WASHINGTON'S LETTERS TO LEAR.—[Our readers are aware that, a short time ago, the Hon. RICHARD RUSH, of this city, published, in a thin octavo, a most interesting abstract, with running commentary upon the private letters addressed by General WASHINGTON to Colonel TOBIAS LEAR, his private secretary for many years. In the Supreme Court of New York, on Monday last, before Judge DAVIES, the following case, as to the ownership of the letters, came on:]

WILSON EYRE AND LOUISA LINCOLN LEAR EYRE, HIS WIFE, VS. EDWARD J. HIGBEE AND FANNY L. HIGBEE.—This was a suit for the recovery of certain original letters of General Washington, first President of the United States. The plaintiffs state that Colonel Tobias Lear was, for many years, private secretary to General Washington; that he was also a member of his household, and his personal friend; that, during those relations General Washington wrote and sent many letters to him; Colonel Lear died intestate, in Washington, in 1816, leaving Frances D. Lear, his third wife, and his son, Benjamin Lincoln Lear, issue of his second marriage, who was born in the year 1791, his sole heirs-at-law, and next of kin; from the time of Tobias Lear's death, the son and the widow lived together in Washington; the son, a lawyer, supporting himself, and contributing to support his step-mother; Benjamin Lincoln Lear died in October, 1832, having made his will in June of the same year; at the time of his death he did not know that he would leave issue; his will bequeathed to his step-mother all the furniture, plate, property, &c., in the dwelling house; also some real estate, he gave to his cousin his property in Portsmouth for life, with remainder to Lincoln Lear; after some legacies, he gave the residue to his wife, appointed executrix with power of sale, and what remained at the death of his wife was to go to his right heirs. After the death of B. L. Lear a daughter was born to him, namely, Louisa Lincoln Lear, the plaintiff, who is sole heir-at-law, and next of kin; this daughter was married to the plaintiff, Wilson Eyre, on the 30th of August, 1856; after the death of her father, the plaintiff, Louisa, resided with Frances D. Lear as her adopted daughter, until within two or three years; Frances D. Lear continued to reside in Washington until her death, in December, 1856; she left a will appointing Judge Dunlop and Bayard Smith executors; Tobias Lear was the sole owner of the letters up to the time of his death, and no other person had any interest therein; the letters were written between the years 1790 and 1799; the personal representatives of Washington claim no title or interest in these letters, which had remained in the house of Benjamin Lincoln Lear from the time of his father's death to his own decease; no letters of administration of Tobias Lear's estate were ever taken out any where, until those in New York; after the death of Benjamin Lincoln Lear the letters remained in the same house, until the defendant Fanny, as it is alleged, took them, and now holds possession of them. The plaintiffs also state that, in September, 1856, Frances D. Lear, then being confined to her bed by last illness, directed the defendant, Fanny L. Higbee, to take the volume of letters now in dispute, and send it to Mrs. Mason, mother of Hon. James Mason, who was then Senator of the United States from the State of Virginia, and to accompany the volume of letters with a note to Mrs. Mason, expressing the desire of Frances D. Lear that they should be held subject to the directions of the Hon. Richard Rush, of Philadelphia, and her desire that Mr. Rush should make what use she deemed proper in the way of publication of the volume of letters, and that he should eventually arrange for their presentation to the State of Virginia, at such time, and in such manner as he should think proper; and also suggesting that Senator Mason would be a proper channel through which Mr. Rush might transmit the letters to the State of Virginia, but leaving everything in relation to the ultimate disposition of them to Mr. Rush. Letters of administration on the estate of Tobias Lear were issued by the Surrogate of New York April 18, 1857, to plaintiff, Wilson Eyre, in right of his wife. Plaintiffs demand possession of the letters.

Mrs. Higbee, wife of the Rev. Dr. Higbee, claims the right to keep possession of these letters. The first wife of Lear was Fanny Dandridge, niece of Mrs. Washington, and second to Commodore John Henly, who was Mrs. Higbee's father; John Henly's mother was the only sister of Mrs. Washington.

The letters, the plaintiffs say, were written during a period commencing in the month of September in the year 1790 and ending in the year 1799, and treated of a variety of subjects; many of them of public interest, and of great interest to the descendants of Tobias Lear; some of them treat of the arrangement of the house and household of Washington in Philadelphia, in the early part of his first Presidential term, and are valuable and curious as illustrations of peculiar phases of his character; some of them treat of foreign political affairs; some of questions of domestic politics; some of appointments to office; some of them relate to the navigation of the river Potomac; some to the preparation of Washington's address to Congress, and some to his own domestic and individual business; many of them relate to the private affairs and business of Tobias Lear; one of them is a voucher belonging to Tobias Lear, bearing date 25th day of March, 1793, and attesting to the settlement and accuracy of the accounts of Tobias Lear with General Washington. All of them have an actual value to their owner, like any other personal property; and have an actual intrinsic value as curiosities, and as important illustrations of the history of the country and of Washington, and as valuable contributions to the history of that time; in fact, the plaintiffs say these letters possess to them a value of a character that no money could measure.

