IRON TRADE REVIEW.

The Market Here Goes From Bad to Worse in Some Lines.

CAUSES ASSIGNED FOR THE SLUMP.

City Furnaces Still Refuse to Shade Prices to Make Sales.

CONDITION OF BUSINESS ELSEWHERE

OFFICE OF THE DISPATCH, PITTSBURG, FRIDAY, February 19.

BAR IRON AND STEEL.—We regret to note that there has been a decided change for the worse during the past week. This has evidently been brought about by a combination of circumstances. Among them was the breaking of the agreement between the steel plants of Wheeling and Pittsburg regarding prices of billets. It is now a go-as-you-please between them. Instead of steel billets selling at $25, prices are to-day down lower than at any time during 1891. Next came the dissolution of the Beam Association, followed by a material decline which was felt outside the comparatively small interest directly affected, and there is more or less demoralization throughout the trade. Again, pig iron is still being produced largely in excess of demand, and the surplus is steadily accumulating in the yards of furnace men. From these facts it is evident that the outlook at present is not a favorable one by any means and will account for the shrinkage in values.

Raw Iron and Steel Prices Too Low.

As usual large dealers view the situation differently. Each can make an argument that almost converts people to their way of thinking. Then comes the other side with arguments entirely the reverse, leaving one in doubt which party has the best side of it. One thing on which both sides agree is that prices of raw iron and steel are away below what they ought to be. February prices of last year were as follows: Gray forge, $14 50; Bessemer, $16 50; steel billets, $26 75; steel slabs, $26 50; mock bar, $27 50.

The prevailing condition throughout the trade is not so much a well defined dullness as a feeling of uncertainty as to what is likely to happen next. A moderate business is being transacted, but at irregular and uncertain prices, and there is a disposition to adjust prices to the views of buyers. The capacity of furnaces in blast at the present time is at the rate of about 9,800,000 tons per annum, manifestably far in excess of the consumption, with due allowance for increase that may result from present low prices for many varieties of manufactured products.

Very Fair Run of Steel Rail Orders.

Steel rails are in fair condition, with a fair run of orders varying from small lots to 5,000 tons and upward. Eastern mills have sold 25,000 tons for delivery for western and southern points, and the Lorain and Nashville is reported as having bought about 12,000 tons from Western mills for early delivery. Prices here remain firm at $30 at works. Valley furnace men were in town during the week and succeeded in placing a block of 5,000 tons of Bessemer for March, April and May delivery at figures netting $14 20 at the furnace. This is certainly a very low figure, being equal to $13, Pittsburg delivery, including freight and broker's percentage. Foreign iron and steel rails are dull; prices weak and uncertain. Scrap material seems to have little value; sales much below the quotations given in our report. Steel wire rods have declined. Nails are firm. A few sales were made; tonnage still prices weak. Skelp iron—Demand moderate; last week's prices maintained.

PIG IRON—Market weak; prices irregular. The low prices of Bessemer insured sales of 10,000 tons to Pittsburg parties. Steel billets—Sales show up fairly well at a low range of prices. Muck bar dull; no demand. Charcoal iron steady; sales limited to the present wants of consumers. We report the following sales:

SELECTED LAKE AND NATIVE ORES.

Lyons Bessemer, March, April, May..$15 00 cash
Lyons Bessemer, current delivery.... 15 00 cash
Lyons Bessemer, Feb., March..... 14 85 cash
Lyons gray forge, March..... 15 00 cash
Lyons gray forge, city furnace..... 15 50 cash
Lyons mottled, March..... 15 25 cash
Lyons mottled, city furnace..... 15 50 cash
Lyons Jackson county, March..... 15 00 cash
Lyons Jackson county, city furnace..... 15 50 cash
Lyons foundry, March..... 14 75 cash
Lyons foundry, city furnace..... 15 25 cash
Lyons No. 1 foundry, March..... 15 75 cash
Lyons No. 1 foundry, current delivery..... 17 00 cash
Lyons No. 1 foundry, all one..... 15 75 cash
Lyons No. 2 foundry..... 14 25 cash
Lyons No. 2 foundry, March..... 14 00 cash
Lyons No. 2 foundry..... 14 75 cash
Lyons No. 3 foundry..... 13 25 cash
Lyons No. 3 foundry, March..... 13 00 cash
Lyons No. 4 foundry..... 14 00 cash
Lyons No. 4 foundry..... 14 75 cash

BESSEMER STEEL BILLETS.

Lyons Bessemer billets, next three months..$22 50 cash
Lyons Bessemer steel slabs, March..... 23 50 cash

SCOTCH PIG.

Lyons Scotch, April, May..... 23 75 cash
Lyons Scotch, March..... 23 25 cash
Lyons Scotch, all one..... 24 25 cash

SILVER BAR.

