LIVE STOCK REVIEW.

Run of Cattle Lighter and Quality Lower This Week Than

LAST AT EAST LIBERTY YARDS.

Good Beeves Stronger, and Common Stock Weak and Lower.

GOOD SHEEP FIRM—HOGS DROOPING

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, WEDNESDAY, Dec. 17, 1890.

There were close to 100 loads of cattle less this week than last week on the markets at East Liberty. The total on sale this week was about 140 loads. A large proportion of the offerings was common and low grade stock, which had to go begging for buyers. The average quality of this week's receipts was lower than usual. The most liberal estimate did not place the offerings of good beeves above 20 per cent of the total. Light, tidy butcher cattle weighing from 1,100 to 1,200 lbs were in very scant supply, and for the reason of their scarcity, markets were strong at a shade better prices than last week. All common grades were off from 10c to 15c, and slow. Good export cattle were in good demand at last week's prices. Farmers are evidently of the opinion that it won't pay to winter low grade stock at present high prices of feed, and hence, are sending unusually large numbers of thin kine to our markets. There was a very large run of poor thin heifers in this week's offerings at East Liberty, and prices were the lowest of the season. There was a short run of fresh cows, and, while demand was light, fancy stock was a shade stronger with $30 a head as top price. There was also a short supply of veal calves, but demand was light and top price was 6c, with very few selling at this figure. The general price was 5½c per lb. Heavy calves were dull and slow at a range of 2½@3½c per lb.

Export cattle were quoted at $4 50@4 60, and a few extras were sold above the latter figure.

Sheep and lambs—On Monday morning markets opened with 15 carloads on sale, against 20 loads the previous Monday. Good stock was in active demand at a shade better prices than last week, and common stock was steady at last week's prices.

The top price paid for sheep was $5 20, and lambs $6 50. These prices were paid for fancy stock, of which supply was very light, there being but a few hundred on sale. In general it was the outside price for sheep, and 6c for lambs. The features of the market as they appeared on Monday are essentially the same to-day. The run since Monday has been light, and all good stock holds firm.

Hogs—There were 65 loads on sale Monday morning, and while quality of offerings was above late average, markets opened slow at a decline from last week's prices. This morning there were 15 loads on the market, and the extreme top price was $3 65. The heavy snow which kept buyers away may have had something to do with low prices, but the fact was that very few hogs reached $3 65 this morning. According to advices received to-day by one of our leading packers from his buyer at Chicago, receipts of hogs there were 45,000 head and top price was $3 40@3 50. With corn at present prices there is hardly anything cheaper going than hogs at rates prevailing, and an upward movement cannot much longer be delayed.

McCall & Co.'s Weekly Review

The supply of cattle fair. Market active and a shade higher on good to prime butcher grades and heavy shipping, while common and medium ruled slow at last week's prices, market closing strong. We give the following as ruling prices: Prime, 1,200 to 1,600 lbs, $4 50 to $4 85; good, 1,200 to 1,400 lbs, $4 00 to $4 30; good butcher grades, 1,100 to 1,300 lbs, $3 60 to $3 90; good fat, 1,100 to 1,300 lbs, $3 25 to $4 00; good feeders, 1,000 to 1,200 lbs, $3 00 to $3 50; common to fair stockers and feeders, 700 to 1,000 lbs, $2 25 to $2 75; mixed lots, cows, bulls and heifers, $1 50 to $2 50; fresh cows and springers, $20 to $40 per head.

The receipts of hogs Monday were heavy and the market ruled slow; several loads left unsold at the close. Yesterday and to-day the supply was fair and the market slow at the following quotations: Philadelphias, $3 60 to $3 65; good mixed, $3 50 to $3 55; best Yorkers, $3 30 to $3 40; common to fair light, $3 15 to $3 25; roughs, $2 25 to $3 00.

The supply of sheep liberal mostly common on sale; market dull and slow on all grades except prime, which sold at last week's prices. We quote as follows: Prime Ohio and Indiana wethers, weighing here 105 to 110 lbs, $5 00 to $5 25; good, 90 to 100 lbs, 4½c to 4¾c; fair to good mixed, 75 to 85 lbs, 3½c to 3¾c; culls and common lots, 1½c to 2½c; good yearlings, $4 50 to $5 00; fair to good, 50 to 60 lbs, $3 25 to $4 00; lambs, common to best, $4 50 to $6 25; veal calves, 110 to 120 lbs 5½c to 6½c; heavy calves slow, $2 25 to $3 00.

By Telegraph.

