NO WAY OF RETREAT.

God Does Not Intend the Christian Army to Look Backward, as

SHOWN BY THE MIRACLE OF MEROM

He Stayed the Freshet for the Advance, and Then Closed the Path.

REGULAR SERMON OF REV. DR. TALMAGE

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

BROOKLYN, Dec. 21.—Dr. Talmage preached the following sermon this morning in the Academy of Music, in this city, and again in the evening at service in New York. His text was Joshua, xi., 5: "And when all these kings were met together, they came and pitched together at the waters of Merom to fight against Israel."

We are encamped to-night in Palestine by the waters of Merom. After a long march we have found our tents pitched, our fires kindled, and though far away from civilization, a variety of food that would not compromise a first-class American hotel, for the most of our caravan starts an hour and a half earlier in the morning. We detain only two mules carrying so much of our baggage as we might accidentally need, and a tent for the noonday luncheon. The malarias around this Lake Merom are so poisonous that at any other season of the year encampment here is perilous, but this winter night the air is tonic and healthful. In this neighborhood Joshua fought his last great battle. The nations had banded themselves together to crush this Joshua, but along the banks of these waters Joshua left their carcasses. Indeed it is time that we more minutely examine this Joshua of whom we have in these discourses caught only a momentary glimpse, although he crossed and recrossed Palestine, and next to Jesus is the most stirring and mighty character whose foot ever touched the Holy Land.

Moses was dead. A beautiful tradition says the Lord kissed him, and in that act drew forth the soul of the dying lawgiver. He had been buried, only one Person at the funeral, the same One who kissed him. But God never takes a man away from any place of usefulness but he has someone ready. The Lord does not go looking around amid a great variety of candidates to find someone especially fitted for the vacated position. He makes a man for that place. Moses has passed off the stage, and Joshua, the hero, puts his foot on the platform of history so solidly that all the ages echo with the tread.

A GREAT UNDERTAKING.

For the most part, when the General of an army starts out in a conflict he would like to have a small battle in order that he may get his courage up and he may rally his troops and get them drilled for greater conflicts; but this first undertaking of Joshua was greater than the leveling of Fort Pulaski, or the thundering down of Gibraltar, or the overthrow of the battle. It was the crossing of the Jordan at the time of the spring freshet. The snows of Mount Lebanon had just been melting and they poured down into the valley, and the whole valley was a raging torrent. So the Canaanites stand on one bank and they look across and see Joshua and the Israelites coming, and they laugh and say: "What else! they cannot disturb us in this until the freshets fall; it is impossible for them to reach us." But after a while they look across the water and they see a movement in the army of Joshua. They say, "What's the matter now? Why don't they march? Why have those troops, and they are going to fly, or perhaps they are going to try to march across the river Jordan. Joshua is a lunatic." But Joshua, the cheftain, looks at his army and cries: "Forward, march!" and they start for the bank of the Jordan.

One mile ahead go two priests carrying a glittering box four feet long and two feet wide. It is the ark of the covenant. And they come down, and no sooner do they just touch the brim of the water with their feet, than the almighty flat, Jordan parts. The army of Joshua marches right on without getting their feet wet, over the bottom of the river, a path of chalk and broken shells and pebbles, until they get to the other bank. Then they lay hold of the oleanders and tamarisks and willows and pull themselves up a bank 30 or 40 feet high, and having gained the other bank, they clap their shields and their symbals, and sing the praise of the God of Joshua. But no sooner are they all out than the bank that the waves began to dash and roar, and with a terrific rush they break loose from their strange anchorage. Just yonder they have stopped, 30 miles of distance they have come, but this side the waters roll off toward the salt sea.

NO WAY OF RETREAT.

But as the hand of the Lord God is taken away from the thus uplifted waters—waters perhaps uplifted half a mile—as the almighty hand is taken away, those waters rush down, and some of the unbelieving Israelites say: "Alas, alas, what a misfortune! Why could not those waters have stayed parted? Because perhaps we may want to go back. O Lord, we are engaged in a risky business. Those Canaanites may eat us up. How if we want to go back? Would it not have been a more complete miracle if the Lord had parted the waters to let us come through, and kept them parted to let us go back if we are defeated?" My friends, God makes no provision for a Christian's retreat. He clears the path all the way to Canaan. To go back is to die. The same gatekeepers that swing back the amethystine and crystalline gate of the Jordan to let Israel pass through now swing shut the amethystine and crystalline gate

