IRON TRADE REVIEW.

Slight Decline in Business, but Prices Well Maintained.

A VERY ACTIVE WEEK AT CHICAGO

Some Anxiety in New York as to the Exact Stability of the Boom.

THE UPWARD TENDENCY OF VALUES

The volume of iron business the past week shows a slight decline from that of several weeks past, but there are no indications of any decline in prices. Markets are very firm for all grades of iron and steel; in fact prices are fully as strong as they were a week ago. The quietness of the past week is mainly due to the fact that consumers had stocked up largely when the boom in iron started and that there is a general disposition to clean up preparatory to January settlements.

In last June gray forge iron was very slow at $13 75 per ton. Now it is very firm at $18 50 and all signs point to still higher prices. Bessemer iron was hard to sell in midsummer at $15 75, while now it is very firm at $20 80. Charcoal irons have undergone very little change in the recent advance. The advance in this grade of iron has not amounted to over $1 per ton since the lowest price of last June. Then No. 1 foundry was sold at $22 50, and now the price is $23 50.

THE STEEL RAIL BOOM.

The advance in steel rails on the present boom has so far been close to $10 per ton. About one-third of this advance goes to tonnage labor. The Edgar Thomson Steel Works are producing close to 1,100 tons every 24 hours, and the advance of $10 per ton must furnish a comfortable profit, not to speak of profits before the iron boom.

Among the features of the iron and steel trade worthy of note is the fact that notwithstanding the advance on all grades production has not materially increased so far. The capacity of steel production has been worked up to its limits for some time past, and it will be impossible for some time to come to produce an overplus of stock. The Edgar Thomson are now sold ahead for months. All iron and steel products are at this date strong and firm, and a year of unwonted activity is certainly before us in both lines.

RULING QUOTATIONS.

In raw and manufactured iron there has been a strong demand during the week. The following prices are quoted:

Neutral mill	$18 00@18 50—cash
Allaverdy mill	18 50@19 00—cash
No. 1 foundry, native ore	19 00@19 50—cash
No. 1 foundry, lake ore	19 50@19 75—cash
Bessemer	20 50@20 75—cash
Spiegel	27 00@28 00
Muck bar	30 50@32 00
Steel blooms	35 00@36 50
Steel slabs	35 00@36 00
Steel billets	35 50@36 50
Steel R.R. rails	28 00@30 00
Steel bloom ends	22 00@22 50
Old iron rails, American Ts	27 00@28 00
Old steel rails, short pieces	22 50@23 00
No. 1 W. scrap	23 50@24 00
No. 2 W. scrap	20 00
Steel rails, new	35 00@36 00
Steel R. light sec	35 00@36 00
Bar iron	1 90@1 95
Iron nails, per keg, usual dis	2 35
Steel nails, per keg, usual dis	2 35
Wire nails, per keg	2 90@2 95
Ferro manganese	103 00

the higher prices ruling have come to stay for a time at least, and that still higher values are probable. This adds to free buying. Good irons are increasingly scarce. Old material is strong and in light supply. The continual enlargement of manufacturing plants broadens out the demand, and if there is to be any backward movement for a time it is hard to see where it will come from. Good strong No. 1 foundry is now worth $20 to $21 here, and L. S. charcoal iron as held firm at $23, but with no sales at that figure yet reported.

An Upward Tendency in Values.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.)

CINCINNATI, December 20.—Rogers, Brown & Co.'s iron circular says: The upward tendency in values continues in all branches of the pig iron market. During the week there has been a further stiffening in prices of Northern mill and foundry irons, Lake Superior charcoal, and all products of lake ores. This grows out of the extensive early buying of lake ores for next season at an advance of about $1 a ton over last season's closing prices. There has been no further advance in Southern coke irons, which have been ruling relatively higher than Northern irons for some weeks past. Very liberal sales are reported, however, on the basis of price established by the warrant buying in November. Southern makers do not desire to see any further advance, believing it will stimulate too many new enterprises in their district. Already there is a generous crop of them started. Ohio furnaces generally are heavily sold and are very slow to name any prices on round lots for future delivery. Consumption continues very heavy in all lines.

BRITISH IRON MARKETS.

Prices Ruling on the Other Side of the Ocean During the Week.

The *American Manufacturer* in its cable letter of December 18 gives the following quotations:

Scotch Pig—Transactions in warrants have been on a smaller scale and prices have shown narrower fluctuation. In makers' iron there continues to be a good trade and prices for most brands remain firm.