CHICAGO — Cattle — Receipts, 13,000 head; shipments, 4,000 head; market showed little or no improvement; Christmas steers, $5 00@5 25; good to choice, $4 25@4 90; shipping and dressed beef, $1 00@2 50; stockers and feeders, $1 75@2 25. Hogs—Receipts, 45,000 head; market weak; common light mixed, $3 15@3 25; fair to good mixed and packers, $3 35@3 45; prime heavy and butchers' weights, $3 50@3 55; regular light, $3 35@3 45. Sheep—Receipts, 9,000 head; shipments, 3,000 head; market steady to shade easier; Western stockers, $3 65; natives, $4 00@4 80; common to good Western, $3 60@4 75; Texans, $3 25@4 50; lambs, $4 75@6 00.

NEW YORK—Beeves—Receipts, 7,746 head, including 38 cars for sale; native steers, $3 25@5 40; bulls and cows, $1 25@3 10; dressed beef steady at 6½@7½c; shipments to-day, 600 beeves and 5,040 quarters of beef, to-morrow, 962 beeves. Calves—Receipts, 729 head; market steady; grassers, $2 12½@2 50; Westerns, $2 80@3 12½. Sheep—Receipts, 7,053 head; market firm; sheep, $4 00@6 12½; lambs, $5 75@5 75; dressed mutton firm at 7½@9c; dressed lambs, 9½@10c. Hogs—Receipts, 8,975 head, all consigned direct; nominally steady at $3 25@3 65.

ST. LOUIS—Cattle—Receipts, 4,100 head; shipments, 200 head; market higher; good to fancy native steers, $4 70@5 00; fair to good do, $4 00@4 70; stockers and feeders, $2 20@3 80; Texans and Indians, $2 25@3 50. Hogs—Receipts, 9,200 head; shipments, 600 head; market slow; fair to choice heavy, $3 40@3 50; mixed grades, $3 00@3 40; light, fair to best, $3 00@3 15. Sheep—Receipts, 1,200 head; shipments, none; good to choice, $4 00@4 40.

KANSAS CITY—Cattle—Receipts, 4,140 head; shipments, 2,440 head; market steady; steers, $3 30@4 90; Christmas steers, $5 00@5 30; cows and stockers and feeders, $2 25@3 25. Hogs—Receipts, 14,609 head; shipments, 1,365 head; market be lower; bulk, $3 20@3 40; all grades, $2 60@3 55. Sheep—Receipts, 1,670 head; shipments, 130 head; market steady and unchanged.

BUFFALO—Cattle nothing doing; receipts, 18 loads through, no sale. Sheep and lambs dull and lower; receipts, 8 loads through, 40 sale. Sheep, choice to extra, $4 75@$5; good to choice, $4 50@$4 70. Lambs, choice to extra, $5 85@$6 15; good to choice, $5 50@5 60. Hogs steady; receipts, 15 loads through, 35 sale; mediums and heavy, $3 50.

BRITISH DRYGOODS REVIEW.

Market Quiet With Light Sales, But Hopes of Early Improvement.

MANCHESTER, Dec. 17.—The *Guardian*, in its commercial article say: "The market is quiet. There has been moderate progress, and a few average sales have been made. The closing of the year has decreased the volume of business. The eastern sections are not yet benefited by the rise in exchange in consequence of the prospect of extensive purchases of silver by the United States. India merchants are hopeful of improvement, and some are inquiring more freely. Prices are steady. "There is a better inquiry for export yarns. The sales are light. The home demand is slow. In view of the moderate sales, consumers have little belief that prices will be maintained. Spinners are mostly firm. Shirtings are steady. There is little business for India. Fine and fancy goods are well sold, as are also most of the favorite makes of China shirtings. Makers of high reed printing cloths and other finishing goods are in a better position, and prices are steady. The inquiry for heavy goods is small, but there is little pressure to sell."

New York Coffee Market.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Coffee options opened steady at unchanged prices; closed firm, unchanged 5 points up, dull. Sales, 15,750 bags, including December, 17.25@17.30c; January, 16.40@16.45c; February, 15.90@15.95c; March, 15.50c; May, 15.20c; July, 14.55c. Spot Rio quiet but firm.

Drygoods.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The situation in drygoods was unchanged, a remarkably steady tone pervading the market under the circumstances and increasing confidence being felt. Goods continue well sold up as a rule, and quotations are unchanged.

Metal Market.

NEW YORK—Copper stagnant. Lead dull and heavy; domestic, $4 10. Tin dull and easy; straits, $20 80.

ST. LOUIS—Wool market quiet.

Stocks, Grain, Oil.

McGrew, Wilson & Co., Eisner building, cor. Fifth ave. and Wood st.

MARKETS BY WIRE.

A Flurry in Corn in the Afternoon Booms the Grain Market, Which Otherwise Would Have Been Dull—Wheat Feels the Influence.

