COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL

Wheat Recovers One Cent and Net Gain for May is Half a Cent.

PORK AND RIBS GO UP TWO TO FIVE CENTS

Crop Damage Reports Come from a Wide Area of Country and Influences the Opening of the Trading.

CHICAGO, March 14.—An unexpected small increase in the world's stocks of wheat today, together with substantiated claims of crop damage, caused a recovery of 1c from the low point in wheat and May closed with a net gain of ⅝@⅞c. Corn left off ⅛c higher and oats unchanged. Lard closed without change and pork and ribs advanced 2½@5c each.

Complete indifference at Liverpool to the rally here yesterday and large receipts in the northwest were the items of information under the influence of which wheat opened ⅝c lower at 69¼@69¾c. Half an inch of rain was shown to have fallen in Northern California during the last twenty-four hours and telegrams from San Francisco reported indications of general rains for the state. This started selling by commission houses and the price got down to 69¼c before it gave any indication of improving. Crop damage soon became the burden of the news that came to hand and the price began gradually to recover the loss it started with. The damage reports came from a wide area and to almost every commission house in the trade, and in several instances supported by people on the floor who had come in from a personal inspection of the wheat fields. Minneapolis and Duluth received 685 cars, compared with 362 a year ago. Chicago got 101 cars, of which three were graded contract. Primary western market receipts were 635,000 bu., against 367,000 bu. last year.

The Atlantic port clearances of wheat and flour amounted to 581,000 bu. Reports were current that freight room had been engaged at Boston for shipment of 1,500,000 bu. of wheat, and while that was said to have a weakening effect upon Liverpool, it helped to stiffen the market here. It had been expected that Bradstreet's would make an increase of world's stock for the week of about 2,000,000 bu., and consequently when the report was issued showing a total increase of but 317,000 bu. the disappointment of the bears was shown in increased buying in of shorts. The market became quite strong, more especially for July wheat, the superior demand for which narrowed its discount under May and reflected an increasing faith in crop damage. Under this buying May advanced to 70¼@70⅝c, July to 69¾@69¾c and closed, respectively, at 70⅜c and 69⅝@69¾c.

Corn met with general selling by commission houses at the opening and initial transactions showed a sharp loss. The crowd, however, was short and on the decline a good deal of covering took place, while there was influential buying in July. As the session advanced the market became strong and the early loss was more than recovered. Receipts, 608 cars. May opened ⅝@⅞c lower at 34¾@34⅝c and advanced to 35¼c sellers at the close.

There was quite a good deal of short selling in the oats market and this kept the price from advancing to any extent. The buying was sustained, with the taking off of hedges by parties who have sold cash, an important factor. Receipts, 288 cars. May opened ¼c lower at 26¼c, rose to 26½@26⅝c, and closed at 26¾c.

There was some selling out of long pork early in the session, but that appeared to have drained all there was likely to come and provisions ruled steady thereafter. Shipments of meat were large. May pork opened 2½c up at $9.12½, rose to $9.17½@9.20 and closed at $9.17½. The range in lard and ribs was small.

Estimated receipts Wednesday: Wheat, 40 cars; corn, 190 cars; oats, 120 cars; hogs, 32,000 head.

Leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Yes'dy.
*Wheat.					
March.	....	....	....	....	....
May...	69¼@⅜	70⅛@¾	69¼	70⅜	69¾-70
July...	68⅝@⅞	69⅝@¾	68⅜	69¼@⅝	68⅝@¾
*Corn.					
May...	34⅝@⅞	35¼	34⅛@¼	35¼	35⅛
July...	35¼@⅝	36⅛	35¼	35⅝	35⅝@¾
Sept...	36 @⅛	36⅝@⅝	36	36⅜	36⅛@⅜
*Oats.					
May...	26¼	26⅛@¼	26¼	26¼	26¼
July...	24⅜	24¾	24¼	24¾	24¼
Pork.					
May...	9 12½	9 20	9 12½	9 17½	9 15
July ..	9 30	9 37½	9 30	9 35	9 32½
Lard.					
May...	5 35	5 40	5 35	5 37½	5 40
July...	5 50	5 52½	5 50	5 52½	5 50
Sept...	5 62½	5 65	5 62½	5 65	5 62½
Ribs.					
May...	4 72½	4 72½	4 70	4 72½	4 70
July...	4 82½	4 85	4 82½	4 85	4 85
Sept...	4 97½	4 97½	4 97½	4 97½	4 97½

*No. 2.