No. 1 Coltness	79s. 6d. f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Summerlee	79s. 0d. f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Gartsherrie	78s. 0d. f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Langloan	78s. 0d. f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Carnbroe	67s. 6d. f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Shotts	77s. 6d. f. o. b. Glasgow
No. 1 Gingamock	67s. 6d. at Ardrossan.
No. 1 Dalmellington	70s. 0d. at Ardrossan.
No. 1 Eglinton	65s. 0d. at Ardrossan.

Bessemer Pig—Sales from second hands have been made at irregular prices, but makers are very firm, quoting West Coast brands at 77s. 6d. for Nos. 1, 2, 3, f. o. b. shipping point.

Middlesbrough Pig—Prices have ruled very irregular under speculative dealings, but the movement for consumptive account has been moderate. Prices touched as low as 58s. 3d. To-day the market is steady, with good merchant brands quoted at 60s. 6d. for No. 3, f. o. b.

Spiegeleisen—The market continues strong with demand good and sellers indifferent. Ensign 20 per cent quoted at 97s. 6d@100s. f. o. b. at works.

Steel Wire Rods—Prices remain firm, but the demand is only fair. Mild steel, No. 6, quoted at £7 2s. 6d. f. o. b. shipping port.

Steel Rails—Previous prices adhered to by makers and the market is firm with demand good. Heavy sections quoted at £7 f. o. b. shipping point.

Steel Blooms—A good demand prevails and prices remain very firm. Bessemer 7x7 quoted £6 7s. 6d. f. o. b. shipping point.

Steel Billets—The market remains in strong position with demand fairly active. Bessemer (size 2¾x2¾) quoted at £6 10s. f. o. b. shipping point.

Steel Slabs—Last week's prices prevail, with sellers firm and the demand fair. Ordinary sizes quoted at £6@£6 2s. 6d. f. o. b. shipping point.

Crop Ends—The position is unchanged and furnace prices are asked. Run of the mill quoted at £3 12s. 6d@£3 15s. f. o. b. shipping point.

Old Rails—The trade in these is still moderate, holders' prices being considered too high. Tees quoted at £3 7s. 6d.@£3 12s. 6d., and double heads at £3 12s. 6d.@£3 15s. f. o. b.

Scrap Iron—There is little doing, but holders are very firm. Heavy scrap wrought quoted at £3@£3 5s. 0d. f. o. b. shipping points.

Manufactured Iron—A fairly active business in all lines and prices firm.

Stafford ord. marked bars.	
(f. o. b. Liverpool)	£9 10s 0d@ 0 0s 0d
" common bars	8 0s 0d@ 8 10s 0d
" black sheet singles	0 0s 0d@10 0s 0d
Welsh bars, f. o. b. Wales	7 12s 6d@ 7 17s 6d

Steamer Freights—Glasgow to New York, 2s. 6d. Liverpool to New York, 10s. 0d.

Pig Tin—Prompt deliveries advanced sharply owing to moderate receipts and consequent light stock, but subsequently receded. Business has been quite active. Straits, quoted today at £97 7s. 6d. for spot; futures (3 months) £96 7s. 6d.

Copper—Prices dropped about £1 but subsequently reacted and the market is now fairly firm but rather quiet. Chili bars quoted £49 10s. for spot, and £50 2s. 6d. for future delivery. Best selected English, £56.

Lead—The market rather more active and prices firmer. Spanish quoted at £14 2s. 6d.

Spelter—There is a steady demand and prices are very firm. Ordinary Silesian quoted at £24.

Tin Plate—There has been some improvement in the demand and the market is firmer, without, however, any positive change in prices.

MEAT ON THE HOOF.

The Condition of Business at the East Liberty Stock Yards.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, FRIDAY, December 20, 1889.

CATTLE—Receipts, 420 head; shipments, 4 head; market nothing doing; all through consignments. No cattle shipped to New York to-day.

HOGS—Receipts, 38 head; shipments, 57 head; market dull; Philadelphias, $3 70@3 75; Yorkers, $3 60@3 70. Six cars of hogs shipped to New York to-day.

SHEEP—Receipts, 3 head; shipments, 3 head; market slow and unchanged.

By Telegraph.

NEW YORK—Beeves—Receipts, 30 carloads for the market, 24 carloads for export and 56 carloads for city trade slaughterer direct, and 25 carloads of sale cattle in the selling pens from previous arrivals; market dull, and a number of carloads were to sell at a late hour; poor to prime cattle sold at $3 60@4 90 per 100 pounds; 2 carloads of extra do at $5 25@5 50, and a car of Christmas steers, 1,735 pounds average, at $5 65. Calves nearly nominal; Western calves were not wanted at any price.