CHICAGO—There was a slight improvement in the tone of the wheat market when trading commenced. First sales were at $1 for the May delivery, with some trading also at $1 00⅛. The offerings were rather in excess of the demand at those prices, and 99⅞c soon became the trading price. There was a decline to 99½c within the first 15 minutes, and for two hours succeeding that time the fluctuations kept within the limit of the price last named and 99⅝c. The liveliness which, shortly after 12 o'clock, was observable in the corn crowd, woke up the slumbering wheat pit, and there was lively music from the shorts, as the prices made a sudden advance from around 99⅝c to $1 00¼. Then came reported liberal sales of flour for export and the purchase of nine loads of wheat at Duluth for export, which helped to maintain the firmness. The market maintained the strength it had so suddenly acquired until it closed, and the trading price as the bell tapped was $1 00¼, which was the highest price of the day, with an easy tone.

The corn pit for a long time looked as if its life had been suspended. Prices had a drooping tendency, which was not disturbed to any great extent till about noon. Near that hour an inquiry for December corn all at once appeared to spring out of the ground without premonitory warning, no one appearing to have any for sale, although 53c were bid for it; 53⅝c was offered; very little came out at the advance, and the buyers being urgent they offered in quick succession 54c and 54⅛c, 55c and 56c before the orders. The prices did not, after once passing 54c, get below it again and in the last few minutes it made a further advance to 54¾c and closed steady with buyers at 54⅝c. The closing price to-day for December is one cent higher than at the corresponding time yesterday.

There was a light trade in oats. The market opened steady at 45c for May, declining with corn to 44⅝@44¾c. There was an advance to 45⅜c, after which the price reacted to 45⅛c, the closing being ⅜c higher at that figure.

The provision market started in inanimate and at about the prices of the day before. The tendency shortly after trading commenced was downward, and this was continued during the forenoon, but owing to the strength developed in the grain markets there was a rally later, and prices for pork showed a moderate advance over those at the corresponding time on the day before. Lard and ribs were virtually unchanged from yesterday's prices as trading ceased. The heavy receipts of hogs were a depressing feature, and the price reported from the yards was maintained at and below the former low level.

The leading futures ranged as follows, as corrected by John M. Oakley & Co., 45 Sixth street, members Chicago Board of Trade:

ARTICLES.	Opening.	High-est.	Low-est.	Closing.
WHEAT, No. 2				
December	91	91⅛	90⅝	91⅛
January	....	....	....	....
May	$1 00	$1 01⅛	99⅝	$1 00¼
CORN, No. 2				
December	53	56	53	54⅝
January	50⅝	52⅝	50⅝	52
May	53⅝	54⅝	53¼	54⅝
OATS, No. 2				
December	41⅛	42¼	41⅛	42
January	41⅝	42½	41⅛	42⅛
May	43	45⅜	44⅝	45⅜
MESS PORK.				
December	8 25	....	....	8 25
January	10 32	10 37½	10 15	10 27½
May	11 20	11 25	11 12½	11 23
LARD.				
December	5 62½	5 67½	5 62½	5 67½
January	5 62½	5 67½	5 62½	5 67½
May	5 37½	5 40	5 37½	5 40
SHORT RIBS.				
December	4 85	4 85	4 85	4 85
January	5 05	5 07½	5 02½	5 05
May	5 67½	5 67½	5 62½	5 67½

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour unchanged; No. 2 spring wheat, 91¼c; No. 3 spring wheat, 83@87½c; No. 2 red, 92@92½c; No. 2 corn, 53c; No. 2 oats, 42c; No. 2 rye, 67c; No. 2 barley nominal; No. 1 flaxseed, $1 16; prime timothy seed, $1 19@1 20. Mess pork, per bbl, $8 25@8 37½. Lard, per 100 lbs, $5 67½. Short ribs sides (loose), $4 90@4 95; dry salted shoulders (boxed), $4 50@4 60; short clear sides (boxed), $5 20@5 25. Sugars unchanged. Nos. 2 and 3 white oats, no sales. On the Produce Exchange to-day the butter market was unchanged. Eggs easier at 25@24c.