Lyons silver bar, April..$25 50 cash

TYLEO MANGANESE.

Lyons spiegel, city, Pittsburg..$26 00 cash

BILLETS, BEAMS, H. AND C. ENDS.

Lyons billets and beams, March..$17 50 cash
Lyons billets and beams, all one..... 17 50 cash

SKELP IRON.

Lyons skelp iron..$ 1 60 4 m
Lyons skelp iron, grooves..... 1 57½ 4 m
Lyons skelp iron, all one..... 1 80 4 m

STEEL WIRE RODS.

Lyons American rods at mill..$32 75 cash

NAILS AND STEEL RAILS.

Lyons steel rails..$17 00 cash
Lyons assorted lengths..... 17 25 cash
Lyons American T's..... 22 50 cash

CHARCOAL.

Lyons charcoal blast..$26 75 cash
Lyons charcoal blast..... 25 00 cash
Lyons charcoal blast..... 19 00 cash
Lyons No. 2 foundry..... 20 50 cash
Lyons No. 1 foundry..... 20 00 cash
Lyons No. 1 foundry..... 21 00 cash

BLOOM AND STEEL RAILS.

Lyons bloom steel rails..$17 00 cash
Lyons bloom steel rails..... 17 25 cash
Lyons bloom American T's..... 22 25 cash

BIG PRODUCTION AT BIRMINGHAM,

That the Accumulation of Stocks Is Just the Same in Proportion.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Feb. 19.—[Special.]—The furnaces of this district have recently been accumulating stocks, and more pig iron is on the yards than at any time in the past. All but three of the 36 furnaces are in full blast, and production is very heavy. The demand at the present low prices continues quite fair, but the product whenever the furnaces are completed to sell. This condition, however, which forced sales at any price last year, has eased up with the abundance of money in the East, which relieves the financial necessities here. Hence the disposition to hold the product rather than make the concessions necessary to meet the competition of more northern districts. The general attention recently given to matters of detail in furnace management has borne fruit in the increased output. The market is quoted f. o. b. at the furnace:

No. 1 foundry, $12 00; No. 2 foundry, $11 25; No. 3 foundry, $10 25; gray forge, $9 60.

LOW PRICES AT ST. LOUIS

May Make a Number of the Furnaces Close Down Pretty Soon.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 19.—[Special.]—Rogers, Brown & Blackburn say: There seems to be no bottom to prices on Southern coke irons. Several sales were made during the past week at unheard of prices, but in most cases the orders were for immediate or prompt shipment, where some furnace had a special lot of iron which they wished to turn into cash. However, a purchaser of iron made now at the present market price, for delivery extending through the year, or even the coming and fall months, is considered a good investment. Buying for the most part has been confined to small lots, but there have been quite large quantities for extended delivery. One large car works contracted for about 3,000 tons this week, half car wheels and for foundry grades.

The furnaces are complaining bitterly of low prices, and the indications are that several of them will suspend operations unless prices advance.

Even Less Activity at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Feb. 19.—[Special.]—Rogers, Brown & Merwin say: During the past week the market has shown less activity, the large consumers having covered their requirements well into the spring and in many cases beyond this. Small orders are numerous, these running up to 100 tons in size, while large sales are conspicuous by their absence. Prices remain on the same basis as at the last report, with here and there rumors of further shading. Charcoal irons are unchanged, and the general situation must result in the blowing out of many stacks both North and South, unless better prices soon prevail.

The Metal Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Pig iron dull and steady. American, $15 75@17 75. Copper firm and quiet; lake, $10 75. Lead firm, fair demand; domestic, $4 15. Tin dull, firm; Straits $19 70@19 75.

SKINNED BY GOTHAM.

New Yorkers Decidedly on the Inside, Making the Chicago Wheat Operators Nervous—The Market Rules Weak, and All the Other Pits Fall in Line.

CHICAGO—The strongly bullish feeling which dominated the wheat market at the close yesterday seemed to have moderated considerably during the night, and the opening this morning was at lower figures. The change appeared to be largely a sentimental one, as the situation, as a whole, remained bullish. Cables were generally strong. The weather in the West continued favorable, the Weather Bureau predicting a general cold wave for to-morrow following the widespread rains of the past few days—a condition full of perils to the winter wheat crop. Domestic markets were weak and lower.

New York had selling orders from the start, and the local professionals soon fell into line. Many dealers had long wheat in which there was a profit, and they proceeded to realize. The export movement was light. A prominent operator, in summing up the situation, said, "New York has taken another trick. This is about the tenth time in the last month that they have skinned the trade of a cent, and still the stream is full of suckers."

May opened at 94½c against 95c at the close yesterday; sold up to 94¾c; broke gradually to 93½c; advanced to 93⅞c; became very heavy after the noon hour, breaking to 89¼c. Near the close the market grew excited and fluctuated violently. It was reported from New York that 85 boat loads had been taken for export, and that large sales of flour had been made. On this May jumped to 95c, but broke again to 93⅝c; rallied and closed unsettled at 94¼c, a loss for the day of ⅛c.