ST. LOUIS—Cattle—Receipts, 700 head; shipments, 2,300 head; market steady; good to fancy native steers, $4 30@5 15; fair to good do, $3 40@4 35; stockers and feeders, $2 10@3 30; range steers, $2 00@3 15. Hogs—Receipts, 300 head; shipments, 1,500 head; market a shade higher; fair to choice heavy, $3 60@3 75; packing grades, $2 50@3 70; light, fair to best, $3 45@3 65. Sheep—Receipts, 800 head; market firm; fair to choice, $3 50@4 80; lambs, $4 50@5 60.

CHICAGO — Cattle — Receipts, 7,000 head; shipments, 4,350 head; market quiet; heavy, $3 50@3 75; light, $3 50@3 80; skips, $3 00@3 40. Sheep—Receipts, 5,000 head; shipments, 1,000 head; market slow; natives, $3 00@6 00; Western corn-fed, $3 90@5 20; Texans, $3 50@4 20; lambs, $4 00@6 30.

BUFFALO—Cattle slow and irregular: receipts, 45 loads through, 3 sale. Sheep and lambs firm and unchanged; receipts, 11 loads through, 17 sale. Hogs lower; receipts, 27 loads through, 100 sale; mediums and heavy, $3 70; mixed and Yorkers and pigs, $3 65@3 70.

GOOD TRADE AFTER JANUARY.

A Light Demand Just Now, but No Weakness in the Market.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.)

ST. LOUIS, December 20.—In their weekly iron circular Rogers, Brown & Meacham say: The demand for Southern coke irons in this market has been light, but there are no elements of weakness in the situation. Consumers are unwilling to stock up until after January 1, but a good trade is looked for then. Offerings from furnaces are limited, and prices are well sustained, although some speculative lots have been placed at less than current quotations. Lake Superior charcoals have been advanced over $1 per ton, and several furnaces are out of the market on account of heavy orders booked for the next three months' delivery. Southern charcoals have advanced 70 cents. The Missouri furnaces are reported to have made heavy sales to Chicago buyers, and are now holding their brands firmly at figures given below. We quote for cash f. o. b. St. Louis:

HOT BLAST COKE AND CHARCOAL.

Southern Coke No. 1	$ 19 50
Southern Coke No. 2	19 00
Southern Coke No. 3	18 50
Southern Grey Forge	18 00
Southern Charcoal No. 1	19 50@20 00
Northern Charcoal No. 2	19 00@19 50
Missouri Charcoal No. 1, 2 and 3	21 00
Ohio Softeners	19 50@20 00

CAR WHEEL AND MALLEABLE IRON.

Lake Superior	$23 75@24 50
Southern	21 00@24 50

CONNELLSVILLE COKE.

East St. Louis	$5 25
St. Louis	5 40

An Active Week at Chicago.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.)

CHICAGO, December 20.—Commenting on the state of the iron market, Rogers, Brown & Co say: There is perhaps more activity in the Chicago market at the close of this week, so far as general buyers are concerned, than we have yet seen. The sharpadvance in Lake Superior charcoal and coke irons has convinced buyers that

A SOUTHSIDE BOOM.

Seventy Good Dwellings to be Erected at Beltzhoover Next Spring.

NO OPENING FOR NEW BANKS,

But Two or Three City Institutions Might Do Better in the East End.

BUSY BUTLER CORRALS A BIG PLANT

Butler is looking up as a manufacturing center. There has just been organized there, and chartered, an enterprise of considerable magnitude called the Butler Salt and Chemical Company. The capital is about $300,000, and the object is to manufacture articles in which the company has several lines of specialties in chemicals and other valuable products of a similar kind. For this purpose a number of fine buildings are being erected and almost finished, covering several acres of ground, on which there are five or six flowing salt wells.

The company has been organized on a very substantial basis, largely through the efforts of the President, Mr. Joseph Brittain, of Butler, and Messrs. Joseph Painter and James W. Drape & Co., of Pittsburg, and it offers to its lucky stockholders the prospect of very remunerative dividends. The company is already in receipt of orders sufficient to keep the works employed for several months.

A meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at Butler on Thursday next for the purpose of perfecting arrangements for putting the works in operation, which will be in a few weeks.

* * *

The natural attractions of the Southside for residence purposes are causing quite a movement in real estate circles over there. Beltzhoover is a point of great interest, although other districts—Mt. Washington, for instance—are not neglected. The new incline and promise of rapid transit are important factors in the movement.

