THE MARKET BASKET.

Lenten Season Stimulates Trade in Fish and Oysters.

AN ACTIVE MOVEMENT IN BUTTER.

Vegetables From New Orleans and Bermuda to the Front.

WHAT'S TO PAY FOR SUNDAY DINNER

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, FRIDAY, March 15, 1889.

At the meat stalls there has been no change of prices for choice cuts, notwithstanding the fact that cattle are off from 2c to 3c per pound from rates of last fall. The drop has affected prices of rough meat, hides and tallow, but has not reached tenderloins and porterhouse steaks. If butchers had a profit last fall they should be reaping handsome profits now, when a 1,500-pound steer costs $35 less.

Trade in the products of old ocean has very much improved since Ash Wednesday. The restaurant demand for crabs has been far beyond the supply for a week past. A leading dealer reports that he could not fill one-fourth of his orders in this line.

The bulk of the trade in fish is still in the line of the frozen article. Fresh flounders, scollops and blue salmon begin to put in their appearance in small quantities. Scollops bring $2 50 per gallon, and at this figure there is no profit to the dealer. Fresh mackerel are on the stalls at 60c per pound. There are no new features of interest in the lines of butter, eggs and poultry. The latter grows scarce as the season advances. Eggs are in good supply and demand, with prices varying very little from a week ago.

Oleo is no longer offered at market stalls. The risk is too great. Dealers who have paid heavy fines, and have the fear of heavier penalties before them, have surrendered, and are now sell only butter.

Green Goods.

New vegetables, from the Gulf of Mexico, begin to put in an appearance, reminding us that old things are passing away and all things are soon to become new. Radishes, tomatoes, beets, celery from New Orleans, new potatoes and onions from Bermuda are at the front. Strawberries are drifting to lower prices, but are still steep enough for the majority of purses. Those who are satisfied with the old reliable fruits and vegetables can obtain them at figures as low as they have been at any time for a decade or two in the middle of March.

Florists report an improvement in trade of last week. The fact that Lent is fully on is, however, fully felt in the trade. A leading florist desires THE DISPATCH readers to know that quotations below are for choice varieties of roses, and says that there are common varieties which range from 75c to $1 per dozen below rates here given. Following are latest prices for market basket filling, as furnished by retail dealers:

Meats.

The prices called for at the Diamond Markets remain unchanged. The best cuts of tenderloin steak range from 20 to 25c, with the last figure for very fancy, which are very often no better than the 20c article; sirloin, best cuts, from 18 to 20c; standing rib roast, 15 to 20c; chuck roast, 10 to 12c; best round steaks, 15c; boiling beef, 5 to 8c; sweet breads, 25c per pair; beef kidneys, 10c apiece; beef liver, 5c a pound; calf livers, 25c apiece; corned beef from 5 to 10c per pound. Veal for stewing commands 10c; roast, 12½ to 15c; cutlets, 20c per pound; spring lambs, fore quarter, 12½ to 15c; hind quarters, 15 to 20c. A leg of mutton, hind quarter, of prime quality, brings 12½c; fore quarter, 8c; loin of mutton, 15c.

Vegetables and Fruit.

Jersey sweet potatoes, 25c a half peck; potatoes, 15c a half peck; celery, 10 to 15c a bunch; new Bermuda potatoes, 40c per peck; new Bermuda onions, 25c per quart; tomatoes, 40c per quart box; pumpkin, 15 to 25c; cabbage, 5 to 10c; apples, 15c to 20c per half peck; bananas, 15 to 25c a dozen; lemons, 25 to 30c per dozen; oranges, 35@50c; onions, 25c a half peck; spinach, 25c per half peck; lettuce, 10c per bunch, 3 for 25c; radishes, 7c per bunch; cranberries, 15c per quart; cucumbers, 25 to 35c a piece; mushrooms, $1 a pound; asparagus, 20c a bunch; new beets, 15c a bunch; strawberries, 75c a quart.

Butter, Eggs and Poultry.

Choice creamery butter, 36 to 40c. Good country butter, 35c. Fancy pound rolls, 50c.

The ruling retail price for eggs is 20c. Choice country eggs bring 25c.

The range for dressed chickens is $1 to $1 25 per pair. Turkeys, 25c per pound.

Fish and Oysters.

Following are the articles in this line still on the stalls, with prices: Lake salmon, 12½c; California salmon, 40c pound; white fish, 12½c; herring, 4 pounds for 25c; fresh mackerel, 30c apiece; Spanish mackerel, 45c to 50c a pound; sea salmon, 40c a pound; blue fish, 20c; perch, 10c; halibut, 25c; rock bass, 30c; black bass, 20c; lake trout, 12½c; lobsters, 25c; green sea turtle, 28c. Oysters: standard, $1 per gallon; select, $1 50 to $1 75; N. Y. counts, $1 75 per gallon; snaps, 90c; shell oysters, 25c dozen; saneltas, 20 to 25c pound; clams, $1 25 gallon; scollops, 50c a quart.