Corn ruled quiet and easier, the weakness being largely due to the softness in wheat. Early prices were a shade higher on smaller receipts than expected. The free movement from the seaboard also helped to cause some firmness early in the day, but the advance brought out free offerings and the market sagged off. Toward the close there was a partial recovery, owing to the excitement in wheat. May opened ⅛c lower at 42½c, advanced to 42¾c, receded to 42c, rallied to 42¼c and closed steady at 42⅛c.

Oats were quiet, fluctuating within a range of ¼c and closing at inside figures, with a loss of ⅛c in values.

Hog products were a little firmer at the opening, owing to higher prices for hogs, but the weakness in wheat caused prices to ease off some, and pork closed 7½c lower and lard 2½c, while ribs were unchanged.

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

ARTICLES.	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
WHEAT, No. 2.				
February	$ 91¼	$ 92	$ 90¼	$ 91½
May	94⅛	95	93½	94⅛
CORN, No. 2.				
February	40¾	41	40¾	40¾
March	41⅝	41⅝	41⅛	41⅛
May	42⅛	42⅛	42	42⅛
OATS, No. 2.				
February	29	29	29	29
May	31⅛	31⅛	31⅛	31⅛
MESS PORK.				
February	11 70	11 70	11 60	11 65
May	12 00	12 00	11 90	11 90
LARD.				
February	6 40	6 50	6 45	6 47½
May	6 60	6 65	6 60	6 62½
SHORT RIBS.				
February	5 92½	5 92½	5 90	5 90
May	6 10	6 10	6 02½	6 05

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour firm, with an advance of 10 to 15c asked; No. 2 spring wheat, 91c; No. 3 spring wheat, 84@88c; No. 2 red, 94@95c; No. 2 corn, 40½c; No. 3 corn, 37½c; No. 2 oats, 29¼@29½c; No. 2 white, 30¾c; No. 3 white, 29½c; No. 2 rye, 88c; No. 2 barley, 56c; No. 3 f. o. b., 40@53c; No. 4 f. o. b., 46@48c; No. 1 flaxseed, 97½c; prime timothy seed, $1 19@1 26. Mess pork, per barrel, $11 65. Lard, per 100 lb, $6 50. Short ribs sides, (loose) $5 87½; dry salted shoulders, (boxed) $5 00@5 25; short clear sides (boxed), $6 20@6 25. Whisky distillers' finished goods, per gal., $1 14. Sugars unchanged.

On the produce exchange to-day the butter market was dull and easier; fancy creamery, 27½@28c; fine Western, 25@26c; ordinary, 21@24c; selected dairies, 2@23c. Eggs, 17@18c.

NEW YORK—Flour unsettled, closing steady; fairly active; low extras, $3 20@3 85; city mill patents, $5 15@5 40; fair to fancy, $5 30@5 85; Minnesota clear, $4 10@4 75; patents, $4 50@5 25; winter wheat, low grades, $3 20@3 85; patents, $4 50@5 15; winter wheat, low grades, $3 2@3 85; patents, $4 50@5 15; straights, $4 35@4 90; rye mixtures, $4 10@4 75. Cornmeal quiet. Wheat—Spot market unsettled, moderately active and closing stronger; No. 2 red, $1 08¼@1 08⅞ store and elevator, $1 07¾@1 11⅛ afloat, $1 08⅞@1 12⅞ f. o. b; No. 3 red, $1 03½; ungraded red, 91c@$1 11⅞; No. 1 Northern, $1 08⅞@1 10⅞; No. 1 hard, $1 10⅞@1 13⅞; No. 2 Northern, $1 06 options, February, $1 08½; March, $1 07¾@1 08⅜, closing at $1 08; April, $1 06⅞@1 08¼, closing at $1 07⅞; May, $1 04⅞@1 05⅞, closing at $1 05¼; June, $1 02½@1 03⅜, closing at $1 03⅜; July, $1 00⅞@1 03⅜, closing at $1 01⅞. Rye firm and quiet. Barley dull and easy. Corn—Spot market stronger and good demand; No. 2, 48½@48¾c in elevator, 49@49½c afloat; ungraded mixed, 44@51c; No. 3, 48c; steamer mixed, 48¼@48½c. Options—February, 48¼c; March, 49@49¼c, closing at 49⅛c; April, 49⅞@50¼c, closing at 50c; May, 49½@49¾c, closing at 49½c; July, 49@49½c, closing at 49¼c. Oats—Spot market firmer and in fair demand; options quiet and firmer; February, 36½c; March, 36¼@36½c, closing 36½c; May, 37¼@37½c, closing 37½c; spot No. 2 white, 38½c; mixed Western, 36@37½c; white do, 37@41c; No. 1 Chicago, afloat, 37¼@37½c. Hops easy and quiet. Tallow steady. Eggs liberal and lower; Western, 19@19½c. Pork quiet and steady; mess, $9 75@10 50; extra prime, $10 00. Cut meats dull but firm. Middles quiet; short clear, $6 70. Lard easier and dull; Western steam closed at $6 82½; options, February, $6 80; March, $6 80@6 81; May, $6 92; July, $7 00@7 01. Butter quiet and about steady; Western dairy, 18@22c; do creamery, 2@31c; factory, 16@23c; Elgin, 30c. Cheese in moderate demand, but strong; part skims, 6@10½c.