NEW YORK—Flour firm, quiet. Cornmeal steady, firm demand. Wheat—Spot market stronger with options dull; No. 2 red, $1 04⅛@1 04⅝, in elevator; $1 05⅞@1 06 afloat; $1 05⅞@1 07⅝ f. o. b.; No. 1 red, 99⅝c; $1 00; No. 1 Northern, $1 08¼; No. 1 hard, $1 12¼; options declined ¼@⅝c, reacted and closed firm at ⅜@⅝c advance on yesterday. Sales included No. 2 red, March, $1 06 5-16@1 06⅞; closing at $1 06⅞; May, $1 05 13-16@1 06⅞, closing at $1 06⅝; July, 99⅛@$1 00⅜, closing at $1 00⅜; August, 98⅛@98⅝c, closing at 98⅜c. Rye steady and quiet. Barley quiet and weak. Barley malt easy and quiet. Corn—Spot market firm and quiet; options advanced ⅝@1c, closing strong and quiet; January, 60⅝@61⅝c, closing at 61⅛c; February, 60⅞@61⅞c, closing at 61⅛c; May, 59⅝@60c, closing at 60⅛c. Oats—Spot market firm, quiet and 1/8@¼c higher; options fairly active and higher; January, 49@49⅝c, closing at 49⅝c; May, 50⅛@51⅛c, closing at 51⅛c; spot No. 2 white, 49½@50c; mixed Western, 46@50c; white do, 48@56c. No. 2 Chicago, 49½@50c. Tallow quiet and steady. Eggs dull and unchanged. Pork, quiet and steady. Cut meats, quiet and easy. Lard opened weak, closed strong and quiet; Western steam, 26 02½; sales 1,250 tierces at $6 02½@6 05; options sales 4,000 tierces; January, $6 11@6 12, closing $6 12 bid; February, $6 20@6 27, closing $6 27 bid; March, $6 30, closing $6 40 bid; April, $6 51@6 52, closing $6 51 bid; May, $6 60 bid. Butter, quiet and rather easy. Cheese, quiet and firm.

ST. LOUIS — Flour firm but unchanged. Wheat—After an opening of ½c up for May and July, there was an immediate weakening and the market ruled quiet and easy, fluctuations being slight; later there was a rally, trading became active and values advanced sharply with but slight setbacks to the close. No. 2, cash, 95@96c; January, 96c bid; May, $1 00 bid; July, 89½c. Corn—The market ruled steady at yesterday's close. Trading was dull and the range of prices narrow until about 12 o'clock when there was a rally and values advanced rapidly to the close, which was ⅞@1c above yesterday's final figures; No. 2 cash, 48⅝c; December, 48⅝c; May, 50⅝@50½c; July, 52c. Oats firm and higher; No. 2 cash, 43½c bid; May, 45½c. Rye—Nothing done. Barley steady, but demand slow; Minnesota, 65c; Nebraska, 72@74c. Provisions dull; the principal sales were January sales by the highbinder. There was a moderate job and order business. Pork, $10 00. Lard, $5 50@5 55.

MINNEAPOLIS—The demand for spot wheat was brisk to-day, and there was also good request for good milling wheat to arrive. Considerable No. 1 Northern sold to arrive at near the price of spot grain. The receipts continued small and shipments full, which left only 52 cars more that arrived than that departed. That feature created some uneasiness among millers, and they bought as liberally as the character of offerings would admit of; purchases to be shipped to outside mills made a demand too large to be supplied by the light arrivals. Low grades went fairly. Closing quotations: No. 1 hard, December, 93c; January, 94c on track, 93⅝@94c; No. 1 Northern, December, 89c; January, 90½c; May, 97½c bid; on track, 90½@91c; No. 2, Northern, December, 87c; January, 88c; on track, 87@88c.

PHILADELPHIA—Flour quiet and nominal. Wheat—Spot dull; options nominal. Corn—Spot steady; options quiet; No. 4 Western, on track, December, 57½c; January, 57¼@57½c; February and March, 58@58¼c. Oats—Car lots irregular; options dull and weak; No. 2 mixed, 49c; No. 2 white, 50@50½c; No. 2 white, December, 49½c; January, 49½@49¾c; February, 50⅝@51c; March, 50⅝@52c. Eggs dull and weak; Pennsylvania firsts, 27c.

BALTIMORE—Wheat—Western dull; No. 2 winter red, spot and December, 96c; January, 96⅝c; May, $1 03. Corn—Western steady, mixed spot, 57½c; year, 56⅝@56⅞c; January, 57@57¼c; May, 57½c bid. Oats, steamer 54c bid. Oats quiet. Rye quiet. Hay firm. Provisions quiet. Butter firm. Eggs quiet; strictly fresh, 26@27c.

MILWAUKEE — Flour unchanged. Wheat firm; No. 2 spring, on track, cash, 88@90c; May, 93⅝c; No. 1 Northern, 99c. Corn quiet; No. 3, on track, 48½c. Oats dull; No. 2 white, 43@43½c. Barley firmer; No. 2 in store, 66c. Rye easier; No. 1, in store, 97½@98c. Provisions quiet. Pork—January, $10 25. Lard—January, $5 05.

