

Bullness Still the Most Prominent Feature of the Business.

BESSEMER AND GRAY FORGE LOWER

City Furnaces Are Still Holding Out for Previous Prices.

HOW THE MARKET FEELS ELSEWHERE

OFFICE OF THE DISPATCH, PITTSBURGH, FEBRUARY 23.

RAW IRON AND STEEL

The iron and steel trade did not show up to much advance during the week. Prices are weaker and in some instances a shade lower, while the volume of transactions show a material falling off.

These are the sellers in this market whose weekly sales generally range from 10,000 to 12,000 tons, who refuse to accept present figures offered for Bessemer and gray.

The most significant event the past two weeks has been the heavy purchases of Lake Superior iron ore by the large Bessemer steel manufacturers.

Old iron and steel rails are very dull; and about the same, although the stock in first hands is light.

Steel billets and slabs are quiet, with a light demand; sales show no change in values.

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CITY REAL ESTATE.

An Eight-Story Building to Go Up on a Cherry Alley Mystery.

GROWTH OF NINETEENTH WARD.

A Ten-Store Tract Sprinkled With Comfortable Homes in Two Years.

FEATURES OF MONEY AND SPECULATION

One of the Cherry Alley mystery properties, Nos. 34 and 36, corner of the alley and Seventh avenue, sold by Black & Baird about two years ago to the Pennsylvania Railroad and numerous other corporations and individuals, according to reports at the time, was resold yesterday by the same firm to Mr. L. H. Smith, the Liberty street merchant, who will in the spring begin the erection of an eight-story warehouse on the lot, plans for which are being prepared.

The original scheme of the mystery workers miscarried. It is now known that the Pennsylvania Railroad was never "in it," nor was the much-talked-of Mr. Clark.

Nineteenth Ward Development. A gentleman who made a tour of the Nineteenth ward yesterday returned with more exalted ideas of that locality than he had entertained before.

The real estate market in this ward is being developed with astonishing rapidity, but of course growth is most pronounced in some localities than others.

It was especially impressed with the building activity along Euclid, Beatty, St. Clair and Bell streets, where the houses are completed. They are generally of the kind that the city needs—good comfortable homes, priced in price from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

The Work of One Man. About two years ago Mr. J. C. Dick purchased the Brown tract of about ten acres, which he had divided into 100 lots, of which he had engaged in improving this property with medium class houses, until now he has between 25 and 30 other finished houses, and those of later date are brick, showing that the people are demanding a better class of dwelling.

Iron Mill Consolidation. Preliminary steps have been taken at Wheeling for the consolidation of the Belmont, Beatty and "Top" mills.

The consolidation of these concerns were held on Wednesday, and each of them passed a resolution to join the combination.

On April 1 measures will be taken to carry out the result of the vote, unless in the meantime stockholders raise objections, which is not likely.

Plans are under consideration for a new business structure on Fourth avenue, north of Grand street.

The Charles Church lot on Seventh street will be disposed of within the next two weeks. Two or three good bids have been received by the trustees.

Business News and Gossip. Plans are under consideration for a new business structure on Fourth avenue, north of Grand street.

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THE HOME MARKETS.

The Produce Trade Depressed by Unfavorable Weather.

DRESSED POULTRY AND EGGS FIRM.

Shell Corn Weak and Lower, and Other Cereals are Quiet.

GROCERIES SLOW AND UNCHANGED

OFFICE OF THE DISPATCH, PITTSBURGH, FEBRUARY 23.

COUNTRY PRODUCE—Jobbing. Friday's trade in this line failed to reach its usual proportions, due largely to the snow, rainy weather and sloppy streets.

This was an excellent day to stay at home, and buyers whose necessities did not force them out seem to have been of this opinion.

The egg and dressed poultry markets are still reported firm, and choice dairy products are fairly steady.

Vegetables unchanged. Cabbage is particularly dull and prices are only nominal. Markets are overstocked with frosted bananas, which sell at prices so low that corn stock is depressed and hard to sell.

Granges are quiet and leanous firm. APPLES—Common country butter, 16977; choice country butter, 16977; choice country butter, 16977.

WHEAT—Wheat is lower and very dull in the early trading this morning. The market was mostly of a bearish character.

The receipts in the Northwest are here indicated a little firmer movement. The estimate of the Agricultural Department of North Dakota made the last season's wheat crop of that state amount to 70,000,000 bushels.

It is reported that the export business at this time is showing evidences of revival; that nearly 500,000 bushels of wheat are being shipped to the coast.

It is also reported that the Government estimate of the wheat crop of the Northwest is 70,000,000 bushels.

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MINNEAPOLIS.

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STANLEY'S COMPANION INSAFE.

He Imagines His Destiny Is to Become the Dictator of Europe.

HOUSTON, TEX., Jan. 23.—One of the companions of Stanley in Darkest Africa was J. L. M. Stanley, a German by birth and man of fine education.

After his return from Africa he came to this place, and for two years has been employed as a draughtsman in the Houston and Texas Central Railway office.

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