The case merely came up on demurrer, the defendants contending that the plaintiffs were debarred by letters of administration not having been taken out until after a lapse of over forty years; and also that Mr. Higbee is lawfully in possession and legally entitled to them.

Mr. Cramm appeared as counsel for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Stoughton for the defendants. Decision on demurrer reserved.

Mr. Bancroft, the historian, was seated on the bench beside Judge Davies, and at the termination of the motion was introduced by the Judge to Mr. Stoughton. Mr. Bancroft asked permission to see those very curious and valuable letters of the country's history, and Mr. Stoughton, at the request of Mr. Higbee's address, and no doubt the venerable historian will be allowed to peruse them.

COPARTNERSHIPS AND DISSOLUTIONS.—By referring to the advertising columns of *The Press* for the last few days, it will be seen that the following mutations in a large number of our business firms have been made with the opening of the year:

The firm of KEENE, STERLING, & CO., was dissolved on the first instant by its own limitation; Mr. JAMES KEENE, having transferred his interest in the firm of JAMES KEENE, JR., with which change the style of the firm has been changed to KEENE, STERLING, & FRANKS, and by whom the wholesale boot and shoe business will be continued at the old stand, No. 236 North Third street.

Messrs. GERARD C. KERSEY and JOSEPH WALTON have withdrawn from the firm of KITZ, KERSEY, & WALTON, leaving Mr. JOHN L. KITZ the authorized agent to settle the business of the late firm.

From the firm of LIEBHARDT, MCDOWELL, & CO., we notice the withdrawal of Mr. JOHN A. SHEBLE; the business to be continued under the same style of firm.

Messrs. GULLOU, ANDERSON, & CO. have given Mr. J. FRANK BROWN an interest in their business; style of firm unchanged.

The copartnership heretofore existing between JAMES HARPER and EDWIN BENDER, lumber merchants, trading under the firm of JAMES HARPER & CO., has been dissolved by mutual consent.

The old firm of DILWORTH, BRANSON, & CO. has been dissolved by limitation, either of the four partners being authorized to settle the business of the firm at the store, No. 211 Market street.

POWELL, HAZLETT, & CO., engaged in the fancy dry-goods business at No. 414 Market street, have associated with them as a general partner, Mr. EDGAR C. LYONS.

The copartnership heretofore existing under the firm of SEIGER, LAMB, & CO., dry-goods jobbing and importing merchants, has been dissolved by the death of Mr. C. B. LAMB; business to be settled by the surviving partners, who have associated with them Messrs. JOHN WIEST, W. D. SPEAKER, and D. B. EWIN, under the general firm of RIEGEL, BAIRD, & CO.

Mr. THOS. MELLOR, importer of hosiery, has given to Messrs. EDWARD BAINS, JOHN B. MELLOR, and GEORGE O. EVANS an interest in his business, by associating them with himself under the firm of THOS. MELLOR & CO. Business conducted at No. 8 North Third street.

The firm of ATWOOD & RALSTON, commission carpet merchants, have associated with them Mr. THOMAS L. HILDEBURN, under the firm of ATWOOD, RALSTON, & CO. Place of business, No. 533 Market street.

Mr. FRANCIS LASHER has admitted to an interest in his business Messrs. WILLIAM ALFORD and CHARLES E. STEVENS, under the firm of FRANCIS LASHER & CO., for the conducting of a dry-goods jobbing business.

By mutual consent, the firm of MORRIS L. HALLOWELL & CO. has been dissolved, by the retiring of Mr. ARTHUR W. LITTLE; the business of the firm to be continued, as heretofore, by the remaining partners, at No. 333 Market street.

A new firm for the importing and jobbing of silk and fancy dry goods has been formed by Messrs. ARTHUR W. LITTLE, CHARLES WATSON, and FRANKLIN JANNEY, under the firm of A. W. LITTLE & CO.; business to be conducted at 325 Market street.

The firm of JOHN ELY & CO. has been dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. JOHN ELY being alone authorized to settle the business, and use the name of the firm in liquidation.