Cash quotations were as follows:

FLOUR—Dull and neglected; winter patents, $3.65@3.75; straights, $3.35@3.45; clears, $3.15@3.25; spring specials, $4.00@4.10; patents, $3.40@3.70; straights, $2.90@3.20; bakers, $2.25@2.60.

WHEAT—No. 2 spring, 66½@68¼c; No. 3 spring, 62½@67½c; No. 2 red, 70c.

CORN—No. 2 yellow, 34¼@34⅝c; No. 2, 34c.

OATS—No. 2, 26¼c; No. 2 white, 29@30c; No. 3 white, 28¾@29¼c.

RYE—No. 2, 54c.

BARLEY—No. 2, 38@49c.

SEEDS—No. 1 flaxseed, $1.15½; northwest, $1.13½; prime timothy, $2.40.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork, per bbl., $9.00@9.05. Lard, per 100 lbs., $5.27½@5.50. Short ribs sides (loose), $4.45@4.65. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4.25@4.37½. Short clear sides (boxed), $4.85@4.90.

DRESSED POULTRY—Market steady; turkeys, 9½@11c; ducks, 8½@9c; chickens, 9½c.

WHISKY—Distillers' finished goods, per gallon, $1.26.

SUGARS—Cut loaf, unchanged.

Following are the receipts and shipments:

Articles.	Receipts.	Shipm'ts.
Flour, bbls	19,000	19,000
Wheat, bu	67,000	43,000
Corn, bu	415,000	211,000
Oats, bu	282,000	321,000
Rye, bu	16,000	6,000
Barley, bu	65,000	19,000

On the Produce exchange today the butter market was steady; creameries, 14@19½c; dairies, 11½@17c. Eggs, steady; fresh, 13c. Cheese, steady; creams, 10¼@11½c.

CHANGES IN AVAILABLE GRAIN.

Increases and Decreases in Stocks at Various Points.

NEW YORK, March 14.—Special cable and telegraphic dispatches to Bradstreet's indicate the following changes in the available supply of grain last Saturday, as compared with the preceding Saturday:

Wheat, United States and Canada, east of the Rocky mountains, increase, 17,600 bu. Liverpool Corn Trade News reports afloat for and in Europe, increase, 309,000 bu. Total supply increase, 17,000 bu.

Corn, United States and Canada, east of the Rocky mountains, increase, 559,000 bu.

Oats, United States and Canada, east of the Rocky mountains, increase, 567,000 bu.

Among the more important decreases reported to Bradstreet's not given in the official visible supply statement are those of 292,000 bu. at Galveston, and 200,000 bu. at northwestern interior elevators. The principal increases are those of 174,000 bu. at Ontario and Manitoba storage points.

The aggregate stock of wheat held at Portland, Oreg., and Tacoma and Seattle, Wash., decreased 277,000 bu. during the week.

NEW YORK GENERAL MARKET.

Quotations for the Day on General Commodities.

NEW YORK, March 14.—FLOUR—Receipts, 18,625 bbls.; exports, 15,520 bbls.; dull, shade steadier; winter patents, $3.70; winter straights, $3.50@3.60; Minnesota patents, $3.90@4.30; winter extras, $2.50@2.85; Minnesota bakers, $3.10@3.25; winter patents, $2.40@2.85.

CORNMEAL—Easier; yellow western, 83@84c; city, 84@85c.

RYE—Steady; No. 2 western, 60c, f. o. b., afloat.

BARLEY MALT—Quiet.

WHEAT—Receipts, 140,800 bu.; exports, 127,971 bu.; spot firm; No. 2 red, 82¼c, f. o. b., afloat, to arrive. Options opened weak on disappointing cable news, but experienced a sharp rally later in the day on bad crop reports. Kansas, Nebraska and Illinois sent out numerous complaints; shorts covered freely and there was a little outside buying. The small increase in world's stocks also had a bullish effect. The close was strong at ½c net advance. March, 80½@81¾c, closed 81¾c; May, 74⅛@75⅛c, closed 75¼c; July, 72¾@74 1-16c, closed 74c; September, 71½@72c, closed 72c.

CORN—Receipts, 208,700 bu.; exports, 64,535 bu.; spot firm; No. 2, 42@44c, f. o. b., afloat, new and old. Options, after an easy opening with wheat, rallied on small receipts and big clearances, closed firm at ¼c net advance. March closed at 41¾c; May, 39⅝@40c, closed 40c; July, 40¼@40⅝c, closed 40¾c.

