COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS

Business was fairly good in the wholesale districts yesterday, and prices were holding steady, except in a few lines of produce which have been exhibiting weakness for several days past. Butter and eggs are both moving very slow, even at reduced prices, and a further decline in the former is not improbable; but with eggs there is an impression that the bottom has been reached, as the cold-storage men are ready to load up at anything under present prices. Potatoes are still dragging, with the supply in excess of the demand, and the outlook is not promising for anything better this season. The demand for oats is improving slightly, and, as receipts are light, prices are steady.

Bank Clearings.

	Exchanges.	Balances.
Portland	$294,528	$57,941
Seattle	341,493	82,934
Spokane	223,008	56,424
Tacoma	132,413	4,177

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Etc.

The Chicago market was a little "snappy" on the start yesterday, but at the close of the session was a fraction under Wednesday. The situation was fairly comfortable in Europe, and in the local market there was hardly a ripple of business to disturb the serenity of the market. Prices are still showing no change of importance, and quotations are nominally 53c for both Walla Walla and Valley, with the usual "cent more paid up the country by the other fellow." Freights are firm but inactive. Another ship finished loading today, and a third for the week will finish tomorrow.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 53@54c; Valley, 53@54c; bluestem, 55@56c per bushel.

Flour—Best grades, $2 70@3; graham, $2 50; superfine, $2 10 per barrel.

Oats—White, 36@37c; gray, 33@34c; stained, 29@30c per bushel.

Barley—Feed, $14@14 50; brewing, $17@17 50 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, $12@13 per ton; middlings, $18@19; shorts, $13@15; chop, $14.

Hay—Timothy, $9@10; clover, $7@7 50; Oregon wild hay, $6@7 per ton.

Vegetables, Fruit, Etc.

Vegetables—Parsnips, $1; carrots, $1; turnips, 60c; onions, $2 @ 2 50 per central; cabbage, 90c@$1 per central; potatoes, 50@55c per sack; sweet potatoes, 2½@3c; peas, 4½@5c; beans, 11c; asparagus, 4½c; new potatoes, 2½c per pound.

Fruit—Lemons, $2 50@3; oranges, $2@3 per box for navels, $1 50@2 for seedlings; tangerines, $1 75; Japanese oranges, 75c@$1 50 per box; pineapples, $4 50@6 per dozen; bananas, $2 50 @3 per bunch; Persian dates, 7½@8c per pound; apples, $1@1 50; pears, 75c@$1 25 per box.

Dried fruit — Apples, evaporated, 7@8c per pound; sun-dried, sacks or boxes, 4@5c; pears, sun and evaporated, 5@6c; plums, pitless, 4@5½c; prunes, Italian, 3½@5½c; silver, extra choice, 5 @ 6c; figs, Smyrna, 22½c; California black, 5@6c; do white, 10c per pound.

Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Etc.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 45 @ 50c; seconds, 40c; dairy, 30@37½c; store, 25@32½c per roll.

Eggs—11@11½c per dozen for Oregon.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $3 50@4 50; hens, $5@6; ducks, $5@6; geese, $5 50@8 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10@11c; dressed, 12½@14c per pound.

Game—Mallard ducks, $3; widgeon, $1 50@2; teal, $1@1 50 per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 12½@13c; Young America, 14c per pound.

Groceries, Nuts, Etc.

Coffee—Mocha, 23@28c; Java, fancy, 26@32c; Java, good, 20@24c; Java, ordinary, 18@20c; Costa Rica, fancy, 18@20c; do good, 16@18c; do ordinary, 10@12c per pound; Columbia, roast, $12 75 per case; Arbuckle's, $14 25; Lion, $12 75.

Sugar—Cube, $5 82½; crushed, $5 82½; powdered, $5 82½; dry granulated, cane, $5 32½; beet, $5 22½; extra C, $4 82½; golden C, $4 7½ net; half barrels, ⅛c more than barrels; maple sugar, 15@16c per pound.

Beans—Small white, 3½c; bayou, 4c; Lima, 6c per pound.

Salmon — Columbia river, 1-pound talls, $1@1 50; 2-pound talls, $2@2 50; fancy, 1-pound flats, $1 65@1 75; ½-pound fancy flats, 85@90c; Alaska, 1-pound talls, $1 20@1 30; 2-pound talls, $1 90@2 25.

Grain bags—Calcutta, $7@7 10 per 100 for spot, $6 50@6 62½ for July-August.

Nuts—Peanuts, 6½@7c per pound for raw, 10c for roasted; cocoanuts, 90c per dozen; walnuts, 10@11c per pound; pine nuts, 15c; hickory nuts, 7c; chestnuts, 15c; Brazil, 11c; filberts, 15c; fancy pecans, 12@14c; almonds, 15 @ 17½c per pound.