Flowers.

La France roses, $3 00 per dozen; Bride roses, $2 00 per dozen; Perles, $1 25 per dozen; Niphetos, $1 25 per dozen; Bennetts, $2 00 per dozen; Magna Charta roses, $1 00; American Beauty, 50c@$1 00 apiece; Mermets, $2 00 per dozen; La Wattville, $2 00; carnations, 50 cents a dozen; Violets, $2 00 a hundred; Lily of the Valley, 75c per dozen; Maiden Hair fern, 50c per doz. fronds. Bermuda Easter lilies, $3 00 per dozen; tulips, 75c per dozen; mignonette, 75c per dozen; lilacs, 25c a spray; daffodils, 75c per dozen; Dutch hyacinths, 20c apiece; pansies, 25c a dozen; Jacqueminot roses, $2 50 a dozen.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Condition of the Market at the East Liberty Stock Yards.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, FRIDAY, March 15, 1889.

CATTLE—Receipts, 1,940 head: shipments, 2,060 head. Market dull and weak. Nothing doing; all through consignments. No cattle shipped to New York to-day.

HOGS—Dull; all grades $5 00@5 10. Receipts, 2,600 head: shipments, 2,400 head. Ten cars of hogs shipped to New York.

SHEEP—Nothing doing; none for sale. Six loads passed through. Receipts, 2,400 head; shipments, 2,000 head.

By Telegraph.

KANSAS CITY—Cattle—Receipts, 2,685 head; shipments, 1,213 head; best grades of heavy steers active and 5@10c higher; medium about steady; cows, stockers and feeding steers steady at 5@10c higher; good to choice corn-fed, $5 90@4 15; common to medium, $2 75@3 60; stockers and feeding steers, $1 60@3 20; cows, $1 35@2 75. Hogs—Receipts, 5,772 head; shipments, 185 head; weak and 2½@5c lower, closing dull and weak; good to choice, $4 45@4 52½; common to medium, $4 10@4 35. Sheep—Receipts, 535 head; no shipments; active and steady to strong; good to choice muttons, $4 25@4 50; common to medium, $2 50@3 90.

NEW YORK—Beeves—Receipts, 40 carloads for the market, 55 carloads for city slaughterers direct and 21 carloads for a beef exporter; dull market, unchanged prices and not all sold; poor to prime steers sold at $3 25@4 25 per 100 lbs; extra do, at $4 35@4 65; bulls and dry cows, $2 20@3 00. Sheep—Receipts, 2,400 head, and 4,000 head were carried over yesterday; a little more than one-half the offerings changed hands, and the market closed weak; sales included sheep at $4 00@5 50 per 100 lbs; yearling lambs at $4 75@7 25. Hogs—Receipts, 4,500 head, all for slaughterers direct, except a carload of really prime hogs that sold alive at $5 per 100 lbs; light pigs would go to $5 30; dull feeling.

CHICAGO—Cattle—Receipts, 9,000 head: shipments, 3,000 head; market dull and 10c lower; choice beeves, $4 00@4 35; steers, $3 00@3 80; stockers and feeders, $2 00@3 40; Texas steers, $1 75@3 00. Hogs—Receipts, 2,000 head; shipments, 7,500 head; market slow, heavy and 5c lower; mixed, $4 55@4 80; heavy, $4 55@4 85; light, $4 60@4 95; skips, $3 50@4 35. Sheep—Receipts, 5,000 head; shipments, 2,000 head; market weak; natives, $3 50@4 00; western corn-fed, $4 40@4 75; lambs, $4 75@5 80.

ST. LOUIS—Cattle—Receipts, 500; shipments, 400; market stronger; choice heavy native steers, $3 80@4 40; fair to good do, $3 60@4 00; stockers and feeders, fair to good, $2 00@3 20; rangers, cornfed, $2 70@3 40; grassfed, $1 90@2 90. Hogs—Receipts, 3,200; shipments, 3,200; market steady; choice heavy, $4 70@4 80; packing, $4 60@4 75; light grades, $4 55@4 70. Sheep—Receipts, 200; shipments, 600; market strong; fair to choice, $3 00@4 90.

BUFFALO—Cattle—Market steady; receipts, 2,000 head, through, 80 head sale; mixed butchers', $2 75@3 25. Sheep and lambs—Market weak and tendency a shade lower; receipts, 2,000 head through, 1,000 head sale; good sheep, $4 35@4 65; good lambs, $5 85@5 85. Hogs—Market active; 10@20c lower; receipts, 4,600 head through, 3,100 head sale; offerings all sold straight at $5 55@5 75.