But this is no place for the host to stop. Joshua gives the command, "forward, march!" In the distance there is a long grove of trees, and at the end of the grove is a city. It is a city of arbors, a city with walls seeming to reach to the heaven, so buttress the very sky. It is the great metropolis that commands the mountain pass. It is Jericho. That city was afterward captured by Pompey, and it was afterward captured by Herod the Great, and it was afterward captured by the Mohammedans; but this ca paign the Lord plans. There shall be no swords, no shields, no battering ram. There shall be only one weapon of war, and that a ram's horn. The horn of the ram was sometimes taken and holes were punctured in it, and then the musician would put the instrument to his lips, and he would run his fingers over this rude musical instrument, and make a great deal of sweet harmony for the people. That was the only kind of weapon. Seven priests were to take these rude rustic musical instruments, and they were to go around the city every day for six days, and seven times on the seventh day they were to go around blowing these rude musical instruments seven times, and then at the close of the seventh blowing of the rams' horns on the seventh day, the peroration of the whole scene was to be a shout in which those great walls should tumble from capstone to base.

The seven priests with the rude musical instruments pass all around the city walls on the first day, and a failure. Not so much as a piece of plaster broken loose from the wall—not so much as a loosened brick, not so much as a piece of mortar lost from its place. "There," said the unbelieving Israelites, "didn't I tell you so? Why, those ministers are fools. The idea of going around the city with those musical instruments and expecting in this way to destroy it! Joshua has been spoiled; he thinks because he has overthrown and destroyed the spring freshet, he can overthrow the stone wall."

THE SEVENTH DAY.

Joshua's stock was down. The second day, the priests blowing the musical instruments go around the city, and a failure. Third day, and a failure; fourth day, and a failure; fifth day, and a failure; sixth day, and a failure. The seventh day comes, the climacteric day. Joshua is up early in the morning and examines the troops, walks all around about, looks at the city walls, and guesses to make the best observation of the city. They go all around at once, all around twice, three times, four times, five times, six times, seven times, and a failure.

There is only one more thing to do, and that is to utter a great shout. Up rise the Israelitish army straightening themselves up, filling their lungs for a vociferation such as was never heard before and never heard after. Joshua feels that the hour has come, and he cries out to his hosts: "Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city!" All the people begin to cry: "Down, Jericho, down Jericho!" and the long line of solid masonry begins to quiver and to move and to rock. Stand from under! She falls! Crash! go the walls, the temples, the towers, the palaces, the gardens blotted with the dust. The buzz of the victorious Israelites and the groan of the conquered Canaanites commingle, and Joshua, standing there in the debris of the wall, hears a voice saying: "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life."

Only one house spared. Who lives there? Some great king? No. Some woman distinguished for great kindly deeds? No. She had been conspicuous for her crimes. It is the house of Rahab. Why was her house spared? Because she had been a great sinner? No, but because she repented, demonstrating to all the ages that there is mercy for the chief of sinners. The red cord of divine injunction reaching from her window to the ground, so that when the people saw that red cord they knew it was the divine indication they should not disturb the premises; making us think of the divine cord of a Savior's deliverance, the red cord of a Savior's kindness, the red cord of a Savior's mercy, the red cord of our rescue. Mercy for the chief of sinners. Put your trust in that God, and no damage shall befall you. When our world shall be more terribly surrounded than was Jericho even by the trumpets of the judgment day, and the hills and the mountains, the metal bones and ribs of nature, shall break, they who have had Rahab's faith shall have Rahab's deliverance.

FORWARD, MARCH!

But this is no place for the host of Joshua to stop. "Forward, march!" cries Joshua to the troops. There is the city of Gibeon. It has put itself under the protection of Joshua. They send word, "There are five kings after us; they are going to destroy us; send troops quick; send us help right away." Joshua has a three-days' march more than double quick. On the morning of the third day he is before the enemy. There are two long lines of battle. The battle opens with great slaughter, but the Canaanites soon discover something. They say, "That is Joshua; that is the man who conquered the spring freshet and knocked down the stone wall and destroyed the city of Ai. There is no use fighting." And they send a retreat, and as they began to retreat, Joshua and his host spring upon them like a panther, pursuing them over the rocks, and as these Canaanites with sprained ankles and gashed foreheads retreat, the catapults of the sky pour a volley of hailstones into the valley, and all the artillery of the heavens with bullets of iron, pound the Canaanites against the ledges of Beth-boron.