The firm of TEMPLE & BANKER has also been dissolved by mutual consent, either of the partners being authorized to settle the business of the late firm, at No. 18 South Fourth street. By the admitting of a new partner, Mr. SAMUEL H. MILLER, the business (dry-goods jobbing) will, hereafter, be conducted under the firm of TEMPLE, BAKER, & CO.

By mutual consent, Mr. EZRA ELIOT has retired from the firm of BROWN, HILL, & CO.—Mr. ELIOT having taken the store No. 32 North Front street, where he will conduct a commission business in cotton and woollen yarns, under the firm of E. A. ELIOT & CO., his partner being Mr. HORACE H. SOULE, of Boston.

The partnership heretofore existing under the firm of C. J. PRICE & CO. has been dissolved by limitation, by Mr. JOHN MILLER retiring from the firm; the business to be continued by the remaining partners under the same name and style.

The late firm of HAMMAN, SNYDER, & CO. has been dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. JAMES S. YOUNG being the authorized member of the firm for the settlement of its affairs.

Messrs. HUNT, WEBSTER, & CO., manufacturers of sewing machines, announce that Mr. EDWARD H. DAND will hereafter have charge of their business in this city, at No. 820 Chestnut street.

The late firm of MARTIN, BUEHLER, BROTHER, HAND, TOWNSEND, & CO. has been dissolved by the death of Mr. JOHN BUEHLER; the business of the firm to be settled by the surviving partners, who will continue the hardware business as heretofore, under the firm of BUEHLER & HOWARD, at No. 441 Market street.

The partnership heretofore existing between Messrs. A. M. BURGOS and HENRY STEVENSON has been dissolved by mutual consent; business to be settled by HENRY STEVENSON. The latter also announces that he will continue the tailoring business as heretofore, at No. 107 North Fourth street.

The late firm of MADDOCK, RAYMOND, & CO. has also been dissolved by mutual consent of parties, either member being authorized to sign a liquidation. Office No. 25 North Sixth street.

The old firm of BARCHOFT, BEAVER, & CO. has been dissolved by the withdrawal of Mr. THOMAS BEAVER; the business (dry-goods jobbing) still to be continued by the remaining partners, at Nos. 403 and 407 Market street, under the firm of BARCHOFT & CO.

A limited partnership for the transaction of the hardware business has been entered into, under the firm of VANCE & LANDIS, the general partners being JAMES M. VANCE and HENRY D. LANDIS, and the special partners WILLIAM DILWORTH and SAMUEL BRANSON; partnership to commence on the first instant, and terminate on the 31st day of December, 1859.

The firm of WATSON & BOWMAN has been dissolved by mutual consent, the business of the late firm to be settled by WM. H. BOWMAN, No. 201 Gallowhill street.

Mr. T. B. PETERSON has associated with him, as partners, his brothers, Messrs. GEORGE W. and THOMAS PETERSON, who will hereafter transact business under the firm of T. B. PETERSON & BROTHERS.

The firm of WOOD, STARR, & GARRETT has been dissolved. Messrs. R. D. WOOD and P. C. GARRETT announce that the business of the New Jersey Mills will be continued by them, under the name of WOOD & GARRETT. They also give notice that Mr. ISAAC STARR, jr., is the agent for the sale of the New Jersey Mills' cottons in this market.

The late firm of A. DIMOND has been augmented to A. DIMOND & CO., by the former associating with himself P. MCKENNA. Business to be conducted at No. 12 South Fourth street.

The copartnership heretofore existing under the firm of BOWMAN, FRANCE, & LOGAN has been dissolved by mutual consent. Mr. JONAS BOWMAN being alone authorized to use the name of the firm in the settlement of its late business, at Nos. 338 and 340 North Third street. A new firm has been formed for the future conducting of the wholesale grocery business, by Mr. JONAS BOWMAN associating with himself Mr. JOHN LOGAN. The business will be continued at the old stand under the name of BOWMAN & LOGAN.

WM. H. HORSTMANN & SONS give notice that they have made the following changes in their business: The ladies' dress trimming department to be continued at No. 723 Chestnut street, under the firm of WM. J. HORSTMANN & CO. and conducted by Messrs. GEO. O. EVANS and W. S. HASSEL, who will share an interest in the business. The *military* branch is to be continued at its present location, under the firm of HORSTMANN BROTHERS & CO., in connection with the firm of HORSTMANN BROTHERS & ALLEN, in New York, and conducted by JOHN G. FRANKLIN.

The business of the firm heretofore conducted at No. 412 Commerce street has expired by limitation, and has accordingly been dissolved; the business of the late firm to be settled by the senior partner, Mr. WILLIAM H. SOWERS, the latter giving notice at the same time that he will continue the American hardware commission business at the old stand.