DULUTH—Wheat was weak most of the day, but closed slightly higher than it did yesterday. Receipts were 131 cars. Closing quotations: December, 92c; May, $1 01¼ bid; No. 1 hard, 92½; No. 1 Northern, 87½c; No. 2 Northern, 80½c.

TOLEDO—Wheat firm and higher; cash and December, 97c; May, $1 01½. Corn dull and steady; cash and December, 52c; May, 53½c. Oats quiet; cash, 47c. Cloverseed dull; cash, $4 10; February, $4 22½.

THE following is a partial list of the Pittsburg and Allegheny City druggists who sell Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, famous for its cures of severe colds and as a preventative for croup. E. G. Stucky, 1701 and 2401 Penn avenue; E. G. Stucky & Co., cor. Wylie avenue and Fulton street; Markell Bros., cor. Penn and Frankstown avenues; Carl Hartwig, 4016 Butler street; John C. Smith, cor. Penn avenue and Main street, Jas. L. McConnel & Co., 455 Fifth avenue, T. W. D. Hieber, 1251 Penn avenue, Pittsburg; C. F. Nourse, Center avenue and Erin street, and W. E. McCarthy, Liberty avenue and Cedar street, Pittsburg; and in Allegheny by E. E. Heck, 72 and 194 Federal street; Thos. R. Morris, cor. Hanover and Preble avenues; A. J. Kaercher, 59 Federal street; Chas. L. Walther, 64 Chestnut street; W. S. Beach, 676 Fifth avenue, and Spohn & Murphy, No. 2 Carson street, S. S. thsu

THEY SAWED WOOD.

People Kept Indoors by the Weather Put in the Time Thinking.

A GOOD DAY FOR CONCLUSIONS.

Fair Trading in Local Securities, but Values Soft Like the Weather.

THE NEWS AND GOSSIP OF THE CITY

Business people remained indoors yesterday except when the spur of necessity compelled them to brave the slush and miniature rivers into which the gutters were converted. Street traffic was cut down to the minimum and nearly all kinds of outdoor employment were suspended. Snow shoveling was the only industry that was pursued with much vigor.

Some people may think—indeed some so expressed themselves—that yesterday was a "lost day" so far as business was concerned. This is a mistake. While little was done in the way of buying and selling there was a good deal of thinking—"sawing wood," as people, sometimes say—for future use. Many a man while sitting at his window, watching the descent of the "beautiful snow," formed new plans or perfected old ones which will shape his course for the rest of his life, and have an important bearing upon some of the interests of the city.

So, while hands were comparatively idle, brains were at work forming plans and laying out work to be prosecuted under more auspicious circumstances. The enforced idleness of many, therefore, had its advantages as well as its drawbacks. It afforded them a breathing spell and gave them an opportunity to pull their thoughts together so as to more clearly discern the salient features of the business in hand.

That it was not a "lost day" is shown by the following relation of a prominent real estate broker. Said he: "Some of the largest and most profitable transactions in which I have been engaged were due to such days as this. People remained at home and thought. Free from interruption they could see things in a clear light, and it was comparatively easy to reach conclusions. Many a time has the remark been made to me: 'Well, I didn't feel like coming out yesterday so I stayed at home and talked over that offer of yours with my wife.' We finally concluded that the property would suit us and I decided to take it.' Such instances are very common."

It is an interesting fact that the conclusion to purchase the Tradesmen's Bank property, which brought the highest price ever realized in this city, was formed on a day that imprisoned everybody but the necessitous. The principals to the transaction had been sticking for some time without coming to terms. On the day in question they had a conference, and having nothing else to do remained together until all differences were settled and the trade consummated.

Lafayette Hall, the cradle of the Republican party and scene of many stirring events in local history, changed ownership about two years ago on a similar day, which drove people indoors and kept them there.

There is good in everything. Even financial flurries convey a useful lesson. They teach people to be cautious. Although philosophy had to be drawn upon to enable the average citizen to see anything profitable in the late ocean of slush which covered the streets yesterday, there is little doubt that many schemes were hatched which will prove of great advantage to the community.

* * *

Business News and Gossip.

Three or four important deals for property on Fifth avenue are under way, and one of them is almost certain to materialize. It involves about $200,000. The matter is mentioned to show that something is going on.

It was stated yesterday that work on two new school houses in the Tenth ward, Allegheny, will begin early in the spring. They were recommended at a public meeting held early in November, as mentioned in this column at the time.

Thre were 47 mortgages on file yesterday, but all were for small amounts, the largest being for $6,000. Each of 18 was for less than $1,000.

Odd Fellows' Hall, on Collins avenue, has been completed and occupied. It was lighted up Monday for the first time, and looks well.