A prominent Southside capitalist has so much faith in the permanency of the boom on that side of the river that he is negotiating for 70 building lots in the outskirts of Beltzhoover. The fact was mentioned yesterday, but details could not be given. It has been learned since that the purchase, if consummated, of which there is scarcely a doubt, will be for investment. A four or five-roomed house will be erected on each lot, and rented at a moderate price, so as to secure a good class of tenants.

Work will begin as early in the spring as possible. This will be the largest building job ever undertaken on the Southside, and the 70 houses will be quite an acquisition to the community. The cost of the ground and improvements will approximate $150,000.

* * *

Referring to reports of the organization of national banks in Lawrenceville, East Liberty and Wilkinsburg, a Fourth avenue financier remarked yesterday: "These people may mean business, but I doubt it. If they are practical business men they know, or ought to know, that there are too many banks here now, and some of them have hard sledding. Banking competition is greater in Pittsburg than in any other city in the country. As an illustration: A Chicago banker told me not long ago that his institution made about $50,000 a year selling premium on Eastern exchange. There is not a bank in Pittsburg that makes enough out of exchange to pay the salary of one clerk. This is not very encouraging for new banks.

"A better way would be to remove two or three of the city banks out there. This would be easier and more economical than to start new ones. It would ease up things in the city, and satisfy the ambition of the East Enders to have banks of their own. One or two good banks out there might do well, provided they could retain their old business and get the local patronage."

* * *

A Connellsville authority says of the coke trade: While it is active, the shipments for the last week were several hundred cars less than those of the week previous. This falling off is attributed to the fact that the furnace companies have become well supplied by the heavy shipments during the last few weeks, as they were the largest ever known in the region. The Illinois Steel Company, about the largest consumer of Connellsville coke, report their coke supply as good. The Eastern and Pittsburg trades are likewise well supplied. New cars of the Frick and McClure companies are arriving daily, but the Stewart Iron Company's new lot of 100 have not yet put in appearance. Work is progressing on new ovens, Contractor Sheehan has 42 of the new additional ovens to the Redtop plant at Tarrs completed, and the company will fire them shortly. Hostetter, Lippincott, Frick and McClure are having ovens completed daily. The Leisenring works No. 1, 500 ovens, which was idle a couple days last week on account of strike, is again in full operation. Fayette and Mahoning plants, numbering 280 ovens, are still idle, and the number of idle ovens is the same as last week, about 400. Part of the Standard Coke Works are idle on account of the slope being burned Tuesday night.

The shipments last week decreased 530 cars from the previous week, and the total output was 130,110 tons compared with 142,650 tons of the week before. Shipments averaging about 1,230 cars per day, with a total of 7,385 cars were distributed as follows: To points west of Pittsburg, 4,525 cars; to Pittsburg and river points, 1,470 cars; to points east of Pittsburg, 1,400 cars. Former prices are still quoted: Furnace coke, $1 75; foundry, $2 05: crushed, $2 55.

* * *

The sale of the Bennett building, on Fulton and Nassau streets, New York, has been talked of for some weeks, and it is rumored that the purchase price was $1,000,000, but the parties in interest decline to state the amount. The price, for some unusual reason, was not named in the deed, and it was understood that it was to remain a secret between buyer and seller. The building was bought by John Pettit, of Orange, N. J. He has told his friends that it is his purpose to make of his new purchase an office building which shall be second to none in the city.

The building was the personal property of James Gordon Bennett, Jr., he having bought it at the partition sale of his father's estate in 1884. He will continue to occupy the basement for extra boilers and the dynamos which generate the electricity to supply the lights in the *Herald* building, thus becoming a tenant of Mr. Pettit's. Why Mr. Bennett thus disposed of the property is not known.

STOCKS IMPROVED.

A Better Feeling Among Brokers, but Business Still Slack.

The characteristics of the stock market yesterday were good feeling and a moderate business. Sales were 160 shares, of which 110 were Philadelphia Gas and 50 Central Traction. The former opened steady at 29¾, but weakened in the afternoon to 29¼ on a sale of 100 shares, and closed at that price bid. The tractions were a shade stronger, as were Luster, Electric and Plate Glass. The latter closed at 190 asked. With a few exceptions the entire list was stronger, indicating that orders are coming in more freely.