Mr. ARWOOD SMITH announces that he still continues in the jobbing hardware business with MARTIN & SMITH, at No. 308 Market street.

The late firm of KEEN & TAYLOR, stock-brokers, having been dissolved, the business will be continued at the old office, No. 325 Walnut street, by Mr. CHARLES B. KEEN, who is authorized to use the name of the firm in liquidation.

CITY ITEMS.

CLOSE OF MR. ROBINSON'S SALE OF PICTURES.—A great *audience was attracted yesterday morning* at the rooms of Mr. Robinson, No. 910 Chestnut street, to attend the sale of the elegant engravings that were announced to be sold at that time. Many of the pieces brought prices that spoke well for the appreciation of our people for good pictures, though some it is true, were sold at a great sacrifice, considering their merit, and the valuable frames included in the purchase.

Notwithstanding the sale continued long and late, the audience lingered to the last with the greatest exhibition of patience, evincing an evident interest and satisfaction in the sale as it progressed. Upon the whole, we should not be much surprised if Mr. Robinson would be induced to offer another lot to the public in the same way, as we are informed that his stock has scarcely been broken by the loss of those that have been already sold.

JUSTICE VS. FILIBUSTERS.—

"Of all the virtues justice is the best;
Valor without it is common pest.
Pirates and thieves, too oft with courage graced,
Show us how ill that virtue may be placed.
'Tis our complexion makes us chaste and brave;
Justice from reason and from heaven we have:
All other virtues dwell but in the blood;
This in the soul, and gives the name of 'good'"

to the superior and graceful style of the painting of the palatial store of Granville Stokes, No. 607 Chestnut street.

ON DIT.—A young man went to a fashionable ball two weeks ago, and beheld one of the loveliest beings that ever, under the semblance of the feminine figure, haunted the dream of the poet. Proposing, he was rejected, and, driven to despair, went to provide a cord for suspension, when, passing the fashionable establishment of Clifton, Albright, & Co., No. 627 Chestnut street, a new idea seized him; and, fresh attired in splendid style, again preferred his suit, was accepted, and united in holy matrimony on New Year's day.

THE PRESIDENT SUSTAINS COMMODORE PAULDING.—Mr. Buchanan sustains Commodore Paulding in his course at Punta Arenas, and he has written to the Commodore assuring him of his support, and telling him to say no more about it, but just go to the Brown Stone Clothing Hall of Rockhill & Wilson, Nos. 603 and 605 Chestnut street, above Sixth, and get himself a new outfit. Com. P. wrote back to J. B., saying ironically "I am!!"

THE MONEY MARKET.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 5, 1858.

The stock market opened to-day with more animation than usual, and investment securities were held with considerable firmness.

There is very little disposition to speculate, however, and the fancy stocks are of slow sale. The prices at which these are held are far too high in comparison with other commodities, and speculators for a rise are hard to find.

Those who have been operating with that view have all they want, and more too, and we do not anticipate any material improvement for a long time to come. The comparison of the prices of stocks in July last and at this time, shows a far less proportionate decline than the prices of any kind of merchandise. Flour, grain, cotton, provisions, every thing is down lower than stocks, and it is hardly reasonable to suppose that these will advance very considerably, until the amelioration is produced by sound causes, general in their effects.

We regret to have to record that another of our Insurance Companies has been compelled to stop. The Independent Mutual Insurance Company, we are informed, have conveyed their assets, by deed of trust, to Messrs. John H. Djehl, Thomas Beaver, and Samuel T. Canby, for the benefit of their creditors.

The cause of this step, it is said, has not been the losses by sea, so much as the failure of many of the subscribers, whose notes form the capital of the company on one hand, and the non-payment of the notes received for premiums on the other. The failure of customers to pay premium notes has been a universal complaint, and has borne with equal severity upon all marine insurance companies; but the mutual companies, suffering under heavy losses from this cause, turn in vain to their stock notes for support. A large proportion of these, too, are unavailable, some subscribers being bankrupt, others embarrassed, and still others who ask a long period of time in which to meet their obligations.

No management, however prudent and scrutinizing, can be successful on a basis like this in times of universal commercial distress, and henceforth we hope that no more insurance companies will be allowed to go into operation without a *bona fide* paid-up cash capital. The mutual system of marine insurance has proved itself to be an excellent arrangement for good times and easy finances; but it will not stand the test of a severe commercial crisis.

In making these remarks, we would not be understood as reflecting upon the management of the Independent Company, which has hitherto enjoyed a general reputation for honorable dealing and prompt settlements, and which, in resolving to wind up its affairs, we have no doubt is acting solely for the best interests of its creditors.