Five three-story business houses on Frankstown avenue, near Station street, in a block, are under roof. This improvement, it is thought, will divert considerable trade from Penn avenue.

It costs the real estate brokers of Pittsburg about $10,000 a year for sign boards.

Brickmaking promises to become one of the leading industries of Pittsburg. At least $500,000 will be invested in new plants next year.

Henry M. Long sold 20 shares of Monongahela National Bank between $126 and $127.

For the first time this year no building permits were issued yesterday.

Jupiter Pluvius silences all opposition when it gets down in earnest. The Standard Oil Company has to knock under for him.

If talk counts for anything Pittsburg will have several new hotels. It was said yesterday that two well-known gentlemen were looking up a site for one near the Court House.

Movements in Realty.

W. A. Herron & Sons reported that the market for real estate keeps very good for the season of the year, and notwithstanding the bad day they closed the sale of a Second avenue property, near Ferry street, at $200 per foot front, but refused further particulars until the deed is delivered and the sale fully closed.

J. E. Glass & Co. sold three more lots, each 24x100, in Allequippa Place plan, Thirteenth ward, for $1,350. These lots are 24 feet sold in that plan by this firm within six weeks.

William Petty & Co. sold to S. A. Will one of those elegant eight-roomed brick houses in Elba square for $5,000.

Black & Baird sold for Isabella Golden to August S. Floto the property on the corner of Shilo and Sycamore streets, Mt. Washington, being 75x113 feet, with a frame dwelling thereon, for $6,300.

Brown & Saint sold to T. S. Duncan lot No. 227 in the Bank of Commerce addition plan, fronting 40 feet on the south side of Kelly street, Brushton, and extending back 137 feet to a 20-foot alley, for $600.

John K. Ewing & Co. sold for Mrs. Ellen R. Mellison to John A. Donald a vacant lot 20x100, on Steep street, Allegheny, for $350 cash.

Samuel W. Black & Co. sold the property No. 634 Fifth avenue, being a three-story brick dwelling of 10 rooms, etc.; also in rear, fronting on Ann street, two four-roomed frame dwellings, total rental $840, for $10,000.

STILL HUNTING BOTTOM.

Considerable Business in Local Stocks, but Values Decidedly Weak.

Quite a jag of business was transacted on the local stock board yesterday—265 shares—but the feeling was akin to the weather, and weakness was the predominating feature.

Price changes were for fractions in all cases, but they were nearly all losses. Charters Valley making the worst break. Pleasant Valley was about the strongest thing on the list.

	FIRST CALL.		SECOND CALL.		THIRD CALL.	
	B	A	B	A	B	A
Com. Nat. Bank	....	104	....	....	....	....
Key'ne B. of P.	....	....	....	25	....	....
Marine N. Bank	....	110	....	....	....	....
Masonic Bank..	....	66½	....	....	....	66½
Merchants'	....	70	....	....	....	....
German A. Ins.	53½	....	....	....	....	....
C. V. Gas Co.	15	17	....	15	13	14½
P. N. G. & Co.	....	....	....	....	....	....
Penna. Gas....	9¾	11½	....	....	9½	....
Phila. Co.....	13⅞	14½	13½	14½	13⅝	13⅞
Wheeling Gas Co	....	14½	....	15	....	....
Columbia Oil. Co	....	2	....	....	....	....
Ft. Pitt Incline.	....	....	....	27	....	....
Central Traction	18	19½	19¼	19½	18¾	19¼
Citizens' Trac'n.	....	62½	....	....	....	....
Pleasant Valley.	24½	25	24½	25	24½	25
Second Avenue..	....	62	....	....	....	....
Luster Mining..	19½	20½	....	....	19½	20½
Westinghouse A.	14	14½	13¾	14½	13½	13¾
Monon. W. Co...	27	29	27	....	27	29
U. S. & S. Co...	....	13	....	13	....	....
West'house A. B	....	110	....	....	102	109
W. B. Co. Lim..	....	74	....	....	....	....
Stan. Un. C. Co.	....	....	....	70	....	....

Sales at first call were 100 shares of Electric at 14¼, and 40 Philadelphia Gas at 14. At second call 10 Central Traction sold at 19¾, and 10 Philadelphia Gas at 13⅞. After call 10 Central Traction brought 19¾. Sales at third call were 20 Electric at 13¾, 15 Pleasant Valley at 24¾, 35 Philadelphia Gas at 13¾, 5 Airbrake at 103 and 20 at 105 b. o. 30.

The total sales of stocks at New York yesterday were 145,489 shares, including: Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, 23,440; Louisville and Nashville, 12,050; Missouri Pacific, 7,060; Northern Pacific preferred, 8,583; Reading, 3,200; St. Paul, 18,165; Union Pacific, 18,969.