PHILADELPHIA—Flour firm, with a fair demand. Wheat weak; No. 2 red, February, $1 05¾; March, $1 05½; May, $1 05¾@1 06. Corn firm and advanced ¼@½c, but subsequently lost ½c of the improvement and closed barely steady; No. 2, in export elevator, 44½c; steamer, 47c; No. 2, 48¾c; No. 2 mixed, February, 48¼@48½c; March, 48½@48¾c; April, 48¾@49c; May, 48¾@49c. Oats firm; No. 3 white, 33½c; No. 2 white, 37½c; No. 2 white, February, 37¼@37½c; March, 37½@38c; April, 38¼@38½c; May, 38½@39c. Butter dull and easy; Pennsylvania creamery, extra, 28c. Eggs dull and weak; Pennsylvania firsts, 29c.

BALTIMORE — Wheat unsettled and higher; No. 2 red spot, the month and March, $1 05¼@1 05¾; May, $1 05@1 05¼; steamer No. 2 red, $1 01⅛. Corn firm; mixed spot and the month, 49@49¼c; March, 49@49½c; April, 49½c; steamer mixed, 47½c. Oats steady; No. 2 white, Western, 38½c; No. 2 mixed, Western, 37c. Rye firm and higher; No. 2, $1c 00. Hay steady; good choice timothy, $13 00@14 00. Provisions steady. Butter good inquiry; firm, unchanged. Eggs dull, weak; 17c.

NEW ORLEANS—Sugar strong; open kettle, prime, 2 15-16@3c; good fair to fully fair, 2⅝@2¾c; fair, 2⅜c; good common, 2⅛; common, 2¼@2⅜c; centrifugal, off white, 3 13-16@3⅞c; choice yellow clarified, 3⅞@3 11-16c; prime yellow clarified, 3½@3 19-16c; off do, 3¼@3 7-16c; seconds, 2¼@3½c. Molasses—Open kettle, no sound goods offering; fermenting, 15@22c; centrifugals, strictly prime, 19c; good prime, 15@17c; common to good common, 6@9c.

ST. LOUIS—Flour firm at yesterday's advance. Wheat—No. 2 red, cash, 89@89½c; May, 95@96½c, closed at 95½c; July, 90@91c, closed at 90½c. Corn—Cash, 36½c; February, 37c; May, 38@38½c. Oats—Cash, 32c; May closed ¼c below yesterday at 32c. Rye higher; 89c bid. Barley slow; Minnesota sold at 57c. Butter weak; creamery, 22@27c; dairy, 15@25c; ladle packed, 16@22c. Eggs lower at 15½c. Provisions quiet and only a small trade was done at previous quotations.

KANSAS CITY—Wheat strong and higher; No. 2 cash, 78c bid; No. 2 red, 81½c bid. Corn higher; No. 2 cash, 34c bid; February, 34¼@34½c bid, 34¾c asked; No. 2 white, 36½c bid, 37c asked; No. 2 white February, 35½c bid, 36c asked. Oats higher; No. 2 cash, 29½c bid, 30c asked; February, 29½c bid, 29¾c asked; March, 29½c bid, 30¼c asked.

MILWAUKEE — Flour quiet. Wheat easier; May, 93½c; No. 2 spring, 87@88c; No. 1 Northern, 92½@93½c. Corn steady; No. 3, 38c. Oats steady; No. 2 white, 31@32c; No. 3 do, 30@30½c. Butter firm. Eggs in fair demand, but weak at 16c.

TOLEDO—Wheat active and steady; No. 2 cash and February, 97c; May, 99c. Corn dull; No. 2 cash, 40½c; No. 3, 40½c. Oats quiet; No. 2 cash, 33c. Rye dull; cash, 86½c.

DULUTH—Wheat—Cash, 88¼c; February, 88¼c; May, 93½c. On track, 89½c; No. 1 Northern, cash and February, 87c; May, 92c; On track, 88¼c. No. 2 cash, 74½c.

MINNEAPOLIS—Wheat—No. 1 Northern, February, 87½c; May, 89¼c. On track, No. 1 hard, 90¼c; No. 1 Northern, 89¼c; No. 2 Northern, 84@86c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Receipts and Shipments at East Liberty and All Other Stock Yards.

