,000 bags.

Oil Markets.

OIL CITY, Dec. 30.—Credit balances, 65c; certificates, no bid for regular options. Cash sold at 65@65½c; closed, 65½c bid; shipments, 25,157 bbls.; runs, 109,878 bbls.

CHARLESTON, Dec. 30.—OIL—Turpentine, firm at 30½c; sales, none. Rosin, firm; sales, none; unchanged.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 30.—OIL—Turpentine, firm at 30½c; sales, 53 bbls.; receipts, 655 bbls. Rosin, firm; sales, 1,529 bbls.; receipts, 3,648 bbls.; A., B., C., D., $1.20; E., F., $1.25; G., $1.35; H., $1.60; I., $1.75; K., $1.85; M., $2; N., $2.25; W. G., $2.50; W. W., $3.

WILMINGTON, N. C., Dec. 30.—OIL—Spirits of turpentine, dull; nothing doing; crude turpentine, quiet at $1.40@1.90. Rosin, firm at $1.15@1.20. Tar, firm at $1.20.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The market for dry goods is in the unsatisfactory condition which is always noted when inventories are progressing. Buyers have little time for operating and they are only in the market in scant numbers. The demand for cotton is generally small. Woolen and worsted goods are in generally better shape, though business is interrupted by holiday conditions. The sales of extra print cloths, rumored early in the week, were not so heavy as was at first supposed. There are said to have been 5,000 pieces for weekly delivery in March and April. The quotation of 2⅜c for extras still prevails, with few bids for early deliveries reported.

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