OATS—Receipts, 124,800 bu.; spot quiet; No. 2, 32½c; No. 2 white, 33c; mixed western, 32½@33c; track, white, 35½@39c; options dull.

HOPS—Quiet, state, common to choice, 1896 crop, 7@8c; 1897 crop, 11@13c; 1898 crop, 17@18c; Pacific coast, 1896 crop, 10@11c; 1897 crop, 11½@12c; 1898 crop, 18@19c.

HIDES—Steady; Galveston, 15 pounds, 16 @17c; Texas, dry, 11@12c; California, 21 to 25 pounds, 18½c.

WOOL—Firm; domestic fleece, 17@22c; Texas, 11@18c.

LARD—Steady; western steamed, $5.60; March, $5.32, nominal. Refined, quiet.

CHEESE—Firm; large white, 12c; fancy small white, 12½c; large colored, 12c; small colored, 12¼@12⅝c.

EGGS—Steady; fresh, 14c; southern, 12½ @14c.

TALLOW—Firm; city, 4⅞c; country, 4¼@ 4⅜c, as to quality.

COTTONSEED OIL—Quiet; prime crude, 21c; prime yellow, 25½@26c.

BUTTER—Receipts, 5,978 pkgs.; market steady; western creamery, 15@20c; Elgins, 20c; factory, 12@14½c.

EGGS—Receipts, 10,214 pkgs; steady; western, 13½@14c; southern, 12½@14c.

METALS—Pig iron warrants, quiet at $10.25 nominal; lake copper, easy, at $17.75 nominal for spot and $17.62½ sellers for March delivery; tin, firm, with $23.75 bid and $23.85 asked; lead, quiet and firm, with $4.42½ bid and $4.45 asked; spelter, firmer; with $5.35 bid and $5.40 asked. The brokers' price for lead is $4.20 and for copper, $17.62½.

OMAHA GENERAL MARKET.

Condition of Trade and Quotations on Staple and Fancy Produce.

EGGS—Receipts heavy, market weak, 11c.

BUTTER—Common to fair, 11@12c; choice, 14@15c; separator, 20c; gathered creamery, 17@18c.

POULTRY—Hens, live, 7@7½c; dressed, 8 @8½c; roosters, live, 4c; dressed, 5c; spring chickens, live, 7@7½c; dressed, 8@ 8½c; ducks, live, 6½@7c; dressed, 9c; geese, live, 6½@7c; dressed, 9c; turkeys, live, 7@8c; dressed, 10@11c.

PIGEONS—Live, per doz., 75@90c.

VEAL—Choice, 8@9c.

OYSTERS—Bulk Standard, per gal., $1.10; mediums, per can, 15c; Standard, per can, 20c; Extra Select, per can, 25c; New York Counts, per can, 30c.

FRESH WATER FISH—White fish, 9c; lake trout, 9c; small trout, green, 10c; yellow pike, 7c; plekere, winter caught, 6c; silver herring, 4c; perch, scaled and dressed, 6c; perch, skinned and dressed, 7c; northern crappie, 10c; bullheads, dressed, 10c; black bass, very scarce, 15c.

SEA FISH—Flounders, 8c; haddock, 8c; Columbia river salmon, 11c; halibut, 11c; No. 1 smelts, 10c; blue fish, 10c; Spanish mackerel, 10c; red snapper, 10c; extra large mackerel, 30c each.

FRUITS.

APPLES—Ben Davis, per bbl., $4.50@5.00; Genitons, $4; New York Baldwins, Greenings and others, choice, per bbl., $3; western boxed, $1.75@1.85.

CRANBERRIES—Jersey, $6.00@6.25; large, $6.50@6.75; per crate, $2.25.

VEGETABLES.

TOMATOES—Per crate, $4.00@4.50.

SPINACH—None in market.

LETTUCE—Home grown, per doz. bunches, 45c.

CELERY—California, good stock, 25c; choice, 35c; fancy, 50c, extra large, 75c; Michigan, choice stock, 25@30c.

ONIONS—Home grown, per doz. bunches, 30c.

WATERCRESS—16-qt. cases, $1.60.

CABBAGE—Crated, per lb., 3c.

CAULIFLOWER—Per crate, $2.75.

ONIONS—Per bu., 90c@$1.00.

BEANS—Hand-picked, navy, per bu., $1.50 @1.60.

POTATOES—Choice, sacked, 65c; poorer stock, 50@60c; Minnesota Burbanks, 80@85c; Colorado, $1.00; Early Ohio seed potatoes, $1.00@1.10.