OFFICE OF THE DISPATCH, PITTSBURG, FRIDAY, February 19.

CATTLE—Receipts, 1,240 head; shipments, 1,196 head; market nothing doing, all through consignments; no cattle shipped to New York to-day.

HOGS—Receipts, 3,200 head; shipments, 2,700 head; market slow; all grades, $3 00@3 25; ten cars of hogs shipped to New York to-day.

SHEEP—Receipts, 1,200 head; shipments, 1,100 head; market firm at unchanged prices.

By Telegraph.

New York—Beeves—Receipts, 2,171 head, including 32 cars for sale; market steady; native steers, $4 10@5 25 per 100 pounds; bulls and cows, $2 25@3 75; dressed beef steady at 6@8½c per pound; shipments to-morrow, 1,100 beeves and 3,980 quarters of beef. Calves—Receipts, 131 head; market steady; veals, $5 00@8 00 per 100 pounds; Western calves, $3 75. Sheep—Receipts, 4,173 head; market steady; sheep, $5 00@6 40 per 100 pounds; lambs $6 40@7 75; dressed mutton firm at 8@10c per pound; dressed lambs firm at 9@10c. Hogs—Receipts, 3,683 head, consigned direct; nominally steady at $4 90@5 40 per 100 pounds.

Chicago—Cattle—Receipts, 9,000 head; shipments, 4,000 head; market, steadier; good prime, $4 50@4 90; others, $3 10@3 45; feeders, $3 25@3 75; stockers, $1 75@2 75; cows, $1 8@2 50. Hogs—Receipts, 18,000 head; shipments, 11,000 head; market brisk, higher; rough and common, $4 50@4 60; mixed and packers, $4 70@4 80; prime, heavy and butchers' weights, $4 85@5 00; light, $4 60@4 80. Sheep—Receipts, 6,000 head; shipments, 3,000 head; market active, sheep higher, lambs steady; ewes, $3 25@4 60; mixed, $4 65@4 90; wethers $5 00@5 75; Westerns, $5 15@5 50; lambs, $5 00@6 50.

Buffalo—Cattle—Receipts, 79 loads through 6 sale; market steady and firm for good grades; good steers, $3 75@3 85. Hogs—Receipts, 28 loads through, 40 sale; market steady with fair demand; heavy grades $5 15@5 20; packers and mediums, $5 10@5 15; Yorkers, good to best, $5 05@5 10. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 6 loads through; market steady for all; sheep extra fancy, $6 00@6 25; good to choice, $5 50@5 85; fair to good, $4 75@5 40; lambs, good to extra, $7 00@7 25; fair to good, $6 40@6 90.

St. Louis—Cattle—Receipts, 615 head; shipments, 658 head; market steady; fair to handy native steers, $3 10@4 40; fair to good Texans and Indian steers, $2 80@3 35. Hogs—Receipts, 2,156 head; shipments, 3,885 head; market 10c higher, fair to choice heavy, $4 65@4 80; mixed ordinary to good, $4 30@4 70; light fair to best, $4 55@4 70. Sheep—Receipts, 170 head; shipments, 506 head; market steady; ordinary to good muttons, $3 80@4 00.

Kansas City—Cattle—Receipts, 4,000 head; shipments, 900 head; steers steady; cows strong at $2 90@3 20; feeders strong at $3 25@3 75. Hogs—Receipts, 9,200 head; shipments, 2,400 head; market strong and 5c higher; all grades, $4 15@4 65; bulk, $4 40@4 50. Sheep—Receipts, 1,900 head; shipments, 700 head; market steady.

Cincinnati—Hogs fair and demand steady; common and light, $3 50@4 80; packing and butchers', $4 60@5 00; receipts, 3,140 head; shipments, 770 head. Cattle easy; receipts, 225 head; shipments, 150 head. Sheep firm; receipts, 100 head; shipments, none. Lambs stronger; common to choice, $5 00@6 50 per 100 pounds.

THE KITCHEN MARKET.

Poultry Tending Higher and Eggs Are Steadily Declining.

In the week past market basket materials have not materially changed in price, with the exception of eggs. The high price of eggs a week or two ago resulted in bringing large quantities from the South, and prices are 10c per dozen below what they were a week ago. Poultry is a shade firmer in a jobbing way than it was last week. Supply has been scarcely up to demand for the past few days. At the Diamond Market fruit and vegetable stalls the business of the week is reported only fair, with prices unchanged. New vegetables from the South are coming in freely, but demand for them is light, owing to the low price of old vegetables.

Staple meats rarely change in price whatever may be the ups and downs of live stock. Lake and ocean products are reported quiet and slow, as is the trade immediately before Lent. Florists report a fair demand for their goods, with prices as they were a week ago.