"Oh!" says Joshua, "this is surely a victory." But do you not see the sun is going down? These kings are going to get away after all, and then they will come up some other time and bother us, and perhaps destroy us." See, the sun is going down. Oh, for a longer day than has ever been seen in this climate! What is the matter with Joshua? Has he fallen in an apoplectic fit? No. He is in prayer. Look out when a good man makes the Lord his ally. Joshua raises his face, radiant with prayer, and looks at the descending sun over Gibeon and at the faint crescent of the moon, for you know the queen of the nights sometimes will linger around the palaces of the day. Pointing one hand at the descending sun and the other hand at the faint crescent of the moon, in the name of that God who shaped the worlds and moves the worlds, he cries: "Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, moon, in the valley of Ajalon." They halted. Whether it was by refraction of the sun's rays, or by the stopping of the whole planetary system, I do not know, and do not care. I leave it to the Christian scientists and the infidel scientists to settle that question, while I tell you I have seen the same thing. "What!" say you, "not the sun standing still?" Yes. The same miracle is performed nowadays. The wicked do not live out half their days now, and the sun is set, but let a man start out in battle for God and the truth, and against sin, and the day of his usefulness is prolonged and prolonged and prolonged.

SOME MORE MODERN INSTANCES.

John Summerfield was a consumptive Methodist. He looked fearfully white, I am told, as he stood in old Sands Street Church, in Brooklyn, preaching Christ, and when he stood on the anniversary platform in New York, pleading for the Bible until unusual and unknown glories rolled forth from that book. When he was dying his pillow was brushed with the wings of the angel from the skies, the messenger that God sent down. Did John Summerfield's work? Did John Summerfield's day end? Oh! no. He lives on in his burning utterances in behalf of the Christian Church.

Robert McCheyne was a consumptive Presbyterian. It was said when he preached he coughed so it seemed as if he would never preach again. His name is fragrant in all Christendom, that same mightier to-day than was ever his living presence. He lived to preach the gospel in Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Dundee, but he went away very early. He preached himself into the grave. Has Robert McCheyne's sun set? Is Robert McCheyne's day ended? Oh, no! His dying delirium was

WEATHER AND TRADE

Hurtful and Helpful Effects of the Snow Blockade

ON LEADING JOBBING INDUSTRIES.

Good Hopes of Great Activity for Christmas Week's Trade.

THE HIDE MARKET STILL SLUGGISH

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, SATURDAY, Dec. 20.

Trade Review.

About one-half of the week past has been almost lost to general jobbing trade, owing to the snow blockade. At the produce commission houses and Grain Exchange transactions were very light. Cereal markets have been very dull, with a downward tendency. Corn, oats and flour are quoted lower than at the beginning of the week, and are quiet at the decline. Money appears to be the most valuable commodity and the difficulty of securing it proves the weak factor of trade. Retail dealers are inclined to buy sparingly on declining markets and in view of the financial stringency. Our markets are well stocked with flour, grain and hay, but the jobber and shipper are made to carry the greatest part of the burden at this time of drooping prices. In produce lines there has been no essential change during the week. Commission men are not carrying large stocks, for the reason of railroad blockades. There is plenty on the way, and, no doubt, Christmas week will be one of sufficient activity to compensate for the quietness of the past week. Butter and eggs have apparently reached their top price for this season. Price of eggs has declined in Southern markets within a few days, and unless prevented by severe weather the decline should reach us the coming week. Country butter is in growing demand, at the expense of the imitations. One department of trade has benefited greatly by the snowstorm, namely, the trade in rubber goods. At one of the leading shoe houses of the city it was learned that all hands had been pressed into the rubber service and that more goods had been sold in this line than any previous week in the history of the trade. For two winters past large stocks were necessarily carried over by the factories and jobbers because of light demand.

No fear of accumulated stock now exists. Factories are running full force. While there is no trouble so far meeting orders, a few more such storms as the late one would tax the capacity of the manufacturer.

The salt industry is also one that has reaped extra benefits from the late snow storm. On Thursday six teams were employed delivering salt to the street and cable car companies of the two cities, to be used in salting the tracks. Each of these teams carried 100 bushels of salt, and so, many thousand bushels were mixed with the snow along the various lines.

The salt car and sweeper car have had more work this week than for a half dozen years at least, in making transit to the suburbs possible. As this is the season of the year when salt is in greatest demand, manufacturers here had an extraordinary demand for their product and have, therefore, no complaint to make of the storm.

Hides Still Quiet.

Steer hides continue in the same quiet condition as reported last week. Tanners are only buying for immediate wants owing to tightness of money and the near approach of annual settlement time.