SWEET POTATOES—Per bbl., $2.00@2.25.

TROPICAL FRUITS.

LEMONS—California, fancy, $3.75@4.00; choice, $3.50@3.75; Messina, fancy, $4.00@4.25.

ORANGES—Navels, fancy, $3.25@3.50; choice, $3.15@3.25; seedlings, $2.25@2.50.

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

DATES—Hallowee, 60 to 70-lb. boxes, 6c; Sair, 5½c; Fard, 9-lb. boxes, 10c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NUTS—Almonds, per lb., 17c; Brazils, per lb., 9@10c; English walnuts, per lb., fancy soft shell, 11@12c; standards, 10c; filberts, per lb., 11c; pecans, polished, 7@8c; cocoanuts, per 100, $4; peanuts, raw, 5½@6c; roasted, 6½@7c.

CIDER—Per half bbl., $3.

SAUERKRAUT—Per half bbl., $2.

HONEY—Choice white, 12@12½c.

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

MAPLE SUGAR—Choice, in boxes, 9@10c.

FIGS—Imported, none; California, 10-lb. boxes, $1.40@1.50.

HIDES, TALLOW, ETC.

HIDES—No. 1 green hides, 7½c; No. 2 green hides, 6¼c; No. 1 salted hides, 8¾c; No. 2 salted hides, 7¾c; No. 1 veal, calf, 8 to 12 lbs., 10c; No. 2 veal calf, 12 to 15 lbs., 8c.

TALLOW, GREASE, ETC.—Tallow, No. 1, 3½c; tallow, No. 2, 3c; rough tallow, 1½c; white grease, 2½@3c; yellow and brown grease, 1¾@2½c.

FURS—Mink, 10@75c; bear (black or brown), $5.00@20.00; otter, $1.50@8.00; beaver, $1.00@6.00; skunk, 15@75c; muskrat, 3@10c; raccoon, 15@50c; red fox, 25c@$1.25; gray fox, 25@60c; wolf (timber), 25c@$2.50; wolf (prairie), coyote, 10@50c; wildcat, 10@25c; badger, 25c; silver fox, $50.00@75.00.

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

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, March 14.—FLOUR—Firmer; patents, $3.50@3.60; straights, $3.15@3.25; clear, $2.75@3.00.

WHEAT—Options strong and fractionally higher; spot, dull; No. 2 red, cash, elevator, 72c bid; track, 72@74c; March, 72¾c; May, 74⅛@74 3-8c bid; July, 67¼c bid; No. 2 hard, 66c.

CORN—Fractions better for options; spot firmer; No. 2 cash, 30½c; track, 31½c; March, 33½c; May, 33¾c bid; July, 33 7-8c bid.

OATS—Firmer; No. 2 cash, 28¾c; track, 28¼@29c; March, 28¾c; May, 27⅞c; July, 25¾c; May, 27¾c; July, 23¾c; No. 2 white, 31¼@31½c.

RYE—Firmer at 59c.

SEEDS—Flaxseed, higher at $1.13 bid; prime timothy, $2.30.

CORNMEAL—$1.75@1.80.

BRAN—Dull, weak; sacked, east track, 60c.

HAY—Steady; timothy, $9.00@10.00; prairie, $6.00@8.00.

BUTTER—Firm; creamery, 18@22c; dairy, 13@17c.

EGGS—Higher at 11½c.

WHISKY—Steady at $1.26.

PROVISIONS—Higher; chickens, 8½@9c; turkeys, 9@10c; geese, 5½@6c; ducks, 8½@9c.

METALS—Lead, quiet at $4.25; spelter, higher at $5.00.

PROVISIONS—Pork, steady; standard mess, jobbing, $9.25. Lard, quiet; prime steam, $5.05; choice, $5.15. Dry salt meats, boxed shoulders, $4.25; extra shorts, $4.75; ribs, $4.87½; shorts, $5.00. Bacon, boxed shoulders, $5.00; extra shorts, $5.25; ribs, $5.37½; shorts, $5.50.

RECEIPTS—Flour, 7,000 bbls.; wheat, 18,000 bu.; corn, 39,000 bu.; oats, 30,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Flour, 11,000 bbls.; wheat, 34,000 bu.; corn, 26,000 bu.; oats, 25,000 bu.

Kansas City Grain and Provisions.