	MORNING. Bid.	MORNING. Asked.	AFTERNOON. Bid.	AFTERNOON. Asked.
Keystone B'k of Pitts.	94	....	....	....
Third Nat. Bank	153	....	....	....
Tradesmen's Nat. B'k	245	....	....	....
Pitts. Gas Co., 10	66	80	....	....
Allegheny Heating Co.	....	100	....	....
Bridgewater Gas	29	....	....	....
Chartiers Valley G. Co.	40	50	....	....
Ohio Valley	....	31	....	....
Pennsylvania Gas Co.	....	13¼	....	....
Philadelphia Co.	29¾	29¾	29¼	29¼
Wheeling Gas Co.	20	25	....	....
Forest Oil Co.	....	....	368	....
Washington Oil Co.	80	90	80	....
Central Traction	32½	33	32½	33
Pitts. Traction	....	....	47	47½
Pleasant Valley	23	23½	23¼	23½
Pitts., A. & Man.	237	300	....	....
Chartiers Railway	45	....	....	....
Pitts. Junc. R. R.	27	....	....	....
Pt., Vs. & C. R. R. Co.	....	12¼	....	....
La Noria Mining Co.	....	¾	....	¾
Luster Mining Co.	22¼	....	....	....
Westinghouse Electric	46½	47	47	48
Pitts. Plate Glass Co.	185	190	....	190

At the first call 10 shares of Philadelphia Gas brought 29¾. Sales in the afternoon were 50 shares of Central Traction at 32½ and 100 Philadelphia Gas at 29¼.

The total sales of stocks at New York yesterday were 304,919 shares, including: Atchison, 5,978; Canada Southern, 13,161; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 28,680; Lake Shore, 4,653; Louisville and Nashville, 3,900; Michigan Central, 4,553; Missouri Pacific, 61,457; Northwestern, 3,775; Northern Pacific preferred, 6,215; Reading, 24,400; St. Paul, 20,875; Texas Pacific, 4,660; Union Pacific, 13,660; Western Union, 3,419.

MONEY WANTED.

The Demand at the Banks Keeps Up—Large Holiday Trade.

Local bankers reported a good demand for discounts yesterday at 6@7 per cent. Funds were reported somewhat easier, as a result of the large holiday trade. This is also reflected in the heavy checking and depositing. Currency was at a slight premium over exchange. The bank clearings were $2,859,567 40, and the balances $311,056 36.

Money on call at New York yesterday was close, ranging from 5 to 9 per cent; last loan, 6; closed at 5@6. Prime mercantile paper, 6@7½. Sterling exchange quiet and steady at $4 86¾ for 60-day bills and $4 84½ for demand.

Closing Bond Quotations.

U. S. 6s, reg	126	M. K. & T. Gen. 5s	65
U. S. 4s, coup	127½	Mutual Union 6s	109
U. S. 4½s, reg	109½	N. J. C. Int. Cert.	113½
U. S. 4½s, coup	109½	Northern Pac. 1sts	116½
Pacific 6s of '95	116	Northern Pac. 2sts	112½
Louisiana stamped 4s	90¾	Northw'n consols	144
Missouri 6s	102½	Northw'n deben's	110½
Tenn. new set. 6s	110	Oregon & Trans. 6s	103
Tenn. new set. 5s	105½	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5s	93½
Tenn. new set. 3s	74½	St. L. & S. F. Gen. M.	112½
Canada So. 2ds	97	St. Paul consols	129¼
Cen. Pacific 1sts	112	St. Pl. Chi & Pac. 1sts	118
Den. & R. G. 1sts	118	Tex. Pac. L. G. Tr. Rs.	90
Den. & R. G. 4s	76½	Tex., Pac. R. G. Tr. Rcts	27½
D. & R. G. West. 1sts	98½	Union Pac. 1sts	112
Erie, 2ds	103½	West Shore	106¼
M. R., & T. Gen. 6s	75½		

The following is a statement of United States bonds purchased from August 3, 1887, to and including December 14, 1889: Amount purchased, 4 per cents, $107,235,850; 4½s, $125,475,500; total, $233,701,350. Cost, 4 per cents, $137,104,788; 4½ per cents, $138,702,036; total, $275,806,824. Cost at maturity, 4 per cents, $186,741,460; 4½ per cents, $145,392,293; total, $332,133,753. Saving, 4s, $49,636,672; 4½s, $6,690,256; total, $56,326,928. The above purchases include $5,877,500 bonds surrendered by national bank depositaries in liquidation of their deposits.

NEW YORK—Clearings, $109,911,819; balances, $5,711,920.

BOSTON — Clearings, $14,961,842; balances, $1,508,293. Money, 3½@4 per cent.