Following are latest retail prices of market basket materials:

MEATS—Best cuts of tenderloin steaks, 25c per lb; sirloin, 18c; standing ribs roast, 18@20c; chuck roasts, 12c; corned beef, 8@10c per lb; spring lamb, 15c; leg of mutton, 12½c for hindquarter and 8c for forequarter; loin of mutton, 10c; lamb chops, 20c; stewing pieces, 6c per lb; veal roasts, 12@15c per lb, and cutlets, 20c. Pork chops, 12½c, and steaks, 10c.

VEGETABLES AND FRUIT—Cabbages, 3@10c; potatoes, 15c per half peck; sweet potatoes, 20@25c per half peck; green beans, 35c a quarter peck; wax beans, 35c a quarter peck; ripe cucumbers, 15@25c; onions, 25c a half peck; bananas, 20c a dozen; carrots, 5c a bunch; lemons, 20@25c per dozen; oranges, 15@35c per dozen; lettuce, 5 bunches for 25c; beets, 5 bunches for 10c; cucumbers, 10@25c apiece; celery, 5c a bunch; cauliflower, 15@35c apiece; apples, 15@20c a half peck; tomatoes, 35c a quart box; pineapples, 25@40c apiece; Malaga grapes, 20@25c a pound; beets, 10c a bunch, 3 for 25c.

BUTTER AND EGGS—Good creamery, 29@32c per lb; fancy brands, 35@36c; choice country rolls, 25@27c; good cooking butter, 17c; fresh eggs, 24@25c per dozen.

POULTRY—Live chickens, 75@90c a pair; live turkeys, 12@15c per lb; live ducks, 75@90c a pair; dressed chickens, 17 to 18c per lb; ducks, 17 to 18c per lb; turkey, 18 to 20c.

GAME—Squirrels, 35c a pair; rabbits, 35c a pair; quail, $2 50 a dozen; woodcock, $1 00 a pair; pheasants, $1 25 a pair; prairie chickens, $1 25 a pair; Mallard ducks, $2 00 a pair; venison, 35c per lb; jack rabbits, 30@35c apiece.

FISH—Following are the articles in this line on the stalls, with prices: Lake salmon, 10 to 15c; California salmon, 35 to 40c per pound; white fish, 12½ to 15c; herring, 4 pounds for 25c; Spanish mackerel, 20c per pound; bluefish, 15c; halibut, 20c; rock bass, 25c; lake trout, 12½c; lobsters, 20c; green sea turtle, 20 to 25c; oysters, New York counts, $1 75 per gallon; smalls, 20c a pound; shad, $1 00 to $1 25 each; scallops, 20c a pound; Mackinaw trout, 12½c per pound; frogs, $2 00 a dozen; clams, $1 50 a gallon.

FLOWERS—La France, $2 50 per dozen; Duchess of Albany, $2 50 per dozen; Mermets, $2 00 per dozen; Brides, $2 00 per dozen; White and Golden roses, $1 50 per dozen; Roses, $2 50 per dozen; Senator Wootten roses, $2 00 a dozen; Bennetts, $2 50 per dozen; hyacinths, 75c per dozen; lily of the valley, $1 00 per dozen; orchids, 75c to $1 00 each; violets, $2 50 a hundred; carnations, 50c per dozen; freesia, 50c per dozen; lilac, 50c a spray; tulips, 75c per dozen; narcissus, 75c per dozen.

Wool Markets.

NEW YORK—Wool easy and quiet; domestic fleece, 30@36c; pulled, 26@33c; Texas, 16@24c.

BOSTON—Domestic wools have been more active; the sales of the week amount to 2,289,000 pounds of all kinds, including 2,318,000 pounds foreign; prices, while not materially changed, favor buyers; Ohio sold at 28c, while considerable XX and XX and above were taken at 29½@30c; Michigan sold fairly at 26@26½c; No. 1 sold at 34@35c for Ohio and at 33@34c for Michigan; fine delaine was in steady demand at 33½@34c for Ohio and at 31½@32 for Michigan; No. 1 combing wools were quiet at 36@38c; in washed combing there were good sales at 26@29c for quarter and 26@28c for three-eighths; Territory wools were quiet but unchanged; 58@60c for clean fine, 55@57c for fine medium and 50@55 for medium; spring Texas quiet, 17@21c and fall at 15@22c; fair sales of Eastern Oregon wools were made at 16@17c; fall California wools sold at 14@20c, with one good sale of 150,000 pounds; spring California wools were quiet; Ohio and Michigan unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces were in steady request at 19@26c as to quality; pulled wools steady at 30@40c for super, 22@36c for extra; large sales of scoured wools are reported in the range of 30@80c as to quality; Australian wools were fairly active at 32@42c as to quality; foreign carpet wools were quiet.