CINCINNATI—Hogs in good demand; lower; common and light, $4 00@4 75; packing and butchers', $4 60@4 80; receipts, 2,630 head; shipments, 1,700 head.

INDIANAPOLIS—Hogs quiet at $4 60@4 80. Cattle quiet at $2 50@4 25. Sheep steady at $3 50@4 50; lambs, $4 00@5 75.

MARKETS BY WIRE.

Wheat More Active, but Early Options Lower—Corn Quiet and Oats Higher—Hog Products Neglected and Barely Steady.

CHICAGO—There was quite a good trade in wheat to-day, but principally on local account. Outside news was scarce and outside business light. The feeling developed was weaker, influenced by fine and favorable weather for the growing crop here, good weather abroad and dull and easier cables. The opening was ⅝@⅞c lower than yesterday's closing, and under free speculative offerings prices further declined 1⅝c, though not without numerous slight fluctuations. Around 95c for May, however, a prominent local trader bought freely, which started the market up and prevented further decline.

The buying was evidently to cover shorts as the party was credited a day or two ago with being large seller. From the inside prices for May a recovery of 1⅛c followed, and closed about 1⅛c lower than closing figures of yesterday. June closed about ¼c lower, and July closed about ⅛c lower.

There was but little interest manifested in corn, fluctuations being within narrow limits and trading almost exclusively local. The tone on the whole was somewhat easier, the fine weather having a tendency to increase offerings.

A fair volume of business transpired in oats. The opening was weak and rather unsettled, but at inside figures of the day. Offerings were fair, but the buying by a large house produced a change in the sentiment. A stronger feeling developed and prices advanced ½c. A recession of ¼c followed. Later in the session, however, a stronger feeling developed, and prices advanced ½c, the market closing steady at a net gain of ¼@⅜c over yesterday's last sales.

Hog products attracted very little attention, and trading was light. Local operators were not much interested in the market and the outside orders were smaller than usual. Prices declined slightly on all the leading articles. Later the market showed more steadiness and prices rallied again, with purchases credited to those who sold early. The market closed quiet at about outside figures.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

WHEAT—No. 2 May, 96⅝@96⅞c closed 96¼@96⅝c; June, 92⅝@92⅞c closed 91¼@91⅝c; July, 89⅝@87⅞c closed 88⅝@88⅞c; year, 80@80½c.

CORN—No. 2 May, 35⅝@35⅞c; June, 35⅝@35⅞c closed 35⅝@35⅞c; July, 36⅝@36⅞c.

OATS—No. 2 May, 25⅝@25⅞c closed 25⅝@25⅞c; June, 25⅝@25⅞c; July, 25⅝@25⅞c closed 25⅝@25⅞c.

MESS PORK, per bbl.—May, $12 17½@12 25 closed 12 10@12 20; June, $12 25; July, $12 25@12 32½ closed 12 22½@12 25.

LARD, per 100 lbs.—May, $6 95; June, $7 00; July, $7 05@7 05 closed 7 02½@7 05.

SHORT RIBS, per 100 lbs.—May, $6 20@6 22½ closed 6 17½@6 22½; June, $6 27½; July, $6 30@6 32½.

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour steady and unchanged: No. 2 spring wheat, 93½@93½c; No. 3 spring wheat, 91@92c; No. 2 red, 93½@93½c. No. 2 corn, 34½@34⅝c; No. 2 oats, 24½c. No. 2 rye, 49c. No. 2 barley, nominal. No. 1 flaxseed, $1 55. Prime timothy seed, $1 38@1 39. Mess pork, per barrel, $12 15@12 20. Lard, per 100 lbs, $6 87½@6 90. Short ribs sides (loose), $6 15@6 20. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), $5 50@5 62½. Short clear sides (boxed), $6 62½@6 75. Sugars—Cut loaf, unchanged. Receipts—Flour, 8,000 barrels; wheat, 58,000 bushels; corn, 186,000 bushels; oats, 64,000 bushels; rye, 2,000 bushels; barley, 26,000 bushels. Shipments—Flour, 8,000 barrels; wheat, 20,000 bushels; corn, 89,000 bushels; oats, 69,000 bushels; rye, 8,000; barley, 25,000 bushels.

On the Produce Exchange to-day the butter market was weaker but not quotably lower. Eggs 13½@14c.