BALTIMORE—Clearings, $1,068,441; balances, $258,657.

PHILADELPHIA—Clearings, $11,372,211; balances, $1,326,947.

LONDON—Bar silver 44d per ounce.

PARIS—Three per cent rentes, 87f for the account.

CHICAGO—Bank clearings were $11,411,000. New York exchange was 40@50c discount. The demand for money from various classes of merchants continues good and brokers are holding rates firm at 6 per cent on call and 6@8 per cent for time loans.

NO BETTER.

The Oil Market Shows No Improvement—Very Light Trading.

The oil market started in weak yesterday and nothing was done for a long time. The pykers then tried to start a bull movement, but failed, and the market fell off and remained weak to the close. Trading was unimportant.

The market opened at $1 03¾; highest, $1 04⅜; lowest, $1 03⅝; closing, $1 04. Refined was lower at London. Thursday's clearings were 726,000 barrels.

Features of the Market.

Corrected daily by John M. Oakley & Co., 45 Sixth street, members of the Pittsburg Petroleum Exchange.

Opened	103⅞	Lowest	103⅛
Highest	104⅜	Closed	104

	Barrels.
Average runs	33,763
Average shipments	80,790
Average charters	31,827

Refined, New York, 7.50c.
Refined, London, 6d.
Refined, Antwerp, 17sf.
Refined, Liverpool, 5 1-16d.
Refined, Bremen, 7.15m.
A. B. McGrew quotes: Puts, $1 03⅛; calls, $1 04⅛.

Other Oil Markets.

TITUSVILLE, December 20.—Opened at $1 03¾; highest, $1 04⅜; lowest, $1 03¾; closed, $1 03⅞.

OIL CITY, December 20.—Petroleum opened at $1 03¾; highest, $1 04⅜; lowest, $1 03¾; closed, $1 03⅞. Sales, 167,000 barrels: clearances, 1,196,000 barrels; charters, 22,222 barrels.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Petroleum opened steady at $1 03⅝, and after the first sale became strong, and advanced to $1 04¾. A reaction followed, after which the market closed steady at $1 03¾. Stock Exchange: Opening, $1 03⅝; highest, $1 04¾; lowest, $1 03⅝; closing, $1 03⅞. Consolidated Exchange: Opening, $1 03⅝; highest, $1 04¾; lowest, $1 03; closing, $1 03¾. Total sales, 476,000 barrels.

MOVEMENTS IN REALTY.

Some Good Deals, Showing That the Interest Keeps Up.

Alles & Bailey, 164 Fourth avenue, sold for Dan F. Mangan, No. 152 Webster avenue, Allegheny City, a frame dwelling, mansard, six rooms, hall, etc., lot 18 feet 4 inches by 100 feet to Veto street, to Thomas McGowan, for $2,900 cash.

Samuel W. Black & Co., 99 Fourth avenue, sold to W. Thomas, No. 289 Fifth avenue, Pittsburg, consisting of a two-story and mansard eight-room brick dwelling; lot 22 by about 113 to an alley, at a price approximating $12,000.

W. A. Herron & Sons sold for T. C. Carson, of Denver, Col., on Jackson street, Bellevue, a residence of five rooms, lot 40x170 feet, all in fair order, for $2,100.

Black & Baird, 99 Fourth avenue, sold to T. D. Chantior, Esq., lots Nos. 8 and 9, in the Lloyd estate plan, in Bellefield, having a frontage of 100 feet, on Bellefield avenue by about 120 in depth, for $5,000.

Ewing & Byers, 93 Federal street, Allegheny placed a $2,500 mortgage on Fifth ward property, to run three years, at 6 per cent, free of State tax.

James W. Drape & Co. sold a house and lot in the city, contiguous to Penn avenue and Fourth street, for $7,600. They have also an offer for a business property in the city of $28,000, and placed mortgages at $21,000 in amounts from $500 to $6,000 at 6 per cent on properties in Allegheny and Pittsburg and the East End. They also placed a mortgage of $10,000 at 5 per cent on a business property in the city.

Jamison & Bickle sold for Henry Casterman a lot on Rural avenue, Tenth ward, size 40x110 feet, to J. F. Ganster for $1,750 cash, and for Taos. P. Marshall five lots on Idlewood street, Twenty-first ward, size 25x149 feet, to Caroline MacFarren for $2,700. They also sold a mortgage on a farm in Plum township for $5,500, three years at 6 per cent, and two mortgages for $800 on East End property, three years, at 6 per cent.

STOCKS STRONGER.