The Coffee Markets.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 19.—Coffee steady and unchanged.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 19.—Coffee firm; ordinary to fair, 15@17½c.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—Coffee—Options opened steady and unchanged to 10 points up and closed firm at 5@20 points up; sales, 18,250 bags, including: February, 13.70@13.75; March, 13.90@13.95c; April, 12.80@12.90c; May, 12.70@12.75c; June, 12.50c; July, 12.35c; September, 12.20@12.30c; October, 12.10@12.15c; December, 11.95c; spot Rio firm; No. 7, 14½c.

Turpentine Markets.

CHARLESTON—Turpentine firm at 35c bid. Rosin firm at $1 15@1 20.

SAVANNAH—Turpentine steady and dull. Turpentine quiet and higher at 37@37½c.

WILMINGTON—Spirits of turpentine firm at 38½c. Rosin firm; strained, $1 07½; good strained, $1 12½. Tar steady at $1 30. Crude turpentine steady; hard, $1 00; yellow dip, $1 90; virgin, $1 90.

The Drygoods Market.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The demand for drygoods at first hand was fair and without much change.

TRADE OF THE CITY.

Doings on Grant Street Foreshadow Activity in That Quarter.

BAD OPINION OF GOTHAM'S FLATS.

Practical Way of Demonstrating Confidence in Pittsburg Realty.

FEATURES OF MONEY AND SPECULATION

Pittsburg is full of schemes to interest capitalists. Real estate, of course, claims chief attention. No one believes that the city will take a backward step, and so realty can be counted on with fair assurance as a safe investment. With a certainty of continued growth, both urban and suburban, purchasers of land, whether improved or not, are reasonably certain of realizing good profits. The trend of values is upward—not by kangaroo jumps, but slowly and surely, which is far better. The large amount of building in progress and under consideration is additional evidence of confidence in the future. People would not pile up stone and brick at the cost of millions if they were uncertain of the outcome. The fact is, Pittsburg realty never occupied a stronger position than at present, and this is so patent that the most conservative business men have no hesitation about putting their money in it.

Grant Street Looking Up.

Signs of promise are multiplying on Grant street. Long the most backward of the downtown thoroughfares, several recent transactions in realty in this quarter point to an era of progress. Plans are under way for two buildings which in size and architectural appearance will equal any in the city. If Mr. Hostetter shall succeed in getting what he wants opposite the Dalzell building, he will put up a fine structure at that point. Further down a large warehouse is under consideration. Values are very firm, with no disposition on the part of owners to make concessions. An enthusiastic agent said yesterday: "From my knowledge of what is going on, I am convinced that Grant street will soon be as remarkable for activity as it has for years been for apathy. The 'hump' question is generally regarded as a dead issue. Rapid transit solved the problem."

New York Apartment Houses.

There are about 50 apartment houses, or flats, in Pittsburg. They are small, but substantial, and are supplied with all essential conveniences. This is not the case in New York, to judge from the following remarks of a gentleman who lately visited that city: "The average rent is from $15 to $18 a month, according to the number of stairs the tenant may be willing to climb. Here clerks, mechanics and laborers are huddled together under one roof. These flats are very inferior in construction, although having in most cases an attractive external appearance. Plumbing and water supply are generally of the poorest kind, and the sanitary conditions are bad in the extreme."

The Electric Deal.

The New York *Journal of Commerce* says: "There is understood to be a very slight probability that the union of the Edison General and Thomson-Houston companies will bring about the consolidation of any of the factory departments, but there will be a material cutting down of the number of types of generators and other machines. The incandescent lamps will be in all probability all made under the Edison patents, with Thomson-Houston treatment. The chief economies will be made in the business departments of the two companies. The Boston office of the Edison company will, it is thought, be consolidated with the Thomson-Houston office there, while the New York office of the Thomson-Houston company will be merged into the Edison main office here. The consolidation of the offices of both corporations at Chicago, Baltimore and Philadelphia is also in contemplation, and is bound to make a big saving in expenses."

Business News and Gossip.

A dicker is in progress for a manufacturing site on Herr's Island.

No. 135 Fourth avenue is being remodeled internally for a restaurant.

The addition of a story to the Gusky block will cost about $13,000.

The Pennsylvania Railroad is busy about Wilkesbarre, building roads in order to tap the mines of individual owners and operators.

Peter Gallus has sold to Benjamin Cohen 20x100 feet on Butler street, Fifteenth ward, with a small house, for $4,500.

The price paid for the Chicago Lake Street Elevated Railroad by New York capitalists is said to be $1,500,000. Backers of the enterprise claim to have spent $800,000 in its construction.

Ohio reports an increase of 77,000 in winter wheat acreage over last year.

There is no prospect of the immediate sale of the Exchange building. It is considered good property to hold on to.