NEW YORK—Flour heavy and 5@15c lower. Wheat—Spot heavy and quiet; options freely offered at lower prices and ½@¾c lower. Barley quiet; ungraded Canada, 75@88c. Barley malt dull; Canada, 90c@$1 10 for old and new. Corn—Spot dull and ½@1c lower; options dull and ½@¾c lower. Oats—Spot dull and lower; options firm. Hay moderately active and firm. Hops quiet and firm. Coffee—Options opened steady and 20@30 points down; closed steady and 20@30 points below yesterday; lower cables; good business; sales, 78,250 bags, including March, 16.80@16.85c; April, 16.80@16.90c; May, 16.85@16.95c; June, 16.90@16.95c; July, 17.00@17.10c; August, 17.10@17.20c; September, 17.20@17.30c; spot Rio easier; fair cargoes, 19c. Sugar—Raw strong; fair refining, 5 3-16c; centrifugals, 96° test, 5 15-16c; refined in active demand and ⅛c higher; C, 5¼@5⅜c; extra C, 6@6¼c; white extra C, 6⅛@6 5-16c; yellow, 5⅞@6⅛c; off A, 6 7-16@6⅝c; mould A, 7⅛c; standard A, 6⅞c; confectioners' A, 7⅞c; cut loaf, 8¼c; crushed, 8⅛c; powdered, 7⅞c; granulated, 7⅛c; cubes, 7¼c. Molasses—Foreign strong; New Orleans dull; open kettle, good to fancy, 28@42c. Rice steady and quiet. Cottonseed oil strong; crude, 42c; yellow, 48c. Tallow irregular; city, 4⅜@4½c. Rosin quiet and steady. Turpentine steady and quiet at 52½c. Eggs quiet and weaker; Western, 13½c; receipts, 5,695 packages. Pork strong; old mess, $12 75; new mess, $13 50; extra prime, $12 75. Beef quiet; extra mess, $8 75@7 00; plate, $8 25@8 50. Cut meats steady and quiet; pickled bellies, 12 lbs average, 7@7¼c; pickled shoulders, 6½c; pickled hams, 9½@10c. Middles firm. Lard a trifle lower and dull; Western steam, $7 27½, closing at $7 30; city, $6 80; March and April, $7 26@7 28; May, $7 29, closing at $7 28; June, $7 30@7 32; July, $7 32@7 34, August, $7 36; September, $7 38. Butter quiet and easy; Western dairy, 14@21c; do creamery, 18@27c; Elgins, 28@28½c. Cheese firm and in moderate demand; Western, 9½@11½c.

ST. LOUIS—Flour quiet and easy, with light demand and trading. Wheat—Cash lower; options fluctuated considerably; owing to continued fine spring weather, lower cables and declines in all other markets selling was free enough to run May down 1⅛@1½c and July ⅝@⅞c; the market improved later, and May and June closed ⅛c lower and July 1-16c better; No. 2 red, cash, 92⅝c; May, 92@93c, closed 92⅝@92¾c bid; June, 89¼@90c, closed 89⅞c bid; July, 81⅝@81⅞c, closed 81½c; August 79½@80c, closed 80c bid. Corn lower; No. 2 mixed, cash, 29½c; April, 29¼c, closed 29¼c bid; May, 30⅜@30½c. Oats lower; No. 2, cash, 25c bid; May, 25⅝@26⅛c, closed 26c bid. Rye dull; No. 2, 42½c asked. Barley—Nothing doing. Provisions very dull.

CINCINNATI—Flour very dull. Wheat, moderate demand; No. 2 red, 95c; receipts, 2,500 bushels; shipments, none. Corn weaker; No. 2 mixed, 34c. Oats stronger and scarce; No. 2 mixed, 26½@27c. Rye dull; No. 2, 48c. Pork barely steady at $12 62½. Lard dull, lower to sell, $6 85. Bulkmeats and bacon firm and unchanged. Butter quiet. Sugar firm. Eggs dull. Cheese firm.

PHILADELPHIA—Flour dull and weak. Wheat—Options neglected and closed nominally ½@2c lower. Corn—Options opened a shade lower but subsequently recovered and closed firm under a fair export inquiry and light offerings; car lots dull but held firmly. Oats—Car lots firm with a fair demand; No. 3 whites were scarce and ⅜c higher; futures quiet but steady.

MILWAUKEE—Flour steady. Wheat easier; cash, 86½c; May, 87⅝c; July, 87½c. Corn firm, No. 3, 32½@33c. Oats steady; No. 2 white, 27½@28c. Rye firm; No. 1, 44c. Barley dull; No. 2, 58c. Provisions easy. Pork, $12 12½. Lard, $6 85. Cheese quiet; cheddars, 11@12½.

BALTIMORE—Provisions firm and unchanged. Butter firm; western packed, 18@23c; roll, 15@19c; creamery easy at 29@28c. Eggs easy at 13½c. Coffee quiet at a decline; fair, 18¾c.

TOLEDO—Cloverseed, steady; cash, March, $5 00; April, $4 90; receipts, 250 bags; shipments, 979 bags.

BRITISH IRON.