KANSAS CITY, March 14,—WHEAT—Steady; May sold between 61½c and 62¼c, closing at 62¼c; No. 2 hard, 64c; No. 3, 61@63c; No. 2 red, 75@74c; No. 3, 69@71c; No. 2 spring, 62½c; No. 3, 61c.

CORN—Corn was ¼@½c higher; No. 2 mixed, 33½@33½c; No. 2 white, 34c; No. 2, 33½c.

OATS—Steady; No. 2 white, 29¼@30c.

RYE—Steady; No. 2, 56c.

HAY—Steady; choice timothy, $7.00@7.50; choice prairie, $7.00@7.25.

BUTTER—Steady; separator, 14@19c; dairy, 10c.

EGGS—Steady; fresh, 10½c.

RECEIPTS—Wheat, 22,800 bu.; corn, 3,200 bu.; oats, 4,000 bu.

SHIPMENTS—Wheat, 77,400 bu.; corn, 9,100 bu.; oats, 8,000 bu.

Liverpool Grain and Provisions.

LIVERPOOL, March 14.—WHEAT—Market quiet, 2@5d lower; March, 5s 4½d; May, 5s 4½d; July, 5s 4½d.

CORN—Market quiet, 1s 3d lower; March, 3s 4½d; May, 3s 4½d; July, 3s 4½d.

Receipts of wheat during the last three days, 58,000 centals, including 48,000 American.

Receipts of American corn during the last three days, 113,400 centals.

PROVISIONS—Beef, extra India mess, 62s 6d; prime mess, dull at 58s 6d. Bacon, short cut, steady at 27s 6d; long clear middle, light, dull at 28s 6d; long clear, heavy, dull at 27s; shoulders, square, steady at 25s 6d. Lard, prime western, dull at 27s 6d. Cheese, American finest white and colored, strong at 59s.

Toledo Market.

TOLEDO, O., March 14.—WHEAT—Market higher and firm; No. 2 cash, 72¼c; May, 73⅝c.

CORN—Lower, steady; No. 2 mixed, 34½c.

OATS—Dull, steady; No. 2 mixed, cash and May, 27¼c.

RYE—Dull, steady; No. 2 cash, 57c.

CLOVERSEED—Prime cash, old, $3.37½; new, cash and March, $3.60 asked.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, March 14.—FLOUR—Dull and unchanged; receipts, 12,110 bbls.; exports, 535 bbls.

WHEAT—Steady; spot and month, 74¾@ 74¾c; April, 75@75¼c; May, 75¾@75¾c; steamer, No. 2 red, 70¾@70¾c; receipts, 8,528 bu.; exports, none; southern wheat by sample, 70@75½c; southern on grade, 71@75c.

CORN—Quiet; spot and month, 37¼@37⅝c; April, 37¾@37¾c; May, 38¾@38¾c; steamer mixed, 35½@36c; receipts, 144,979 bu.; exports, 115,114 bu.; southern white corn, 37@38c; southern yellow, 37@37½c.

OATS—Steady; No. 2 white, 35@35¼c; No. 2 mixed, 32¾@33c; receipts, 10,886 bu.

RYE—Dull; No. 2 western, 62c; receipts, 2,988 bu.; exports, none.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, March 14.—FLOUR—Dull.

WHEAT—Firmer; No. 2 red, 73@73¼c.

CORN—Firm; No. 2 mixed, 35½@36c.

OATS—Dull; No. 2 mixed, 30½c.

RYE—Quiet; No. 2, 60c.

PROVISIONS—Lard, quiet at $5.12½; bulk meats, firm at $4.75; bacon, quiet at $5.70.

WHISKEY—Steady at $1.26.

BUTTER — Unchanged; fancy Elgin creamery, 21@22c; Ohio, 17@19c; dairy, 12½c.

SUGAR—Steady.

EGGS—Firm at 11c.

Minneapolis Wheat Market.

MINNEAPOLIS, March 14.—WHEAT—Firm; March and May, 68½c; July, 69½c; on track, No. 1 hard, 68¾c; No. 1 northern, 67¾c; No. 2 northern, 66¾c.

FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged.

BRAN—Unchanged.

Philadelphia Produce Market.

PHILADELPHIA, March 14.—BUTTER—Firmer; fancy western creamery, 20½c; prints, 21c.

EGGS—Firm, and 1@1½c higher; fresh western, 14½c; fresh southwestern, 14c; southern, 13@14c.

Peoria Market.

PEORIA, March 14.—CORN—Market dull; No. 3, 33¼c.

OATS—Market dull; No. 3 white, 27½@28c.