MONEY MARKET.

The Situation a Little More Comfortable for Borrowers—Exchanges Improved.

A number of local financial authorities yesterday agreed in the statement that the financial situation was steadily improving, and that money would be plentiful soon after the opening of the near year.

Accommodations were more freely extended to all having a right to credit at the banks, and more attention was paid to outsiders, showing that the lines are already beginning to relax.

Bank clearings showed a decided improvement on those of the two previous days, returning to their old position above the $4,000,000 mark. They footed up $2,165,567 29. The balances were $228,462 12.

Money on call at New York yesterday was easy, ranging from 2 to 4 per cent, last loan 3, closed offered at 3. Prime mercantile paper, 7¼@10. Sterling exchange active and strong at $4 80 for 60-day bills and $4 84 for demand.

Closing Bond Quotations.

U. S. 4s, reg.....	121	M. K. & T. Gen. 5s..	37¾
U. S. 4s, coup.....	122	Mutual Union 6s....	101
U. S. 4½s, reg.....	108	N. J. C. Int. Cert..	107
U. S. 4½s, coup.....	109	Northern Pac. 1sts..	114½
Pacific 6s of '95....	109	Northern Pac. 2ds..	109¾
Louisiana stamped 4s	93½	Northw'tn consols.	135
Missouri 6s.....	—	Nortw'n deben's 5s.	105
Tenn. new set. 6s...	101½	Oregon & Trans. 6s.	—
Tenn. new set. 5s...	105	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5s.	90½
Tenn. new set. 3s...	68	St. L. & S. F. Gen. M.	107¼
Canada So. 2ds.....	105	St. Paul consols....	129
Central Pacific 1sts.	110¼	St. P. Chi & Pac. 1sts.	113½
Den. & R. G. 1sts..	112½	Tex., Pac. L. G. Tr. Rs.	83⅝
Den. & R. G. 4s....	75¾	Tex., Pac. R. G. Tr. Rs.	20⅝
D. & R. G. West 1sts.	—	Union Pacific 1sts..	111¼
Erie 2ds.....	96	West Shore.....	100
M. K. & T. Gen. 4s..	72		

NEW ORLEANS—Clearings, $2,314,218.

MEMPHIS—New York Exchange selling at par. Clearings, $537,963.

ST. LOUIS—Clearings, $3,412,733; balances, $275,664. New York Exchange 50 cent premium. Money 7@8 cent.

NEW YORK—Clearings, $111,313,289; balances, $5,474,660.

BOSTON—Clearings, $16,401,361; balances, $1,850,606. Money 5 per cent. Exchange on New York 17c discount.

CHICAGO—Clearings, $13,217,348. New York exchange was 90c discount. Rates were firm and unchanged at 7 per cent for all classes of loans.

PHILADELPHIA—Clearings, $11,832,172; balances, $1,969,448. Money, 6 per cent.

BALTIMORE—Clearings, $2,264,366; balances, $271,970. Money, 6 per cent.

KNOCKED OUT.

Local Oil Dealers Left to Their Own Resources Do Nothing.

The oil crowd had no regular connection by wire with New York yesterday, and not knowing what was going on there did nothing themselves; hence no sales. At the start oil was was opened at 64, but practically there was no opening, and no other figures were mentioned. At the last it was stated that 63¾ had been bid in New York. Refined was steady and unchanged.

Other Oil Markets.

OIL CITY, Dec. 17.—National Transit Certificates opened at 63½c; highest, 65c; lowest, 63⅝c; closed at 64⅝c. Sales, 223,000 barrels clearances, 212,000 barrels; shipments 115,515 barrels; runs, 98,670 barrels.

BRADFORD, Dec. 17.—National Transit Certificates opened at 63⅝c; closed, 64⅝c; highest, 65½c; lowest, 63⅝c; clearances, 418,000 barrels.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Petroleum opened steady, but in the afternoon advanced on small buying orders from the West, and closed firm. Pennsylvania oil, spot, opening, 64½c; highest, 64⅝c; lowest, 63⅝c; closing, 64⅝c. January opening, 63⅝c; highest, 63⅝c; lowest, 63½c; closing, 64⅝c. Lima oil—No sales. Total sales, 37,000 barrels.

NEW YORK STOCKS.

The Market Oversold and Prices Higher—Effect of a Probable Government Purchase of Silver—British Gold for Berlin.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The stock market today was very dull and exceedingly narrow, but remained firm to strong, with the exception of a short time in the forenoon, when there was an attempt to knock it down on the theory that London was selling stocks. The market at present is again oversold, and any attempt of the bears to cover causes a quick advance in prices.