Almost Everything Firm and Active, With Prices Holding Strong.

Special Report by Cable for the American Manufacturer.

LONDON, March 14.

Scotch Pig—The activity in this market continues, with prices holding strong.

No. 1 Coltness	55s.	6d.	f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Summerlee	54s.	6d.	f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Gartsherrie	51s.	6d.	f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Langloan	53s.	6d.	f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Carnbroe	46s.	6d.	f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Shotts	53s.	6d.	f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Glengarnock	50s.	6d.	at Ardrossan.
No. 1 Dalmellington	45s.	6d.	at Ardrossan.
No. 1 Eglinton	44s.	6d.	at Ardrossan.

Bessemer Pig—Active market and prices sustained West Coast brands quoted at 48s 0d. for Nos. 1, 2, 3, f. o. b. shipping point.

Middlesbrough Pig—Market firm but quiet. Good brands quoted at 37s. 9d. for No. 3, f. o. b.

Spiegeleisen—Firm market and demand continues to improve. English 20 per cent quoted at 80s. f. o. b. at works.

Steel Rails—An increased demand holds the market firm. Standard sections quoted at £4 7s. 6d. f. o. b. shipping point.

Steel Blooms—Demand better and market firm. Bessemer 7x7 quoted £4 0s. 0d. f. o. b. shipping point.

Steel Billets—Fair demand and market firm. Bessemer (size 2½x2½) quoted at £4 5s. f. o. b. shipping point.

Steel Slabs—This market holds firm on a fair demand. Ordinary sizes quoted at £4 2s. 6d. f. o. b. shipping point.

Crop Ends—While the demand is only moderate the market is steady. Run of the mill quoted at £2 10s. 0d. f. o. b. shipping point.

Steel Wire Rods—Firm market the demand better. Mild steel, No. 6, quoted at £6. 0s. 0d. f. o. b. shipping port.

Old Rails—This market is barely steady, but business is fair. Tees quoted at £3 5s. 0d. and double heads at £3 0s. 0d. c. i. f. New York.

Scrap Iron—No material change from last week. Heavy wrought quoted at £2 5s. 0d. f. o. b. shipping points.

Manufactured Iron—Market firm and demand good.

Stafford. ord. marked bars (f. o. b. L'pool)	£8	2s	6d
" common bars	£0	0s	0d@ 5 12s 6d
" blk. sheet singles	0	0s	0d@ 7 12s 6d
Welsh bars, f. o. b. Wales	5	5s	0d@ 0 0s 0d

Steamer Freights—Glasgow to New York, 5s. 0d. Liverpool to New York, 8s. 0d.

TAKE no "just as good," but call for the "old reliable" Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

SETTLED AT LAST.

The Final Payment Made in Connection With the Failure of the NATION'S BANK FOR SAVINGS.

A Pittsburg Financier Compelled to Toe the Mark Out in Montana.

THE ELECTRIC BOOM CULMINATES

The Nation's Bank failed in 1873. It was a bad failure. The amount of money involved in it was between $1,000,000 and $2,000,000. Hundreds of citizens were financially ruined or so badly crippled that they never recovered from the blow. At least two of the victims ended their lives by suicide. The stockholders were held responsible for the losses, and so heavy was the pressure that several of them were reduced to poverty. Ever since the failure the work of settlement has been going on. A few days ago one of the stockholders walked into a Fourth avenue bank and presented a note for discount. When he had received the money he remarked to the cashier: "With this I will make the last payment in connection with the Nation's Bank failure. All the claims will then be settled and the books closed."

* * *

In connection with this incident, the cashier in question said: "The gentleman whose note I discounted was one of the stockholders of the Nation's Bank, and was one of the principal sufferers. I don't remember how many shares he held, but his liabilities were $200,000. The last of this large sum was liquidated with the money received on the note. He was in the lumber business at the time and was worth about $400,000. One-half of his fortune was swept away by the failure. Do you know how the Nation's Bank was organized? No? Well, I will tell you. Some half a dozen citizens of the upper part of the city conceived the scheme to enable them to get money for speculative purposes, as alleged. They organized the bank with a capital of $100,000. They then induced a number of wealthy and influential men to take stock in the concern and deposit their money in it. This gave the bank a good standing in the community, and the deposits soon ran up to over $1,000,000. This money, so I understand, was used in all sorts of wild speculation; most of which turned out badly. This went on as long as the money lasted, and then the crash came. The cashier was held responsible for the failure and accused of all sorts of crookedness. This was hardly fair. He certainly knew what was going on, but he was simply an agent to execute the will of his superiors. His protests were unheeded. But he was well paid for his services."