Buff hides are also unchanged, but slow. Large quantities are held in the country by butchers and dealers who are unwilling to accept present prices. A number of our large dealers have called in their buyers for the reason that they prefer to carry light stocks until after the turn of the year. The present is always a dead time in the hide trade and this season it is more than usually quiet owing to the preciousness of money.

Following are prices paid by tanners and hide dealers for stock delivered here.

We quote you the following prices on stock delivered here:

No. 1 green salted steers, 60 pounds and over	8
No. 1 green salted cows, all weights	5
No. 1 green salted hides, 40 to 60 pounds	5
No. 1 green salted hides, 25 to 40 pounds	5
No. 1 green salted bulls	5
No. 1 green salted calfskins	7½
No. 1 green salted veal kips	6
No. 1 green salted runner kips	5
No. 1 green steers, 60 pounds and over	7½
No. 1 green steers, all weights	6
No. 1 green bulls	4½
No. 1 green hides, 40 to 60 pounds	5
No. 1 green hides, 25 to 40 pounds	5
No. 1 green calfskins	7
No. 1 green veal kips	6
No. 1 green runner kips	5
Sheepskins	15c@30c
Tallow, prime	4

NEW YORK STOCKS.

A Favorable Bank Statement Has a Good Effect on a Dull Share Market—Gold Importations Will Boom the Next Statement.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The stock market today was intensely dull and heavy throughout the session. Before the close, however, there was more strength displayed, especially after the publication of the bank statement, which was the best one made for a long time. The gold received on Wednesday counted for only three days in the averages, but, nevertheless, the surplus reserve shows an increase of $8,891,000 and is left at over $4,000,000. There was also an increase in the specie held of $4,136,700, and, as the statement was made upon rising averages, the actual condition of the banks is, in all probability, much better than was shown by the statement.

In addition, nearly $8,000,000 more of gold arrived this morning, and will be a factor in next week's statement. The statement, however, undoubtedly reflects a return of a portion of the locked-up money, and for additional evidence upon this may be mentioned the ease in the money market of late, together with the fact that so many time loans have been made during the past week that nearly every house having suitable securities has been able to secure all the time money wanted, and to-day many brokers called upon first-class houses and offered six months' money at 6 per cent. Many of the institutions which have been engaged in locking up their funds are now trying to make long loans before the January disbursements, as the payments at that time are estimated at about $120,000,000. Some of this money must find its way into Wall street in the purchase of bonds and, dividend-paying stocks.

The market to-day was almost entirely professional, and the movements in the great majority of the list were without significance. The weakness in the early trading resulted in fractional losses in many stocks, among which Lackawanna was most prominent, but at the same time Sugar was especially strong, and the only downward movement of importance was in Silver Certificates, which fell away 1¾ per cent from last evening's figure.

After the publication of the statement, however, the reaction which had begun before made marked advances in all except a few unimportant instances. The early losses were not only regained, but some-hing in addition. Lackawanna and Louisville each rose 1 per cent, and the entire list was left at small fractions better than last evening. Sugar, however, shows a gain of 1¾ per cent.