One of the chief influences in the strength displayed to-day was the publication of the proposed financial legislation. The evidence that the opinion in favor of the proposed railroad agreement is growing, creates a good impression.

In regard to the silver question, it is the opinion in Wall street that if the Government makes a purchase of $12,000,000 or $13,000,000 of silver there will be an end to the speculation in certificates, because there will then not be enough of them afloat to give speculators a chance to operate in them.

The market to-day opened higher, but soon the upward movement was checked by the bear operations, and Union Pacific was knocked down 1 per cent, and the others fractions. The current was then turned, and prices from that time failed to show weakness in any manner for the remainder of the day. Lackawanna was subjected to a squeeze of the shorts, and took the lead in the upward movement, but Union Pacific was sluggish, and did not fully respond to the temper of the rest of the operations. Pacific Mail was strong, Western Union the prospects of the subsidy bill coming up for action, and it spurted 4 per cent on very light trading. The rest of the list was favorably affected by the action of the three companies on the new agreement, and Rock Island, Louisville and Northwestern were all prominent in the advance which followed.

The market finally closed dull but strong at the highest prices of the day, and the final changes are all in the direction of higher figures—closing sales showing a gain of 2¼ Louisville, 1¾; Jersey Central, Missouri Pacific and Northwestern, each 1¼; Northern Pacific preferred and Rock Island, each 1½; Canada Southern, New England and Union Pacific, each 1 per cent.

Railroad bonds were duller than for a long time, and failed to record many marked changes, the tone of the dealings being quiet and fairly steady throughout the session. The sales of all issues were $814,000.

The *Post* says: The movement of gold from London to Berlin, though quite large, being now over £1,000,000 in the last three days, does not necessarily indicate any unusual financial conditions in Germany. There is always a movement of gold that way to Germany in the settlement of the accounts for the end of the year. Money is from 1½ to 2 per cent higher in Berlin than in London, and that alone would cause a movement of money to Berlin. Whatever of American or other stocks Berlin has sold in the last week or so would have to be bought from London, and something may be due to that. But however this may be, there is reason to think that the Bank of England would not offer any more obstacle to the transfer of gold than it did to New York. The Bank of England is now very strong in specie, and on December 11 held £21,829,076 of gold, against £19,228,576 on November 6. There is also over £1,500,000 of gold on the way from Brazil and Australia, which ought to arrive before the end of the year.

Closing Stock Quotations.

Adams Express....	140	Northwestern.....	135
Alton, T. Haute....	23	do preferred.....	98¾
do do preferred...	110	N. Y. Central.....	109¾
American Express.	111	N. Y. C. & St. L....	54
Bur. C. R. & N.....	15	do do preferred	18
Canada Pacific.....	81⅞	Ohio & Mississippi...	33
Canada Southern..	48⅝	do do preferred...	15¼
Central Pacific.....	28	Ontario & Western..	16¼
Ches. & Ohio.....	16¼	Oregon Improvem't	19
do do 1st preferred	49½	Oregon Nav.....	81½
do do 2d preferred	27	North American....	34⅝
Chicago Alton.....	134	Pacific Mail.....	14
Chi. Bur. & Quincy.	89	Peoria, Dec. & E....	—
Chi. St. L. & Pac..	13½	Pittsburg.....	152
C., St. L. & P. pref.	31¾	Pullman Palace.....	187
Cin. San & Cleve....	—	Reading.....	30¼
Cleveland Columbus	—	Rock Island.....	72¼
Del. Hudson.....	124¼	St. L. & San F.....	22
Del., Lack. & W....	129⅝	St. L. & San F. pref.	58
Den. & Rio G.....	17½	St. L. & San F. 1st pfd	71
East Tennessee.....	37	St. Paul.....	90⅞
Do do 1st pfd.....	57	Do preferred	103¾
Do do 2d pfd.....	15	St. Paul, Min. & M..	95½
Erie.....	15⅝	St. Paul & Omaha..	22¾
Do preferred.....	48½	Do do preferred...	79
Fort Wayne.....	159	Tenn. Coal & Iron...	29½
Hocking Valley.....	17	Texas Pacific.....	14¼
Houston and Texas	1½	Tol. & O. Cen. pfd...	77
Illinois Central.....	96	Union Pacific.....	45
Kansas and Texas.	12¾	U. S. Express.....	64
Lake Erie & West..	30¾	Wabash, St. L. & P..	9
do do preferred...	106½	do do preferred...	17
Lake Shore.....	73⅝	Wells Fargo Ex....	138
Louis. & Nash.....	73¾	Western Union....	76
Louis. & N. Albany.	30	Am. Cotton Oil.....	35¾
Memphis & Charles.	90½	Colorado Coal.....	32
Michigan Central..	87	Homestake.....	8½