WHISKY—Market firm on the basis of $1.26 for finished goods.

Milwaukee Grain Market.

MILWAUKEE, March 14.—WHEAT—No. 2 northern, 67½@67¾c; No. 2 northern, 69¾c. RYE—Lower; No. 1, 55c.

BARLEY—Steady; No. 2, 48c; sample, 37 @46½c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

DULUTH, March 14.—WHEAT—No. 1 hard, cash, 69⅞c; March, 69⅞c; May, 71⅝c; July, 73¾c; No. 1 northern, cash, 67⅞c; No. 2 northern, 64¾c.

OPERATIONS IN STOCKS AND BONDS.

Net Changes Irregular and Mostly Losses Prevail.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The net changes in stock prices today were irregular with mostly losses prevailing. London quotations induced a lower range of prices here at the start.

Firmness in the call money market, which ranged from 3 to 4 per cent, was a depressing influence much of the day, but its easing off to 3 to 3½ per cent before the close, a rally set in which wiped out earlier losses in some stocks. Union Pacific, Northern Pacific, Atchison preferred and Manhattan were under pressure most of the day and attracted confidence among the other railways, which were weak on moderate offerings. The weakness in Manhattan was perhaps attributable to anticipation of the new issue of stock. Fear of the possible failure of desired legislation affected Third avenue and Consolidated Gas, while in connection with the latter there was also talk of increased competition.

The pronounced strength of Tobacco, which at one time touched 214¾, was unaccompanied by any explanatory news. Sugar displayed considerable firmness when other points of weakness were appearing and ended with a small net advance. Chicago Terminal, Hocking Coal and Iron and Union Pacific, Denver & Gulf were features of strength. In the afternoon rally the grangers and standard shares generally were lifted about a point from their low figure and retained most of the recovery, leaving them irregularly changed for the day. The calling of some loans by the banks for syndicate account preparatory to the payment of the dividends of the Chicago & Alton money due tomorrow in connection with the recent "deal" was in a large measure responsible for the strength in call money. There was a reflex easing in sterling exchange due to the strength of money here. The sales for London account for the day were estimated at 25,000 shares. The market closed firm.

There was an absence of decided tone in today's bond market for the active issues within narrow limits. Total sales, $3,210,000. United States new 4s advanced ¼ in the bid price.

The Commercial Advertiser's London financial cablegram says: Fog checked business in the markets here today and dullness was general. Americans were stagnant and heavy. Prices were easy. The weakness this afternoon on few New York sales. The close was a shade above the worst. Brokers are consistently advising their clients to hold off, anticipating an uncertain and idle period before the rise is resumed and fearing a bear raid. There were heavy sales of Canadian Pacific from New York, Montreal and continent on the expectation of an issue of new stock. Coppers were weak. Tintos were 38 7-8; Anacondas, 9; Utahs, 3 7-8, and almost unsalable; Rostons, 3 3-16; money was hard. Bond loans were repaid early, but reborrowed later.

The following are the closing quotations for the leading stocks on the New York exchange today:

Atchison	21¾	do pfd	70
do pfd	65¾	St. L. & S. W.	8⅝
Baltimore & Ohio	60	do pfd	27¾
Canada Pacific	85¾	St. Paul	127⅜
Canada Southern	56½	do pfd	150
Central Pacific	40¼	St. P. & Omaha	117½
Ches. & Ohio	21⅝	do pfd	179
Chi. & Alton	150	So. Pacific	33½
C., B. & Q	139¾	So. Railway	12⅜
Chi. & E. Ill	86½	do pfd	40¾
do pfd	145	Texas & Pacific	23¾
Chi. G. W	15⅜	Union Pacific	44⅞
Chi. Ind. & L	8½	do pfd	77½
do pfd	30	U. P. D. & G	11¾
Chi. & N. W	154½	Wabash	9¾
do pfd	192½	do pfd	21½
C. C. C. & St. L	57½	Wheel. & L. E	3¼
do pfd	90¼	do pfd	9¼
Del. & Hudson	164	Adams Express	133
Del. L. & W	164	American Ex	149
Den. & Rio G	21¼	United States Ex	45
do pfd	72½	Wells-Fargo Ex	125
Erie (new)	18¾	A. Tel. Cot	89½
do 1st pfd	38⅜	do pfd	92½
Ft. Wayne	175	American Spirits	14½
Gt. Nor. pfd	192	do pfd	40¾
Hocking Val	16¾	Am. Tobacco	94
Illinois Central	114½	do pfd	148
Lake Erie & W	18	Coas. Gas	215½
do pfd	66	Com. Cable Co	177
Lake Shore	200	Colorado F. & I	45¾
Louis. & Nash	80¾	do pfd	93
Manhattan L	193⅛	Gen. Electric	118
Met. St. Ry	199½	Hawaii Com. Co	78½
Mich. Central	96	Hocking Coal	9¾
Minn. & St. L	53½	Inter. Paper	55¾
do 1st pfd	99	do pfd	95
Mo. Pacific	46	La Clede Gas	81
Mobile & Ohio	41¾	Lead	37⅝
Mo. K. & T	13	do pfd	112½
do pfd	33⅞	Nat. Lin. Oil	4¾
N. J. Central	131	Pacific Mail	48
N. Y. Central	132¾	People's Gas	105⅛
N. Y. Chi. & St. L	13½	Pullman Pal	168
do 1st pfd	65	Silver Certificates	59½
do 2d pfd	25¾	Standard R. & T	10¾
Nor. & West	15	do pfd	43
No. Amer. Co	5	do pfd	81½
No. Pacific	30¾	T. C. & Iron	43⅞
do pfd	72¾	U. S. Leather	6⅝
Ontario & W	25⅛	do pfd	73½
Ore. R. & Nav	45	U. S. Rubber	49½
Ore. Short Line	42⅞	do pfd	115½
Pac. Coast 1st pfd	88	Western Union	94
do 2d pfd	75	Federal Steel	45⅝
Pittsburg	189	do pfd	84⅞
Reading	24⅛	Amer Steel & W	18¾
do 1st pfd	63⅝	do pfd	104¾
do 2d pfd	48¾	Colorado Southern	7¾
R. G. W	15	do 1st pfd	30¾
do pfd	75	do 2d pfd	22
Rock Island	116⅞	Ore. Nav. pfd	70
St. L. & S. F	11¾	Pacific Coast	45
do 1st pfd	39		

*First asst. paid. **Second asst. paid.

The total sales of stocks today were 434,800 shares, including: Atchison, 7,140; Atchison preferred, 44,570; Burlington, 15,130; Great Northern preferred, 2,260; Hocking Coal, 4,400; Manhattan, 8,455; Metropolitan, 4,600; Missouri Pacific, 10,500; Northern Pacific, 22,464; Ontario, 2,500; Western Union, 5,850; Reading preferred, 10,930; St. Louis and San Francisco, 4,810; St. Paul, 15,370; Southern preferred, 4,550; Texas & Pacific, 3,178; Union Pacific, 9,670; Union Pacific preferred, 7,685; Union Pacific, Denver & Gulf, 4,325; American Steel & Wire, 32,921; American Steel & Wire preferred, 5,600; Federal Steel, 8,301; Federal Steel preferred, 5,366; American Spirits, 3,225; Tobacco, 28,730; People's Gas, 7,255; Consolidated Gas, 6,629; Brooklyn Transit, 14,335; Sugar, 14,731; Tennessee Coal, 6,780; Leather preferred, 3,455.

San Francisco Mining Quotations.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 14.—The official closing quotations for mining stocks today were as follows:

Alta	13	Justice	19
Alpha Con	6	Mexican	71
Andes	19	Occidental Con	27
Belcher	18	Ophir	105
Best & Belcher	52	Overman	7
Bullion	4	Potosi	26
Challenge Con	24	Savage	26
Chollar	26	Sag Belcher	3
Confidence	65	Sierra Nevada	125
Con. Cal. & Va	175	Standard	250
Crown Point	18	Union Con	55
Eureka Con	40	Utah Con	18
Gould & Curtis	40	Yellow Jacket	21
Hale & Norcross	43		

Silver bars, 59¾c; Mexican dollars, 47½@48c. Drafts, sight, 15c; telegraph, 17½c.

February Imports and Exports.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The February statement of the imports and exports of the United States issued by the Bureau of Statistics shows as follows:

Imports of merchandise during February, 1899, $60,250,022, of which $28,084,179 was free of duty; increase over February, 1898, about $7,186,000; exports of merchandise, $92,884,149; decrease, $1,000,000. Imports of gold, $5,148,-908; decrease, $1,000,000. Exports of gold, $321,810; decrease, $700,000. Imports of silver, $1,427,027; decrease, $655,000. Exports of silver, $4,582,186; increase, $880,000. For the eight months ended February 28, 1899, there was an increase in the imports of merchandise as compared with the same period in 1897, of $32,312,234; increase in the exports of merchandise, $30,195,560; increase in the imports of gold, $36,627,423; decrease in the exports of gold, $830,211; decrease in the imports of silver, $1,861,618; increase in the exports of silver, $573,076.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, March 14.—MONEY ON CALL—Nominal, 2½@3 per cent.