The following are the principal figures of the city bank statements, as far as published:

	Loans.	Specie.	Circulat'n.	Dep's.
Southwark Bank	$616,320	$204,019	$31,190	$509,436
Bk. of Commerce	703,196	150,094	56,990	561,815
Bank Penn Tp.	676,703	127,608	18,455	368,365
Kensington Bank	653,972	89,700	87,455	352,012
Tradesmens' Bk.	455,260	112,150	26,750	439,299
Consolidation Bk.	387,268	41,193	16,920	187,121
Bk. N. America	2,923,786	643,601	92,623	1,607,409
Philad'a Bank	3,559,000	487,000	112,000	2,253,000
Girard Bank	1,386,679	155,280	73,840	649,601

The Girard Life Insurance, Annuity and Trust Company have declared a dividend of three and a half per cent. on the capital stock for the last six months. This is one of the most reliable institutions of the kind in the country, and it affords us pleasure to chronicle this evidence of its success.

The official averages of the banks in the city of New York for the week ending on Saturday last, January 2d, present in the aggregate the following changes from the previous weekly statement of December 26th:

Increase in Loans	$647,048
Increase in Specie	1,419,848
Increase in Circulation	128,216
Increase in Undrawn Deposits	1,974,597

The specie average is higher than ever before, the total being the full total of $28,561,946. Including the operations of the clearing house for the week, which, on the five business days, average $13,601,857, and the Sub-Treasury statement of Saturday afternoon, the following is the general comparison with the previous week, and also with the first week in January last year:

COMPARATIVE RECAPITULATION.

	Jan. 3, '57.	Jan. 2, '58.	Dec 26, '57.
Capital	$55,047,000	$64,668,000	$64,668,000
Loans	109,149,163	98,549,983	97,902,935
Specie	11,172,244	28,561,946	27,142,909
Circulation	5,602,112	6,490,403	6,352,187
Gross Deposits	95,846,216	78,635,224	76,159,597
Exchanged	32,168,387	23,601,357	13,080,627
Undrawn	63,677,829	65,073,397	63,059,270
In Sub-Treasury	11,430,150	3,259,336	3,501,662

PHILADELPHIA STOCK EXCHANGE SALES,

January 5, 1858.

Reported by R. Manly, Jr., Stock-Broker, No. 80½ Walnut street.

FIRST BOARD.

1000 N Penna R 6s	49	10 Lehigh Scrip	33½
373 81 Penna 5s...O&P.	81½	24 do	33½
100 City 6s	82½	12 N Penna R	3½
5700 do	81. 87	5 Reading R	28⅝
200 U S 6s, '67	110	1 Catawissa R	6
100 Reading R 6s, '43	90	100 Long Island R	10½
500 do	80	2 Morris Can pref	93½
1000 City 6s	new. 94	2 Mechanics' Bk	24
200 do	new. 94	50 Girard Bk	9¼
10 Penna R	cash. 38½	50 do	9¼
50 do	cash. 38½	50 do	9¼
50 do	cash. 38½	50 do	9¼
50 do	38½	50 do	9¼
24 do	cash. 38½	10 do	9¼
5 do	38½	10 City Bk	cash. 37½
6 do	cash. 38½	11 Far & Mech Bk	51½
30 Beav Mea R O&P.	51		
18 Lehigh Scrip	33½		

BETWEEN BOARDS.

1000 City 6s	new. 94	1000 Read R 6s, '86	2d s 66½
2000 Penna 5s...O&P.	83	4000 do	'86..s5 66½
5000 do	O&P. 82	1000 do	'86...c 66½
1800 do	O&P. 82	100 Reading R	28⅝
10000 Phil & Tr R 6s	68	100 do	cash. 28⅝
3000 Read R 6s, '86	3d s. 66½	25 Mechanics' Bk	23½

SECOND BOARD.

1000 City 6s	87½	10 Penna R	38½
500 do	87½	50 do	38½
1000 do	87½	2 do	38½
300 do	87½	9 do	38½
200 do	87½	50 Long Island R	10
124 Sch Nav B Loan	83	1 Beav Mead R O&P.	51
500 N Penna R 6s	49½	10 do O&P.	51
3 N Penna R	9	9 Lehigh Scrip	34
3 Penna R	38½	10 do	s10 72½
3 do	38½	5 Sch Nav pref	17

CLOSING PRICES—FIRM.