The following table shows the prices of 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.
Am. Cotton Oil	19½	19½	19½	19½
Am. Cotton Oil Trust	....	....	....	19½
Atch., Top. & S. F.	28½	28⅝	28½	28½
Canada Southern	48⅝	48⅝	48	48
Central Pacific	....	....	....	34
Chesapeake & Ohio	16½	16¼	16¼	16¼
Chicago Gas Trust	35½	35⅝	35½	35⅝
C., Bur. & Quincy	89	89	88¾	88¾
C., Mil. & St. Paul	50⅜	51	50⅜	51
C., Mil. & St. P., pf.	104½	104½	104½	104
C., Rock I. & P.	71	71⅜	70⅝	71⅛
C., St. P., M. & O.	21	21	21	20⅝
C., St. P., M. & O. pf.	....	....	....	78
C. & Northwestern	104½	104⅝	104	104
C. & N. W. pf.	....	....	....	132
C., C., C. & I.	....	....	....	88
C., C., C. & I. pref.	....	....	....	88¾
Col. Coal & Iron	....	....	....	32
Col. & Hocking Valley	23¾	24	23¾	24
Ches. & Ohio 1st pref.	....	....	....	40
Ches. & Ohio 2d pref.	....	....	....	20
Del., Lack. & West	129	129½	128½	129
Del. & Hudson	....	....	....	124½
Den. & Rio Grande	....	....	....	21½
Den. & Rio Grande, pf.	86½	87	86½	87
E. Tenn.	6¾	6¾	6¾	6¾
Illinois Central	98	....	....	....
Lake Erie & West	12⅜	12⅜	12⅜	12⅜
Lake Erie & West pf.	50½	50½	50½	50½
Lake Shore & M. S.	106½	107⅜	106⅜	107¼
Louisville & Nashville	71⅜	72⅜	71⅜	72½
Michigan Central	....	....	....	87
Mobile & Ohio	....	....	....	26
Missouri Pacific	61⅝	61⅝	61⅝	61⅝
National Lead Trust	15⅜	16	15⅜	15⅝
New York Central	99	99¼	98¾	99¼
N. Y., L. E. & W.	....	....	....	18¼
N. Y., L. E. & W. pd.	....	....	....	41
N. Y. & N. E.	27	27	26	27
N. Y., O. & W.	15¾	15¾	15¾	15¾
Norfolk & Western	....	....	....	16
Norfolk & Western pf.	....	....	....	82¼
Northern Pacific	21	21⅛	20⅝	21
Northern Pacific pf.	62	62⅛	61⅝	62
Ohio & Mississippi	....	....	....	18
Pacific Mail	34	34	34	33¾
Philadel. & Reading	30	30	29½	30
Pullman Palace Car	....	....	....	180
Richmond & W. P. T.	15½	15½	13½	15⅜
Richmond & W. P. T. pf.	68	68	68	68
St. Paul & Duluth	....	....	....	21½
St. Paul & Duluth pf.	....	....	....	80
St. P., Minn. & Man.	94½	95	94½	95
Sugar	84½	85	83⅝	84⅜
Texas Pacific	14⅜	....	....	....
Union Pacific	44½	45	44⅜	44⅝
Wabash	....	....	....	9
Wabash preferred	16⅜	17	16⅜	17⅛
Western Union	74⅜	75	74⅜	75
Wheeling & L. E.	20	20½	20	20½
Wheeling & L. E. pref.	65⅞	66⅜	65⅞	64½
North American Co.	11¾	11½	11¾	11⅝
P., C., C. & St. L.	....	....	....	13½
P., C., C. & St. L. pf.	....	....	....	48

*Ex-dividend.

Closing Bond Quotations.

U. S. 4s, reg.	121	M. K. & T. Gen. 6s	96⅝
U. S. 4s, coup.	122	Mutual Union 6s	101
U. S. 4½s, reg.	106¾	N. J. C. Int. Cert.	107
U. S. 4½s, coup.	106¾	Northern Pac. 1sts	115
Pacific 6s of '95	109	Northern Pac. 2ds	108½
Louisiana stamped 4s	92½	North'w't'n consols	135
Missouri 6s	....	Nortw'n debent's 5s	105
Tenn. new set. 6s	101½	Oregon & Trans. 6s	....
Tenn. new set. 5s	95	St. L. & I. M. Gen. 5s	91¼
Tenn. new set. 3s	70	St. L. & S. F. Gen. M.	107
Canada So. 2ds	94	St. Paul consols	129½
Central Pacific 1sts	110½	St. P. Chi. & Pc. 1sts	113½
Den. & R. G. 1sts	113½	Tx., Pc. L. G. Tr. Rs.	84
Den. & R. G. 4s	81	Tx., Pc. R. G. Tr. Rs.	30
D. & R. G. Weststs.	—	Union Pacific 1sts	111
Erie 2ds	96	West Shore	100
M. K. & T. Gen. 6s	72⅞		

Boston Stocks.

Atch. & Top.	28½	Calumet & Hecla	255
Boston & Albany	190	Catalpa	22½
Boston & Maine	198	Franklin	16
C., B. & Q.	89	Huron	3
Chi., San. & Clev.	22½	Kearsarge	11¼
Eastern R. R.	160	Osceola	34
Fitchburg R. R.	83¼	Pewabic (new)	9
Flint & Pere M. pre.	80	Quincy	85
Mass. Central	18½	Santa Fe Copper	4½
Mex. Cen. com.	19¼	Tamarack	140
N. Y. & N. Eng.	32	Boston Land Co.	3½
N. Y. & N. Eng. 7s	121	San Diego Land Co.	16
Old Colony	164½	West End Land Co.	91
Wis. Cen. common	17½	Bell Telephone	212
Allouez Mg. Co.	3½	Lamson Store S.	21
Atlantic	15	Centennial Mining	17
Boston & Mont.	41½	N. Eng. Telephone	49

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	49¾	49⅝
Reading	15	15⅛
Lehigh Valley	48¾	48⅝
Lehigh Navigation	45¾	45⅝
Philadelphia and Erie	24⅝	....
Northern Pacific	21	....
Northern Pacific preferred	62½	62¾

MARKETS BY WIRE.