They Sag Off a Little Under the Pressure of Tight Money, but More Than Recover Losses.

NEW YORK, December 20.—The stock market was more active and decidedly strong during the greater portion of the day, and although realizing, sagged off toward the close. Several material advances were scored as the result of the day's trading. The temper of the market was rather reactionary at the opening, dullness and stagnation being the principal features; but the reports of the remaining Vanderbilt roads, with the extra dividends, soon set things going, and activity and buoyancy took the place of the stagnation of the early hours.

Missouri Pacific and Western again led the market, and at its highest point it showed a gain of 3 per cent over its last night's figure. The settlement with the Kansas and Texas upon a basis of mutual advantage was the impelling cause, although even it did not move until the news from the Grand Central depot was received. Those who pretend to know expect there a further advance will take place.

The Vanderbilts were the conspicuous feature of the market, and from that on especially displayed marked strength, though, like the others, all of the improvement could not be held at the close. The Grangers also came to the front, and Burlington led the advance among them, and with St. Paul was more active than for some time. The Coal stocks were sluggish and considerable pressure was brought to bear upon them in the early dealings, resulting in a fractional decline, with Lackawanna leading. They became stronger with the rest of the list, however, and the early losses were wiped out, but in the upward movement met with considerable of a check when the money rates advanced, and during the afternoon money was up to 9 per cent, inducing realizations on a liberal scale, and the reaction from the best prices reached from ¼ to 1¼ per cent.

Owing to the increased interest in railroad shares, the unlisted department was quite neglected to-day. Sugar opened up 1¼ per cent, at 56⅝, but retired to 56⅛, and thereafter fluctuated within those limits, becoming very dull in the afternoon. The close was quiet and rather heavy at the reaction. Almost the entire active list is higher to-night, and Jersey Central is up 1⅝, Missouri Pacific 1⅝, Burlington and Quincy 1½, and Canada Southern 1 per cent.

Beyond the activity in Kansas and Texas 6s and the strength in the Iron Mountain 5s, there was little feature to the dealings in railroad bonds to-day. There was a firm tone, and the business done was as a rule well and widely distributed, the Kansas and Texas 6s contributing $118,000 to the day's total of $1,386,000.

The following table shows the prices or active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday. Corrected daily for THE DISPATCH by WHITNEY & STEPHENSON, oldest Pittsburg members of New York Stock Exchange, 57 Fourth avenue:

	Open-ing.	High-est.	Low-est.	Clos-ing Bid.
Am. Cotton Oil Trust	30¾	31¼	30¾	30
Am. Cotton Oil, pf.	....	....	....	80
Atch., Top. & S. F.	34	34½	33¾	34¼
Canadian Pacific	....	....	....	77½
Canada Southern	56	57½	56	56⅝
Central of New Jersey	121	122¾	121	122¾
Chesapeake & Ohio	24½	24¾	24¼	24¼
C., Bur. & Quincy	106⅝	108½	106⅝	107½
C., Mil. & St. Paul	76½	76½	76½	76½
C., Mil. & St. P., pf.	114¼	114¼	114¼	114¼
C., Rock I. & P.	93¾	93¾	93¾	93¾
C., St. L. & Pitts.	15	15	15	15¼
C., St. L. & Pitts. pf.	42¼	42¼	41¾	41¾
C., St. P., M. & O.	34	34¼	33	33¼
C., St. P., M. & O., pf.	99	99	99	99
C. & Northwestern	111¼	112	111¼	111¼
C., C., C. & I.	72	72	71½	71½
C., C., C. & I., pf.	97¾	97¾	97¾	97¾
Col. Coal & Iron	35¾	36½	35¾	36
Col. & Hocking Val.	....	....	....	19½
Del., L. & W.	137½	138½	136½	137
Del. & Hudson	145	146½	145	145
Denver & Rio G.	....	....	....	16
Denver & Rio G., pf.	49½	49½	49½	49½
E. T., Va. & Ga. 1st pf.	....	....	....	69
E. T., Va. & Ga. 2d pf.	....	....	....	21½
Illinois Central	118	118	118	118½
Lake Erie & Western	18	18	17¾	17¾
Lake Erie & West. pf.	....	....	....	65½
Lake Shore & M. S.	107½	108½	107½	107½
Louisville & Nashville	86¾	86½	86¼	86½
Michigan Central	98¾	99¼	98¾	98¾
Mobile & Ohio	....	....	....	13
Mo., Kan. & Texas	12½	12¾	11¾	11¾
Missouri Pacific	71¾	74¾	71¾	73½
New York Central	108½	109½	108½	109½
N. Y. & N. E.	44¾	45	44¼	44¼
N. Y., O. & W.	20½	21	20¾	20¾
Norfolk & Western	....	....	....	19
Norfolk & Western, pf.	60	60	60	60
Northern Pacific pref.	76¾	77	76¾	77¾
Ohio & Mississippi	....	....	....	21¾
Oregon Improvement	....	....	....	42½
Oregon Transcon.	35	35½	34¾	34¾
Pacific Mail	35¼	36¼	35¼	35
Peo., Dec. & Evans.	....	....	....	18
Philadel. & Reading	38¾	39¾	38¾	38¾
Pullman Palace Car	187½	187½	187	187
Richmond & W. P. T.	21¾	22¼	21¾	21¾
Richmond & W. P. T. pf.	....	....	....	80
St. P., Minn. & Man.	112½	113½	112	111¾
St. L. & San Fran.	....	....	....	15
St. L. & San Fran pf.	35½	35½	35½	35½
St. L. & San F. 1st pf.	....	....	....	75
Texas Pacific	20¼	21	20¼	20¼
Union Pacific	69½	69¾	69¼	69¾
Wabash	16	16¼	16	15¾
Wabash preferred	31	32¼	31	31½
Western Union*	84¾	84¾	83¾	83¾
Wheeling & L. E.	68½	68½	68	68
Sugar Trust	59¾	59¾	58½	58
National Lead Trust	19	19¾	19	19¾
Chicago Gas Trust	43¾	44	43	43¾