	Bid.	Asked.		Bid.	Asked.
U States 6s '68	119		Sc N 6s '82 pref.	17	17½
Phila 6's int off	67	67½	" stock	9	10
" RR.	87	87½	Wmsp't & Kin R.	9	10
" " New	93½	94	Westmorel'd R	50	60
Pennsylv 5's	81½	82½	do 2dm	40	48
Reading R	28⅝	28½	Long Island	10	10½
do Bonds '70	71	74	Hickory	7	8
" Mort 6s '44	91		Girard Bank	9¼	9¾
do do '86	66½	66½	Lehigh Zinc	¾	⅞
Penna RR	38½	38¾	Union Canal	2	3½
Morris Can. Com	42	44	New Creek	½	¾
Schu N 6s '82	59	59½	Catawissa R	5	6

ALBANY CATTLE MARKET, Jan. 4.—BEEF CATTLE.—400 at market. Extra, $5; first quality, $4 50; second quality, $4; third quality, $3.50.

COWS AND CALVES.—25 at market. Extra, $56; first quality, $40; second quality, $35; third quality, $30.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—500 at market. Extra, $5; first quality, $4; second quality, $3; third quality; $2 50.

BY THE PILOT LINE.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, Jan. 5, 1858—5.20 P. M.

The bank statement is generally admitted to be very favorable, and to manifest a desire on the part of the banks not to impede any longer the advance of any legitimate trade. The encouragement derived from the expansion of the discount line, and the large sum of money put in motion by the daily payment of dividends, give cheerful tone and activity to the market, without, however, as yet making any change in the rates of interest, or making things at all easier for those borrowers who cannot show a clean bill of health.

It is not alone the bankers who are afraid to lend the money; but the wholesale merchants are just as timid and as anxious as to whom they shall sell on credit. It is this infectious want of confidence throughout all the ramifications of business that has kept trade in its present lethargic state, and though we are beginning to wake up, by the noise of removing the killed and wounded, and the arrival of fresh recruits, we are not yet wide awake. We must rub our eyes a little more before we can be expected to see our way quite clearly before us. Cash purchasers—and they are beginning to arrive from the far West—can get unusual bargains just now, and those whose stock has run down ought not to let the opportunity slip, if they can scrape together the specie to tempt our wholesale dealers. To get credit, however, is a different task. A Western dry goods merchant asking goods on credit, is turned over and scrutinized in Park place or Exchange place as closely as a doubtful note is examined at the banks and note brokers, but a cash purchaser is treated with promptness and most "distinguished consideration."

The auction sales of dry-goods for this month are likely to be very numerous, and it is said that the Western merchants are already on the move hitherward. It is not thought that the shipment of gold by the Persia, to-morrow, will much exceed $1,500,000, the greater part of which will consist of remittances to pay dividends due abroad, and not to meet mercantile liabilities. Foreign Exchange was very dull to-day, at nominally unchanged rates. With the exception of one or two favorite drawers, bills are generally distrusted, and gold preferable by remitters.

The difficulty in selling exchange operates very prejudicially to the export trade of produce. It is hoped that one or two arrivals of good news from the other side will make the market for produce bills easier, and that the best relief may be found in the ready realization of our now unproductive wealth.

There is much honest indignation expressed, and doubtless felt, at the non-payment, in this city, of the necessity for the coupon holders to send them to San Francisco for payment, or stand a shave of 10 per cent. I do not wonder that the aggrieved parties are angry.

The exchanges at the clearing-house to-day were $15,233,210.80, and the balances were $1,017,348.22. The cash transactions at the sub-treasury were: Receipts, $45,116.17; payments, $115,524.92; balance, 3,078,202.91. The receipts for customs were $34,000.

The Stock market was very active to-day, but prices gave way a little from yesterday's rise. There was a very large business done in State stocks, Railroad bonds, and Government securities, and prices were well maintained. The feeling is cheerful notwithstanding the decline; but while the market is so unsettled, no one can say what a day or an hour will bring forth to elate or depress buyers and sellers. The plethoric state of the money market favors stock speculation, but a good deal of caution is observed, amateur speculators being exceedingly wary.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE—JAN. 5.

FIRST BOARD.