* * *

This retrospection called to the cashier's recollection an incident that transpired in this city some years before the war. A man, whose name is omittted for good reasons, opened a bank in a little building that formed one of the row that stood on the site now occupied by the Kaufmann block. He had good business qualifications, was shrewd and enterprising. His banking capital was about $50,000. He soon became popular and secured a large list of depositors. One day he forgot to open his bank. He had skipped. Going West he took the benefit of the bankrupt law. Finally he located in a town in Montana, and when he thought sufficient time had elapsed for the Pittsburg affair to be forgotten he opened a bank. His customers were of the regular Western type of that day—honest, rugged, reckless and disposed to shoot on the slightest provocation. One morning the bank doors were found closed. The banker had pocketed all the funds and made a break for the mountains. The word soon spread, and he was pursued by a number of his victims, captured, taken back to town and strung up by the neck until he consented to open the bank and pay depositors in full. He reformed after this and continued in the banking business there for several years with good success.

A FLURRY IN ELECTRIC.

It Sells Up to 57 1-2, but Weakens in the Afternoon.

Westinghouse Electric was the strong card at the opening of the stock market yesterday, there being a large and eager demand for it. Sales were made at 55, 56, 56¼ and 56½ on the floor. Outside, Henry M. Long disposed of 550 shares at 55½, 56, 57 and 57½. These were the top prices of the day. There was less demand for the stock in the afternoon, and it manifested a lack of staying qualities, which some accepted as an indication of a reaction. Others thought the depression was only temporary, and pointed to the fact that it was still very low in comparison with the Edison and other electric stocks, claiming, also, that its purchase by Eastern people as an investment was proof that capitalists have confidence in the future of the stock. The last sale of the day was at 56. Philadelphia Gas was stronger, selling up to 37. One hundred shares of Central Traction were sold at 24—an advance. Switch and Signal was a trifle weaker, while La Noria was hardly thought of.

STOCKS.	MORNING. Bid.	Ask.	AFTERNOON. Bid.	Asked.
Citizens' Nat. Bank	....	....	....	....
Mechanics' Nat. Bnk	102	....	103	....
Mer. & Man. Nat. Bnk	60¼	61	....	....
Philadelphia Co.	36⅝	36½	37¼	37½
Wheeling Gas Co	20	20	....	....
Central Traction	23¾	24	23½	24½
Citizens' Traction	....	69¾	....	69½
La Nora Mining Co	....	1⅜	1½	1¾
Silverton Mining Co	....	1¼	....	....
Westinghouse Electric	56	57	55	56¼
U. Switch & Signal Co.	20	20½	20¼	20⅝
Diamond Nat. Bank	....	....	155	....
Bank of Commerce	....	....	215	....
Tradesmen's Nat Bank	....	....	220	....
Ohio Valley Gas	....	....	25	40
Hazelwood Oil Co	....	....	42	....
Pittsburgh Traction	....	....	....	49½

At the first call 10 shares of M. & M. National Bank sold at 61, 20 shares of Wheeling Gas at 28⅝, 35 shares of Switch and Signal at 21, 15 at 20, 25 Electric at 55, 115 at 56, 50 at 56¼, 10 at 56½ and 100 shares of Central Traction at 24.

In the afternoon 200 shares of Westinghouse Electric sold at 56¼, 100 at 56¾, 100 at 56, and 60 Philadelphia Gas at 37.

The total sales of stocks at New York yesterday were 317,143 shares, including: Atchison, 13,400; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 20,680; Erie, 3,600; Lake Shore, 12,800; Louisville and Nashville, 8,060; Missouri Pacific, 17,800; Northwestern, 26,500; Northern Pacific preferred, 10,700; Oregon Transcontinental, 9,500; Reading, 44,000; Richmond and West Point, 10,700; St. Paul, 28,700; Union Pacific, 14,300; Western Union, 7,800.

MONEY IN DEMAND.

Improvement in the Situation at the Banks—The Borrower Abroad.

There was an improvement in the borrowing demand for money at most of the local banks yesterday. Discount bills were easy at 5@6 per cent. Counter business was also more active than for some time. The Clearing House report indicated a fair business, as the exchanges amounted to $1,654,062 78 and the balances to $390,641 19.

Money on call at New York yesterday was easy at 2@2¾ per cent; last loan, 2¾ per cent; closed offered at 2¾ per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 4½@6½. Sterling exchange dull but steady at $4 85¾ for 60-days, and $4 88¾ for demand.

Government Bonds.

Closing quotations in New York furnished THE DISPATCH by Robinson Bros., Wood street. Local dealers charge a commission of an eighth on small lots:

U. S. 4½s, reg	107⅞@108⅛
U. S. 4½s, coups	107⅞@108⅛
U. S. 4s, reg	122⅝@123
U. S. 4s, 1907, coups	129⅛@130
	Bid.
Currency, 6 per cent, 1895 reg	120
Currency, 6 per cent, 1896 reg	123
Currency, 6 per cent, 1897 reg	126
Currency, 6 per cent, 1898 reg	129
Currency, 6 per cent, 1899 reg	131½

Sales coupon 4s: $8,000 at 123⅝, and $18,000 at 123¾.

