PH. R. MERTZ.

Banker and Broker,

118 Wood St., near corner of Fifth.

All descriptions of Government Bonds bought and sold on liberal terms.

London and Continental Exchange sold at New York rates.

Gold, Silver and Coupons bought at highest rates, and Gold Drafts issued on New York.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY, August 21, 1866.

The New York stock quotations to-day were as follows: Gold, 148½; 1881 bonds 111⅝; 5-20s, 106½; 10-40s, 103½; 7-30s, 105⅞; Michigan Southern Railroad, 80½; Cleveland & Pittsburgh Railroad, 80¾; Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne, & Chicago Railroad, 105; Erie Railroad, 74½; Western Union Telegraph Company, 36⅞; Chicago & Rock Island, 107¼.

Gold has fluctuated to-day from 148 down to 147—and again rose to 148¾. It seems that there is no truth in the rumors that the government had or was about to commence selling; those, the "shorts" covered as soon as they found a margin between their sales. Government bonds were somewhat firmer this morning for the first series of 7-30s and 5-20s of 1864, but for the balance of the list the market was barely maintained on yesterday's quotations.

The questions are very frequently asked: Is it advisable to sell government, and what can money best be invested in? These questions may be answered thus—if a large profit can be realized, it will be well to sell, since the present high quotations are very tempting to large holders, and heavy sales must tell on the market. Our city and county bonds are considered the cheapest and most reliable securities to invest in, at present prices, yielding 7 per cent.

Money is in good supply and good signatures of 3 or 4 months pass at from 9 to 10 per cent. Land Rams and Insurance Stocks are not much inquired for, and prices are for the most part entirely nominal.

—The Titusville *Herald* says:

The petroleum taxes combined for the purpose of selling oil by the gallon in Pennsylvania have caused a great excitement. Most of them have signed an agreement to that effect. For every 10 gallons two pounds will be allowed for leakage. This should have been adopted at the begin[illegible] but as it stands it appears to have a cooling effect on the market. Some [illegible] sunk out of the wells to the depth of eight hundred feet, and the whole place was made to resemble a process of coloring, using the barrels. The wells being one of three oil wells in a large circle, the agreement will reduce the barrels to the gallon and see what oil is worth at the wells. Producing the oil and storage is 5 gallons to the barrel, so they make oil on the cities to-day, as near as possible, at 7 cents a gallon. It will give a good account of colonels standing and bowing to the Devil, Devil Oil, Devil Oil, and business will be carried on much more satisfactory to both parties.

—The Chicago *Journal* of Monday says:

Upwards dispatch received by one of our brokers state that C. Parks & Co., formerly of this city, but now at New York, have failed. Call it "Chicago and" [illegible] It will be remembered that C. Parks & Co. failed in this city, owing a large amount—[illegible] in debt.

The acting Commissioner of Internal Revenue writes, relative to the tax on cigars thus:

"I have to say that by bonding your cigars you can have them appraised at the wholesale market value, and on withdrawing them for consumption you can sell them as you please, at wholesale or retail, as you may and customer. But if no sale is made upon cigars until they are sold, the actual price received, whether at wholesale or retail, must be returned, and the tax imposed upon such price. The tax upon cigars sold at $30 per thousand is $1.50, but if the same quality of cigars are retail-ed at $40 per thousand the tax will be $1.

New York Money and Stock Market.

[By Telegraph.]

NEW YORK, August 21.—The market opened [illegible] at the Stock Board and continued [illegible] business, naturally create more [illegible] supply to meet [illegible] exceed the wants of borrowers. [illegible] prices for the demand [illegible] Government bonds were [illegible] for some time to come. Gold [illegible] cent. The [illegible] 148¾ and closed [illegible] 148½. Coupons [illegible] 111½. Coupons, 1881, [illegible] 105½. Coupons, 1864, [illegible] 106½. Coupons, 1865, [illegible] 105½. Coupons, 1867, [illegible] 105½. Coupons, 1868, [illegible] 105½. Coupons, 10-40s, [illegible] 103½. Pacific Mail, [illegible] 132½. Pacific Mail, [illegible] 132½. Western Union Telegraph, [illegible] 36½. Cumberland Coal, [illegible] 35½. Cumberland Coal, preferred, [illegible] 50. Consolidated Coal, [illegible] 37½. Pacific Mail, [illegible] 132½. Pacific Mail, [illegible] 132½. Pacific Mail, [illegible] 132