21000 US 6s '68 coub	112	2050 Erie Railroad	18¾
3000 N Y 6s '74	109¼	50 do	s15 18¾
2000 N Y State 5s '55	99	100 do	18¾
5000 Ohio 6s '66	97	50 do	s10 18¾
28000 Tenn 6s '90	80	115 Harlem R	6¼
14000 do	80¼	400 do	6¾
1000 Virginia 6s	88	100 Gal & Chi R	73¾
12000 Missouri 6s	78	50 do	s60 73
5000 do	s60 77¼	50 do	73¾
3000 Cal 7s '75	97	50 do	73¾
2000 Mich 6s ex int	90	13 Stonington R	96
1000 Brooklyn 6s ext	87½	500 Reading R	opg 56¾
10000 Erie bds '83	s3 63	100 do	b60 57
2000 Har 1st mtg	66	400 do	s30 56
1000 do	65	200 do	56¾
1000 Read R bd	66	200 do	56¾
5000 Mich Cen 8 pc	100	200 do	56
1st m SkgFdCon	84	100 do	55¾
3000 LaCrs & Mil LG	32	200 do	s60 55
5000 do	31	100 do	s60 55¾
1000 do	33¾	100 do	cup 56
2000 Tol & Det bd	55	150 do	s15 56
10 Mer Bk scrip	103	123 Mich Cen R	50
10 do	103¾	5 Mich So R	19¼
10 do	103¾	50 do	s10 19
30 National Bank	105¾	70 do	19
5 Am Ex Bank	99	100 do	b3 19
15 Am Ex Bk script	98¾	100 Mich So & N I pfd	34
20 Metro Bk	99¾	150 do	b60 31½
150 Canton Co	btw 19	6 Illinois Cen	91½
75 do	19¾	100 do	91
100 do	b60 19¾	100 do	s60 90
100 do	b60 19¾	15 Clev Col & Cin R	95
220 Cumb Coal	10¾	200 Clev & Tol R	42¾
45 Pacific M S S Co	69¾	100 do	s30 42
10 do	69¾	200 do	b60 42¾
10 do	70	50 Chic & R I R	73
50 Penn Coal Co	b60 69	12 do	72¾
950 N Y Cen R	75½	200 do	s10 72¾
100 do	s30 75¾	50 do	b60 73
200 do	s10 75¾	678 LaCrox & Mil R	11¾
100 do	b3 75¾	200 do	b60 11¾
100 do	b10 75¾	30 Mil & Miss R	21
100 do	s3 75¾	10 do	32
20 Panama R	b30 90		

SECOND BOARD.

2000 Tenn 6s '90	80	2000 Virginia 6s	88
6000 Brklyn City 6s	88	1000 do	89
500 Ill Cen bds	86	2000 N Y Cen 6s	82¾
22000 Missouri 6s	78	100 Cum Coal Co	b30 10¾
5000 Ohio 6s 1858	101¾		

THE MARKET.

ASHES.—Pearls have opened at $5.75, with sales of 40 bbls; pots are quoted at $5.62½@5.75.

BREADSTUFFS.—The market for State and Western flours has been very active and buoyant to-day for the lower grades, and the rates for low and medium qualities are 5c @ bbl higher, with a good export demand; the sales are 22,500 bbls at $4.50@$4.35 for common to good State; $4.50@$4.75 for extra State; $4.30@$4.40 for common to good Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Iowa, &c, and $4.55@$5.15 for extra do.

Southern Flour is steady, with sales of 1,300 bbls at $4.50@$5 for mixed to good brands of Baltimore; fancy and extra do, $5.17@$6; superfine Alexandria, $5@$5 50; extra do, $5.75@$6.25; superfine Georgetown, $5 50@$5 75; fancy and extra do, $6@$6.50; superfine Petersburg, $5.50@$6; extra do, $6 50@$6.50; Richmond country, $5.75@$6; Richmond city, $6@$6.85; Brandywine, $6.

Canadian Flour is better for the common grades, with sales of 700 bbls at $4.35@$4.40 for superfine, and $4.65@$6 for the range of extra brands.

Rye flour is steady, with sales of 100 bbls at $3@$4 for the range of fine and superfine.

Corn meal is more active; we quote Jersey at $3 25, with sales of 100 bbls; Brandywine, $3.50@$3.55, with sales of 1,000 bbls about at $3 50.

Wheat is firmer, but with little activity, the sales include 3,800 bushels red Southern at 1.14@$1.15; 5,750 white do at $1.21@$1.30.

Rye is dull at 72@74.

Oats are heavy at 28@32 for Southern, 33@37 for Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware, 42@44 for State, and 45@46 for Western.

Barley is dull at 60@72; barley malt is quoted at 85@90.

White beans are steady at $1 37½@$1.50 for good to choice.

Canadian peas were sold yesterday in shipping order at $1.17 ℔ bushel. Southern black-eyed peas $2.75 ℔ two bushels.

Corn is firmer, with an active export demand, and shipping qualities are freely taken at some improvement in price; the sales are 55,000 bushels at 58@62 for yellow, and 58@64 for white, including shipping lots at 62½@64, closing at the higher rate.

CORTON is steady at the quotations of this morning.