NEW YORK—Bank clearings, $109,160,491; balances, $5,170,529.

BOSTON—Bank clearings, $12,687,552; balances, $1,628,061. Money 2½@3 per cent.

PHILADELPHIA—Bank clearings, $9,845,647; balances, $1,231,449.

BALTIMORE—Bank clearings, $1,712,249; balances, $318,450.

CHICAGO—Clearings, $10,234,000.

ST. LOUIS—Clearings, $2,855,633; balances, $484,124.

ANOTHER SCARECROW.

Oil Bought in New York Held Out of the Market.

Good buying caused a firmer feeling at the opening of the oil market yesterday. But this didn't last long, and the downward march was resumed. The initial quotation was 90½c. The market then weakened, and sold at 90c. Once during the day sales were made at 90⅛c. The market held between 90⅛c and 89⅝c nearly all day, rallying a little late in the afternoon and closing with a rather soft feeling at 89⅞c, with good prospects for a lower level of prices today. Most of the buying was in New York, where large blocks are said to be held out of the market. What will be done with it is what brokers would like to know. One of them said: "I look for some of the severest tail-twisting before long that has ever been known to the trade."

A. B. McGrew quotes puts 89⅝; calls, 90⅜.

The following table, corrected by De Witt Dilworth, broker in petroleum, etc., corner Fifth avenue and Wood street, Pittsburg, shows the order of fluctuations, etc.:

Time.	Bid.	Ask.	Time.	Bid.	Ask.
Opened	90⅛	Sa⅛s	12:45 P. M.	89¾	89⅞
10:15 A. M.	89⅞	90	1:00 P. M.	89⅞	90
10:30 A. M.	89⅞	90	1:15 P. M.	89⅞	90
10:45 A. M.	89⅞	89⅞	1:30 P. M.	89⅞	90
11:00 A. M.	89⅞	89⅞	1:45 P. M.	89⅞	90
11:15 A. M.	89⅞	90	2:00 P. M.	89⅞	90
11:30 A. M.	90	90⅛	2:15 P. M.	89⅞	90
11:45 A. M.	89⅞	90	2:30 P. M.	89⅞	89⅞
12:00 M.	90	90⅛	2:45 P. M.	89⅞	90
12:15 P. M.	90	90⅛	Closed	89⅞	....
12:30 P. M.	90	90⅛			

Opened, 90⅛c; highest, 90⅛c; lowest, 89⅞c; closed, 89⅞c.

	Barrels.
Daily runs	52,271
Average runs	48,993
Daily shipments	67,146
Average shipments	72,100
Daily charters	68,825
Average charters	51,391
Clearances	2,334,000

New York closed at 89⅞c.
Oil City closed at 89⅞c.
Bradford closed at 89⅞c.
New York, refined, 7c.
London, refined, 5 11-16d.
Antwerp, refined, 16⅞f.

Other Oil Markets.

OIL CITY, March 15.—National transit certificates opened at 90c; highest, 90¼c; lowest, 89⅝c; closed, 89⅞c.

BRADFORD, March 15.—National transit certificates opened at 90c; closed at 89⅞c; highest, 90¼c; lowest, 89⅝c.

TITUSVILLE, March 15.—National transit certificates opened at 90c; highest, 90⅛c; lowest, 89⅝c; closed, 89⅞c.

NEW YORK, March 15.—Petroleum opened steady at 90c, and after a decline to 89½c and an advance to 90⅜c, became weak again and declined to 89⅝c, closing steady at 89⅞c. Sales, 890,000 barrels.

LANDS AND HOUSES.

Real Estate Dealers and Agents Report a Good Demand for Both.

W. A. Herron & Sons sold another Forbes street and "Coltart Square" house, being No. 3428 Forbes street, lot 216x150 feet, with an elegant three-story brick dwelling. This makes five of the eight houses in this plan fronting Forbes street sold this season.

Black & Baird, No. 95 Fourth avenue, sold to St. Andrew's Evangelical Lutheran Church two lots on Amanda street, Brushton, each 25x124 feet to an alley, for $800. They also report the closing of the sale of a large down-town business lot for $50,000, particulars of which cannot be given at present.

C. Beringer & Son, 103 Fourth avenue, sold to Mrs. Caroline Gold, for J. A. Eckert, a house of six rooms, with four lots 20x100 feet each, in the Eleventh ward of Allegheny, for $3,900 cash. They also placed a mortgage on Sharpsburg property for $4,000 at 6 per cent.