Permits were issued yesterday for the erection of three buildings, the cost all aggregating $4,000.

The banks and Exchange will be closed Monday, Washington's birthday. Paper maturing then should be looked after to-day.

Exchange memberships are steady around $450. That price was bid for an unlimited number yesterday.

The net earnings of the Pittsburg, Youngstown and Ashtabula Railroad Company for the month of January were $21,366, an increase of $7,772.

Movements in Realty.

S. A. Dickie & Co. sold for Bell & Caldwell to Mrs. J. P. Campbell two improved properties in Baum Grove—one on corner of Friendship and St. Clair streets, a two story and attic brick house, with lot 40x102 feet, and one on the corner of Friendship and Amber streets, a similar house, with lot 40x103 feet. Price for the two, $20,000.

James W. Drape & Co. sold a farm in Indiana county of 80 acres for $4,200; also a house and three lots on Mt. Washington for $3,400; also an interest of $6,000 in a large manufacturing concern near the city; also sold three lots in the Munhall Terrace plan, near Homestead, for $300 each; also a house and lot on Federal street, Allegheny, above the parks, for $6,000.

W. E. Hamnett & Co. sold a farm at Ninveh, Pennsylvania Railroad, 110 acres, for $1,800.

E. T. Schaffner sold to Adam Weinman a lot 25x106 feet, on Beltzhoover avenue, near Climax street, Thirty-first ward, for $850.

Ira M. Burchfield sold another lot in the Oliver Terrace plan to J. D. Cadwallader for $2,000.

Black & Baird sold to Martin O'Hagan lot No. 8 in J. Walter Hay's plan of Heywood Place, fronting 24 feet on Madison avenue and extending back 100 feet to an alley, for $560.

M. F. Hipple & Co. sold for John A. Graver, for $3,200, a lot, 50x180, on the east side of Dinnridge, near Bayard street, Fourteenth ward. The lot will be improved at once by a fine dwelling.

The Burrell Improvement Company report the following sale at Kensington: Mrs. Catherine Gushehrt, lots 24 and 25, block 15, $1,278 50.

HOME SECURITIES.

BUSINESS NOT BOOMING, BUT NO SCARCITY OF GOOD FEATURES.

Announcement That Interest Will Be Paid on Electric Scrip Gives Westinghouse Interests a Lift—Chartiers Gas and Luster Join the Active List.

Business on 'Change yesterday amounted to a fair aggregate, but the snap of the past week or two was missing. It looked as if buying orders had been pretty well eliminated.

There was no weakness, however. On the contrary, strength was displayed all over the list. The Westinghouse interests were stimulated by the announcement that interest on the scrip, amounting to 9 per cent, will be paid March 15.

Stocks finishing better than they opened were Chartiers Gas, Philadelphia Gas, Luster, Switch and Signal and Underground Cable. Airbrake and Pleasant Valley receded a trifle. The unlisted tractions held closely to the figures of the previous day. There were bids for Duquesne at the last call, but no offers.

Sales at first call were 95 Switch and Signal at 19¾, 10 Philadelphia Gas at 15¾, 50 Luster at 8¾. Second call, 200 Luster at 8¾, 340 Pleasant Valley at 24, 20 Switch and Signal at 19¾. Third call, 50 Citizens' Traction at 61, 100 Chartiers Gas at 7, 49 Pipenge at 8½, 5 Philadelphia Gas at 15¾, 50 Birmingham at 24.

The rally in Luster at the afternoon session, in face of the report that the mills are working unsatisfactorily, showed that friends of the company have different advices. There were no offers of Duquesne bonds below par. For Birmingham 90¼ was bid. Electric scrip could have been marketed at 98½. At the last moment Birmingham Traction was offered at 41. Bids and offers were:

EXCHANGE STOCKS.	FIRST CALL. B	FIRST CALL. A	SECOND CALL. B	SECOND CALL. A	THIRD CALL. B	THIRD CALL. A
P. P. S. & M. Ex.	450	475	....	....	....	....
Char. Val. Gas Co.	6½	....	6¾	....	7	....
Peo'N.G. & P. C.	8	8½	8¼	8½	8	....
Philadelphia Co.	15⅝	15⅞	15⅝	16	15⅞	16⅞
Wheeling Gas Co.	....	19	....	19	....	....
Ft. Pitt In. P. Co.	5	20	....	....	5	20
Central Traction	28⅝	....	28⅝	29	28⅝	28⅞
Citizens' Trac'n.	60¼	61	60⅛	61	60⅛	61
Pleasant Valley	....	24	24	24½	23½	24
P. Junc. R. R. Co.	....	....	....	....	28⅝	30⅝
N. Y. & C. G. C. C.	....	50½	....	....	....	50⅝
Luster Min. Co.	8½	8¾	8⅝	9	9	10
Westinghe Elec.	15⅛	....	15⅛	....