PROVISIONS—Pork has been much unsettled, prices varying, between the opening and closing sales, nearly $1 per bbl; the sales are 550 bbls, closing at $14.85@$15 for new mess, and $12.40@$12.50 for prime; other descriptions are entirely nominal. Dressed Hogs are heavy at 6¾@6¾c. Beef is dull, with sales of 160 bbls at $10@10 for country mess, $5.75@$6.75 for country prime, and $11@$12.50 for repacked Western. Prime mess beef is quoted at $18@25. Beef hams are steady with sales of 74 bbls at $14@$15.50. Bacon is quiet, with some export inquiry, at 7¾@9 for English Bacon, but without sales; rough sides are quoted at 7¼. Cut meats are easier, with sales of 70 cases at 8@8¼ for hams, and 6@6¾ for shoulders. Lard is dull, with sales of 67 tcs and bbls at 8¾@9¼. Butter is selling slowly. Cheese is dull at our quotations.

WHISKEY is lower, with sales of 200 bbls at 21c.

Importations.

[Reported for The Press.]

NEW ORLEANS—Barque Wm Henry, Young—237 hhds sugar 500 bbls Molasses John B Budd; 104 empty casks Poultney & Massey.

PHILADELPHIA BOARD OF TRADE.

EDWARD C. KNIGHT, FRANCIS R. COPE, THOS. KIMBER, JR. } COMMITTEE OF THE MONTH.

SAILING OF THE OCEAN STEAMERS.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

STEAMER	FROM	FOR	DAY
Persia	New York	Liverpool	Jan 6
Arago	New York	Havre	Jan 9

FROM EUROPE.

	FROM	FOR	DAY
Atlantic	Liverpool	New York	Dec 23
Africa	Liverpool	New York	Dec 26
Hammonia	Hamburg	New York	Jan 1
Fulton	Havre	New York	Jan 12

☞ *The California Mail Steamers sail from New York on the 5th and 20th of each month.*

MOVEMENTS OF HAVANA STEAMERS.

PHILADELPHIA—From New York 24, arriving at Havana 8th, and New Orleans 11th. From New Orleans 20th; Havana 23d, arriving at New York 28th.

QUAKER CITY—From New York 7th of each month, arriving at Havana 12th, and Mobile 14th. From Mobile 22d, Havana 24th, arriving at New York 28th.

CAHAWBA—From New York 12th, arriving at Havana 17th, and New Orleans 19th. From New Orleans 27th, Havana 29th, arriving at New York 3d.

PACIFIC CITY—From New York 17th, arriving at Havana 23d, and New Orleans 26th. From New Orleans 5th, Havana 8th, arriving at New York 13th.

BLACK WARRIOR—From New York 27th, arriving at Havana 1st and New Orleans 3d. From New Orleans 12th, Havana 14th, due at New York 18th.

ISABEL—From Charleston 19th and 4th, due at Havana 23d and 7th. From Havana 10th and 25th, due at New York 16th and 31st

Marine Intelligence.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 6, 1858.

SUN RISES.....7 21 | SUN SETS.....4 39
HIGH WATER.....8 56

ARRIVED.

Barque Wm Henry, Young, 14 days from N Orleans, with sugar and molasses to D S Stetson & Co

Schr Virginia, Bunnel, 6 days from Savannah, with lumber to Pettit, Martin & Co.

Schr Isaac Rich, Smith, 6 days from Provincetown, with nuts to Geo A Wood.

Schr A Manship, Grace, 1 day from Magnolia, Del, with corn to Jas Barratt & Son.

Schr Smith Tuttle, Reed, 6 days from Provincetown, with nuts to G A Wood.

CLEARED.

Steamship Virginia, Teal, Richmond, T Webster, Jr.

Ship Westmoreland, Decan, New Orleans, Penrose & Burton.

Barque Achilles, Spedden, London, T Richardson & Co

Barque A A Drebert, Hewitt, St Barts, Jaurretche & Carstairs.

Br brig Martha Jane, Corbitt, Fire Island, NS, E A Souder & Co.

Schr B B Strong, Mott, Wilmington, NC, D B Stetson & Co

Schr A Hammond, Smith, Boston, Cabeen & Co

Str R Willing, Claypoole, Baltimore, A Groves, Jr.

(Correspondence of the Philadelphia Exchange.)

LEWES, Del., Jan. 4, 8 A M.

Two deeply laden herm brigs passed up yesterday. A fleet of colliers went to sea this morning. Schr S B Bailey and four others unknown are in harbor. Wind light from SW

Yours, &c, WM. M. HICKMAN.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

(Correspondence of the Philadelphia Exchange.