*Ex-dividend.

Philadelphia Stocks.

Closing quotations of Philadelphia stocks, furnished by Whitney & Stephenson, brokers, No. 57 Fourth avenue. Members New York Stock Exchange.

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Railroad	53¾	53⅞
Reading	19 5-16	19 7-16
Buffalo, Pittsburg & Western	7¾	8¼
Lehigh Valley	52⅝	52⅞
Lehigh Navigation	42¾	43¼
Northern Pacific	21½	22
Northern Pacific preferred	75¾	75½

THE MARKET BASKET.

Opportunities for Securing Fresh Vegetables Never Better at This Time of Year—Christmas Turkey Promises to be Uncomfortably High.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, FRIDAY, December 20, 1889.

It is very rare that fresh vegetables are to be found on the stalls in as good shape at this time of the year as they are this season. An old-time dealer in this line said to-day: "I can remember no season like this. We are able to furnish fresh tomatoes, cauliflower and string beans, cucumbers, and, in fact, about everything wanted for a sumptuous Christmas dinner almost as well as we could when the season for these things was at its height. Of course it requires more money to secure the stuff now, but we have it, and to the class with whom money is no consideration the opportunities for securing a variety for Christmas dinner have not been so good for many years as now."

Choice poultry tends upward as the holidays approach. Turkeys are fully 5c per pound higher than they were a week ago, and dealers look for still higher prices next week. The Christmas turkey that is not already engaged may go to 30c per pound. Last New Year's 35c per pound was paid in the Diamond Markets for choice turkeys.

The condition of weather the past few weeks has prevented shipments of poultry from the West, and it is now too late for the large shippers to flood the markets before Christmas, whatever the weather may be.

Florists report trade at its best. It is impossible to fix prices in this line, as everything depends on weather for the next few days. At present weather is favorable for the development of buds, but it is impossible to tell what a day may bring forth, and while we quote prices the same as last week these will be a poor criterion in case of sharp frosty weather between now and Christmas. The Christmas supplies fell far below demand, and American Beauty roses went up to $1 50 apiece, which was the price paid by our florists here to New York florists.

The demand for holiday mistletoe, bouquet green and Christmas trees was never better than it is to-day. Maryland and Virginia are the chief sources of supply for our holly and mistletoe. Bouquet green comes from Wisconsin and Michigan, and that of late years become a prominent industry of the half-breeds. Our Christmas trees are grown in large quantities in the nurseries adjoining the Schenley Park. Those produced in the nurseries are much neater and command better prices than those gathered from the woods. The range of prices for Christmas trees is from 50c up to $2.

Following are the retail prices of market basket filling as furnished by leading retail dealers:

The best cuts of tenderloin steak range from 20 to 25c, with last figure for very fancy; sirloin, best cuts, from 15 to 18c; standing rib roast, from 15 to 20c; chuck roast, 10 to 12c; best round steak, 15c; boiling beef, 5 to 8c; sweet breads, 20 to 50c per pair; beef kid