CHICAGO—The wheat market opened tame and lacking in the spirit which usually characterizes a bull market. The price, however, was ½c higher than it closed yesterday, but that anomalous condition of affairs soon disappeared.

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

ARTICLES.	Open-ing.	High-est.	Low-est.	Clos-ing.
WHEAT, No. 2				
December	92	92	91	91¾
January	92½	92½	91¾	91¾
May	$1 00⅝	$1 00⅝	99⅝	$1 00
CORN, No. 2				
December	52¼	52¼	52	52
January	51½	51½	51¼	51½
May	54	54	53⅝	53⅝
OATS, No. 2				
December	41¾	41¾	41¼	41¼
January	42	42	41½	41½
May	45¼	45¼	44¾	44¾
MESS PORK.				
December	8 00	8 00	7 75	7 75
January	10 20	10 20	9 92½	9 95
May	11 20	11 22½	10 95	10 97½
LARD.				
January	5 85	5 85	5 75	5 75
February	5 97½	5 97½	5 92½	5 92½
May	6 45	6 45	6 35	6 37½
SHORT RIBS.				
January	5 05	5 05	4 90	4 90
February	5 20	5 20	5 10	5 10
May	5 60	5 60	5 55	5 57½

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour quiet; spring patents, $4 70@5 00; No. 2 spring wheat, 91½c; No. 3 spring wheat, 85@88c; No. 2 red, 92¼@93c; No. 2 corn, 52c; No. 2 oats, 41½@41¾c; No. 2 rye, 67c; No. 2 barley nominal; No. 1 flaxseed, $1 11¾@1 12; prime timothy seed, $1 18@1 19. Mess pork, per bbl, $7 75@7 87½. Lard, per 100 lbs, $5 95. Dry salted shoulders, boxed, $4 25@4 35; short clear sides (boxed), $5 10@5 20. Sugars unchanged. On the Produce Exchange to-day the butter market was unchanged. Eggs, 22@24c.

NEW YORK—Flour moderately active and unchanged. Cornmeal dull; yellow Western, $2 50@3 20. Wheat—Spot market stronger, lightly offerings and dull; No. 2 red, $1 06¾@ 1 08¾ f. o. b.; No. 3 red, $1 00@1 00½; No. 1 Northern, $1 09¾; No. 1 hard, $1 14½; options advanced ¾c on the favorable bank statements, but became weak with the decline in silver, and closed heavy, ½c lower than Sat. 2 red, December, $1 05⅞@1 06, closing at $1 05⅞; January, $1 05⅞@1 07⅜, closing at $1 05½; February, $1 06¾@1 06¾, closing at $1 06¾; March, $1 08⅜@1 08⅝, closing at $1 07¾; May, $1 06¾@1 08⅝ only, $1 00⅝@1 01⅛, closing at $1 00¾; August closing at 98½c; December, closing at $1 01. Rye quiet and steady; Western, 77@ 80c. Barley easy, quiet; No. 2 Milwaukee, 80@ 82c; ungraded Western, 74@86c; Canada No. 2, 95c; No. 2, 87c; No. 2 extra, 90c. Barley malt quiet, easy; Canada, country made, $1 00@1 15. Corn—Spot market dull, weak; No. 2, 63@63½c elevator; 63c afloat; ungraded, mixed, 61@64c; steamer, mixed, 61@62c; options very dull, ½@ ¾c lower, easier, December, closing at 53½c; January, 60¾@61c, closing at 60⅝c; May, 60 1-16@60¼c, closing at 60¼c. Oats—Spot market dull and easier; options dull and weaker; December closing at 40¼c; January, 40¾c, closing at 40½c; May, 43 15-16@44c, closing at 43¾c. Spot No. 2, white, 50c; mixed Western, 48c; white do, 50@56c; No. 2 Chicago, 50¼@50¾c. Hay quiet and steady; shipping, 45c; good to choice, 50@70c. Hops steady and quiet; State, common to choice, 30@40c; Pacific coast, 30@38c. Tallow firm; active; city (62 00 for packages), 4 9-16@4¾c. Eggs steady and dull; Western, 25@26c. Hides dull and weak; wet salted, New Orleans selected, 45@50 pounds, 7@8c; Texas selected, 50@60 pounds, 7@8c. Pork quiet and steady; mess, $10 00@11 00; extra prime, $9 50 @9 17. Cutmeats quiet and easy; pickled bellies, 5c; shoulders, 4¼c; do. hams, 7¾c. Middles quiet and firm; short clear, $5 90. Lard opened strong, but closed weak and dull; Western steam, $6 10; options, January, $6 10@6 12, closing at $6 10 bid; February, $6 20; March, $6 40; April, $6 50; May, $6 60, closing $6 60 bid. Butter easy and quiet; Western dairy, 11@12c; do creamery, 21@29c; do factory, 8@23c; Elgin, 29½@30c. Cheese quiet and firm; light skims, 4½@6½c; Ohio flat, 6@8¼c.