PRIME MERCANTILE PAPER—3½@4¼ per cent.

STERLING EXCHANGE—Steady; $4.85½ @4.85¾ for demand, $4.82½@4.82¾ for sixty days; posted rates, $4.84½@4.85 and $4.86½; commercial bills, $4.82½@4.83.

SILVER CERTIFICATES—Nominally, 59½@60c.

BAR SILVER—59¾c.

MEXICAN DOLLARS—47¼c.

GOVERNMENT BONDS—Strong; U. S. 3s, 107¾; new 4s, reg., 128¾; coupon, 128¾; 4s, reg., 111¾; coupon, 112¾; 2s, reg., 99½; 5s, reg., 112; coupon, 112.

Closing quotations on bonds were:

U. S. new 3s	107¾	N. Y. C. 1st	115
U. S. new 4s, reg	129	N. J. C. 5s	118½
U. S. new coup	129	N. C. 6s	128½
U. S. 4s, reg	111¾	N. C. 4s	104
U. S. 4s coup	112¾	No. Pacific 1st	116½
U. S. 2s, reg	99¾	No. Pacific 3s	68¾
U. S. 2s, coup	112¾	No. Pacific 4s	93½
U. S. 5s, coup	112¾	N. Y. C. & St. L. 4s	107¾
District 3.65s	117¾	N. & W. 6s	130
Ala., class A	109	N. W. Consols	143½
Ala., class B	109	N. W. Deb. 5s	113½
Ala., class C	100	Ore. N. 1st	111¾
Ala., Currency	100	Ore. N. 4s	101¾
Atchison 4s	102¾	O. S. L. 6s t. r	128¾
Can. So. 2ds	110	O. S. L. 5s t. r	111
Canada So. 2ds	110	Reading 4s	89½
C. & O. 4½s	93	R. G. W. 1sts	90
Chi. Terms. 4s	98¾	St. L. & I. M. con 5s	111¾
C. & O. 6s	118	St. L. & S. F. Gen. 6	123¾
C. H. & D. 4½s	104¾	St. P. Consols	164½
D. & R. G. 1st	108½	St. P. C. & P. 1st	122
D. & R. G. 4s	100¾	St. P. C. & P. 5s	120¾
East Tenn. 1st	108	So. Pac. 4s	79
Erie Gen. 4s	72¾	So. Ry. 5s	105¾
F. W. & D. 1st	84½	S. R. & T. 6s	80
Gen. Elec. 5s	111	Tenn. new set 3s	97
G. H. & S. A. 6s	110	T. P. R. G. 1st	112¾
G. H. & S. A. 2ds	111¾	T. P. Ry. 2ds	52¾
H. & T. Cent. 5s	110	U. P. D. & G. 1sts	80
H. & T. Cent. 6s	113	Wab. 1st 5s	114¾
Iowa C. 1sts	100	Wab. 2ds	94¼
La. New Con. 4s	100¾	W. Shore 4s	113
L. & N. Uni. 4s	96¾	Va. Centuries	84
Mex. Cent. 4s	62¾	Va. deferred	9
Mex. Nat. 6s	102¾	Va. Mid. gen. 5s	80
M. K. & T. 2ds	64	U. P. 4s	104¾
M. K. & T. 4s	93¼	Colorado South'n 4s	87¾

Boston Stock Quotations.

BOSTON, March 14.—Call loans, 3@3½ per cent; time loans, 3½@4 per cent. Closing prices for stocks, bonds and mining shares:

A., T. & S. F	21½	Cal. Central	1½
Amer. Sugar	140	Gen. Elec. pfd	133
Bell Tel	244	Atchison pfd	69¾
Boston & Albany	245	do 4s	106
Boston & Maine	191	Wis. Central 1s	68½
Boston El	86	Alliance Mining Co	6
C., B. & Q	139¾	Atlantic	31½
Fitchburg	111¾	Boston & Mont	360
Gen. Electric	117½	Butte & Boston	82
Federal Steel	45¾	Calumet & Hecla	431
do pfd	87½	Centennial	24
Mexican Central	8	Franklin	23½
Old Colony	200	Old Dominion	28¾
Rubber	49½	Osceola	83