Mellon Bros. sold to George T. Denniston a lot fronting 63 feet on Ben Venue avenue and 50 feet on Mariepoe avenue, in Ben Venue Place, for $1,200. This lot adjoins Mr. Denniston's residence.

James W. Drape & Co. placed a mortgage of $50,000 on an extensive property near Columbus, O., at special rates. They also placed a mortgage of $4,000 on a farm near McKeesport at 6 per cent; also, two mortgages of $3,500 on a property in the Fourth ward, city, and Mifflin township at 6 per cent; also, a mortgage of $3,500 on three houses and lots on Albert street, Thirty-second ward, city, at 6 per cent. They also sold a house and lot in the city, near Fulton street, at $5,000; also, a farm of 50 acres in McCandless township, near Perryville, at $5,000; also, a house and lot in Second ward, Allegheny, near the parks (particulars of which are withheld for the present) at $10,500. They also sold the property No. 105 Liberty street, Allegheny, a brick dwelling of nine rooms, with lot 23x80 feet, for $6,500 cash.

Black & Baird, No. 95 Fourth avenue, sold for Tattersall Ingham to Anthony Schillo a fine two-story and mansard brick residence, on southeast corner of Penn avenue and Fortieth street, Lawrenceville, with lot about 35x100 feet, for $11,500.

Samuel W. Black & Co., 99 Fourth avenue, sold the property No. 521 Fifth avenue, consisting of a one-story brick business building and lot 22x90, for $3,500.

J. M. Pennock & Son sold a mortgage for $8,000, five years, on city property, at 5 3-10 per cent.

DEPRESSING INFLUENCES

Cause a Slump in Stocks—The Declines Heavy and Uniform—Everything Lower at the Close—Railroad Bonds Quiet.

NEW YORK, March 15.—The stock market was weaker than it has been for some time to-day, but the amount of business done will compare favorably with any previous day this year. All the influences at work upon the market seemed to be of a depressing nature, though the engagement of over $1,000,000 for export was probably the most important. There was an uneasy feeling reported at Paris, and this was reflected in the London market and American securities on the other side were all lower with considerable selling to liquidate. The ultimate destination of the gold is unknown, but the low state of the surplus reserve at present gave rise to apprehensions of the future scarcity of money, especially if the outgo of gold should be continued.

The squeeze in St. Paul did not seem to have any further effect upon the general list, and although the stock loaned at 1-16 per day for use, there was plenty of stock for sale, and after opening down nearly a point it sagged off and to-night is materially lower. The pressure to-day tested all portions of the list, and outside of the Grangers there was more selling than at any previous time this year, and the declines on an unusually large business are heavy and uniform, and the number of stocks dealt in was remarkable. There was a renewal of the reports of rate cutting in the West and the alleged accusation of Judge Cooley that the trunk lines were shading on their export rates was used with much effect against the general list.

All the Grangers were weak, but Rock Island and Burlington and Quincy reached lower figures than have heretofore been attained, and a raid was made upon Missouri Pacific in the afternoon which made it one of the weakest stocks on the list. The other Gould shares sympathized and Manhattan especially yielded very readily. Pullman led the specialties, and of those shares Memphis and Charleston was the only one showing any strength, and that has not been traded in for a long time. San Francisco preferred became the feature just before the close and dropped rapidly.

The lowest prices were generally reached after 1 P. M., but the rally from the lowest points was insignificant, and the market finally closed fairly active and heavy to weak at or near the lowest figures of the day. Everything without exception is lower. Pullman lost 3; Manhattan 3¼, ex-dividend of one ½ per cent scrip; Rock Island, 1¾; Missouri Pacific and Tennessee Coal, 1⅝; Burlington and Quincy and St. Paul, 1½; Atchison, 1¼; New England, 1⅛; Pacific Mail, 1 per cent, and some of the specialties larger amounts.

Railroad bonds were quiet, and in some portions of the list sympathized with the depression in shares, giving an unsettled tone to the market. Some marked movements were made, while most issues were dull and almost unchanged. The weakness in the Kansas and Texas issues was a feature, but beyond that the trading calls for little comment. The sales reached only $1,124,000. The declines include Kansas and Texas 5s 1, at 51; the 7s, 2¾, at 87½; and Ohio and Mississippi seconds 2½, at 17½. The advances were Beech Creek firsts 2½, to 91½.

The following table shows the prices of active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange. Corrected daily for THE DISPATCH by Whitney & Stephenson, members of New York Stock Exchange, 57 Fourth avenue:

	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing Bids.
Am. Cotton Oil	55⅝	....	....	53½
Atch., Top. & S. F.	50⅜	50¼	49	49
Canadian Pacific	48⅝	48⅝	48⅝	47
Canada Southern	52⅛	52⅛	51