MINNEAPOLIS—Large receipts and light demand made a very weak and dragging market in spot wheat to-day. Prices were 1@2c lower than yesterday. Local millers were doing little, apparently having sufficient supplies on hand for the present, besides they have been liberal buyers of No. 1 and No. 2 Northern lately, to arrive, and some of this wheat is coming in. There was moderate buying for outside shipment, but that demand has fallen off somewhat. Closing quotations: No. 1 hard, December, 91c; January, 92c; on track, 92c; No. 1 Northern, December, 88c; January, 89c; May, 96¾c; on track, 89c; No. 2 Northern, December, 85c; January, 88c; on track, 86c.

PHILADELPHIA—Flour quiet but steady. Wheat quiet; No. 2 red, December, 99@99¼c; January, 99¼c@$1 00; February, $1 01¼@1 02; March, $1 03¼@1 04. Corn ½c higher; No. 3 mixed, in export elevator, 55½c; steamer, in do, 56¾c; No. 2, in do, 57¾c; No. 2 mixed and yellow, for local trade, 58@58¼c; No. 2 mixed, December and January, 57¾@57¾c; February, 58¾@59c; March, 59¼@59¾c. Oats—Carlots steady but quiet; futures quiet; No. 2 white, 50¼c; No. 3 white, 49¾50c; No. 2 white, December and January, 49¾@50¼c; February, 50¾@ 51c; March, 51¾@51¾c. Eggs dull and weak; Pennsylvania firsts, 25c.

ST LOUIS—Flour unchanged. Wheat —The market opened ½c up for May and ½c up for July, reacted, declined and continued weak to the close; No. 2 January, 89¼@89¾c; July, 69c bid. Corn—Though the opening was above yesterday's close, there was a quiet and easy market, tending down to the close; No. 2, cash, 47¾c; December, 47¾c; May, 50¾@ 50¾c. Oats weak and lower; No. 2 cash, 43¼c; May, 45c asked. Rye quiet; No. 2, 70c offered. Barley unchanged in price, but little demand. Timothy seed nominal at $1 09@$1 10. Provisions very dull and a light trade reported. Pork, $10 25. Lard, $15 50.

BALTIMORE—Wheat—Western steady; No. 2 winter red, spot and December, 97¼@97½c; January, 98@98¼c; May, $1 04¼@1 04¾. Corn—Western steady; mixed spot and year, 57½@58c; January, 57¾c; May, 57¾@58c; steamer, 56½c bid. Oats slow. Rye dull and nominal. Hay quiet; choice firm. Provisions quiet. Butter firm. Eggs quiet; strictly fresh, 25@26c; ice-house, 19@20c. Other articles unchanged.

CINCINNATI—Flour dull. Wheat easy and dull; No. 2 red, 99c. Corn steady; No. 2 mixed, 52@52¼c. Oats dull; No. 2 mixed, 46½c. Rye dull; No. 2, 54c. Pork easier. Lard firm at $5 55@5 60. Bulkmeats and bacon quiet. Butter in moderate demand. Eggs easier and lower at 20@21c. Cheese steady and firm.

MILWAUKEE—Flour quiet. Wheat quiet; No. 2 spring, on track, cash, 87@88c; May, 81¼c. Corn—No. 3, on track, 43@43½c. Barley quiet; No. 2 in store, 66½c. Rye quiet; No. 1, in store, 66¼@66¾c. Provisions easier. Pork—January, $9 95. Lard—January, $5 85.

DULUTH—Wheat opened steady, but soon began to weaken, ending up with a decline of ¾c. Closing quotations were as follows: December, 92¼c; May, $1 01¾; No. 1 hard, 92¼c; No. 1 Northern, 88c; No. 2 Northern, 82¾c.

When baby was sick, we gave her Castoria,
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria,
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria

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DOMESTIC MARKETS.

Produce Trade Improving Since Snow Blockade is Broken.

SOUTHERN EGGS COMING FREELY.

The Cereal Situation Continues Favorable to the Buyer.

SUGAR WEAKENING, COFFEE STEADY

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, SATURDAY, Dec. 20, 1890.

Country Produce—Jobbing Prices.

Since the breaking of the snow blockade trade has improved in volume, but prices remain substantially the same as at last report. Fresh eggs are coming in freely from the South, and, though nearby stock is scarce, there is little probability of any higher prices this season. Country butter is selling more freely since the oleo disturbance. Fancy creamery is firm at quotations. The late snow storm has stimulated markets in vegetable lines. Potatoes and cabbage are firm at prices quoted, and apples are tending upward.

APPLES—$4 50@6 00 a barrel.

BUTTER—Creamery, Elgin, 32@33c; Ohio do, 28@29c; common country butter, 10@15c; choice country rolls, 18@20c; fancy country rolls, 23@ 25c.

BEANS—New crop beans, navy, $2 30@2 35; marrows, $2 35@2 40; Lima beans, 6½@6¾c.

BEESWAX—28@30c ₱ lb for choice; low grade, 22@25c.

CIDER—Sand refined, $9 00@10 00; common, $5 50@6 00; crab cider, $10 00@11 00 ₱ barrel; cider vinegar, 14@15c per gallon.

CHEESE—Ohio cheese, fall make, 10½c; New York cheese, 10½@11c; Limburger, 10½@14c; domestic Sweitzer, 12@13c; Wisconsin brick Sweitzer, 14c; imported Sweitzer, 27½c.

CRANBERRIES—Cape Cod, $3 75@4 00 a box, $11 50@12 00 a barrel; Jerseys, $3 00@3 75 a box, $11 00@11 50 a barrel.

DRESSED HOGS—Large, 4½@5c ₱ lb; small, 5@6c.

EGGS—23@24c for Western stock; 28@30c for strictly fresh nearby eggs.

FEATHERS—Extra live geese, 50@60c; No. 1 40@45c; mixed lots, 30@35c ₱ lb.

GAME—Mallard ducks, $7 00@4 50 a dozen; butter ducks, $2 00@2 50 a dozen; pheasants, $5 00@5 50 a dozen; squirrels, $1 25@1 50 a dozen; woodcocks, $4 25@4 50 a dozen; quail, $1 00@1 25; rabbits, 20@25c a pair; venison saddles, 14@15c a pound; whole venison, 10@12c a pound.

HONEY—New crop white clover, 20@22c ₱ lb. California honey, 12@15c ₱ lb.

MAPLE SYRUP—75@95c a can; maple sugar, 9@10c ₱ lb.

NUTS—Chestnuts, $5 00@5 50 a bushel; walnuts, 70@75c a bushel; shell bark hickory nuts, $1 50@1 75 a bushel; peanuts, $1 50@1 75, roasted; green, 4½@6c ₱ lb; pecans, 16c ₱ lb; new French Walnuts, 10½@16c ₱ lb.

POULTRY—Alive—Chickens, young, large, 55 @65c; small, 45@50c; large, old, 65@75c; small, 55@60c; turkeys, fat, 11@12c a pound; poor, 9@ 10c a pound; ducks, 60@75c a pair; geese, choice, $1 25@1 50 a pair. Dressed—Turkeys, 14@16c a pound; ducks, 14@15c a pound; chickens, 11@ 12c a pound; geese, 8@9c a pound.

TALLOW—Country, 4c; city rendered, 5c.

SEEDS—Recleaned Western clover, $5 00@ 5 25; country medium clover, $4 00@4 25; timothy, $1 50@1 55; blue grass, $2 85@3 00; orchard grass, $1 60@1 65; millet, $1 75@2 00.

TROPICAL FRUITS—Lemons, $4 50; fancy, $5 00@5 50; Jamaica oranges, $6 00@6 50 a barrel; Florida oranges, $3 75@4 00 a box; bananas, $1 50 firsts, $1 00 good seconds, ₱ bunch; Malaga grapes, $7 00@12 50 a half barrel, according quality; California pears, $4 00@4 50 ₱ box; figs, 15@16c ₱ lb; dates, 4½@ 6c ₱ lb.

VEGETABLES—Potatoes, $1 20@1 30 ₱ bushel; Southern sweets, $2 25@2