Coal oil — Cases, 21½c per gallon; barrels, 17½c; tanks, 15½c.

Rice—Island, 6¼c; Japan, 5½c; New Orleans, 4½@5½c; fancy head, $7@7 50 per sack.

Meat and Provisions.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, $4@4 25; dressed, 7@7½c per pound; spring lambs, $2@2 50 each.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, $5; light, $4 50, dressed, 5@6½c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, $4@4 50; cows, $3 50 @4; dressed beef, 6½@7½c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6½@7½c per pound; small, 8@9c.

Provisions — Portland pack (Shield brand): Hams, smoked, are quoted at 13½c per pound; picnic hams, 9½c per pound; breakfast bacon, 13½c; bacon, 9½c; backs, 9½c; dry salt sides, 8½c; dried beef, 17½c per pound; lard, 5-pound pails, 10c; 10-pound pails, 9½c; 50s, 9½c; tierces, 9½c per pound. Eastern pack (Hammond's): Hams, large, 13c; medium, 13½c; small, 13½c; picnic hams, 9½c; shoulders, 9½c; breakfast bacon, 12½c; dry salt sides, 8½@9½c; bacon sides, 9@10½c; backs, 10c; butts, 8c; lard, pure leaf, kettle rendered, 5s, 10½c; 10s, 10½c.

Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc.

Hops—3@6c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12 @ 13c for coarse, 16@18c for best; Eastern Oregon, 10@15c; mohair, 26@28c per pound.

Sheepskins—Shearlings, 15@20c; short-wool, 25 @35c; medium-wool, 50@50c; long-wool, 60c@$1 each.

Pelts — Bear skins, each, as to size, $5@15; cubs, each, $1@5; badger, each, 50c; wildcat, 25@75c; housecat, 50@25c; fox, common gray, 40c@$1; do red, $1 75@3 50; do cross, $2 50@3; lynx, $2@4 50; mink, 40c@$1 75; marten, dark Northern, $5@10; do pale, pine, $2@4; muskrat, 8@12c; skunk, 50@80c; otter (land), $4 @8; panther, with head and claws perfect, $1@8; raccoon, 25@80c; wolf, mountain, with head perfect, $3 50 @ 5; wolverine, $2 50@6; beaver, per skin, large, $6@7; do medium, per skin, $4@5; do small, per skin, $1@2; do kits, per skin, $1@3.

Tallow—5@5½c; No. 2 and grease, 3½@4c per pound.

Hides—Dry hides, No. 1, 16 pounds and upward, 15@15½c; dry kip, No. 1, 5 to 16 pounds, 15c per pound; dry calf, No. 1, under 5 pounds, 15@16c; dry salted, one-third less than dry flint; salted hides, sound steers, 60 pounds and over, 8½@9c; do 50 to 60 pounds, 8@8½c; do under 50 pounds and cows, 7½@8c; kip, 15 to 30 pounds, 7½@8c; do veal, 10 to 14 pounds, 7½c; do calf, under 10 pounds, 7½c; green (unsalted) 1c per pound less; culls (bulls, stags, moth eaten, badly cut, scored hair slipped, weather beaten or grubby), one-third less.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET.

Profit-Taking Extracted Considerable Strength During the Day.

NEW YORK, March 29.—The stock exchange atmosphere was rather oppressive during today's session, and the offerings to take profits were absorbed with less facility than on previous days during this week. No better explanation of the reactionary tendency of the market can be found than the falling off in the demand for stocks. There was some manipulation for the decline, which was effective in the industrials and specialties, and which brought a volume of offerings that looked like the uncovering of stop-loss orders. But in the railroad list there was no indication of forced selling. The profit-taking proceeded apparently in an orderly manner, and any considerable recession in prices led to the decline in the volume of offerings and a dull market.

Stocks which have gone up the most during the week were naturally most affected, notably the transcontinental railroads and the Southern trunk lines. There was some indication of positive weakness in some of the grangers and the coalers, the tendency in the latter group being due to the rather disappointing February statement of net earnings for the Reading Company. There were not lacking also points of strength in the railroad list.

The most notable upward movement of the day was in stocks of railroads in central traffic territory, and which may be called subsidiary Vanderbilt lines. Big Four led the movement, and it was shared in by Chesapeake & Ohio, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis, Canada Southern and the New York, Chicago & St. Louis stocks.

The professed ground of this advance was the conference of railroad officials in this city, looking to the enforcement of agreements to maintain rates. The Atchison stocks, Louisville & Nashville and other less conspicuous stocks continued strong. Aside from the desire to take profits, the halt in the buying demand was due to apprehension over the effect of the gloomy official outgivings regarding the prospect for the future dividends on the stock of the sugar company. A sharp break in that stock at the opening seemed to have little effect on the market, but when its weakness was seen to persist sympathetic heaviness developed elsewhere in the industrial list and among the local traction stocks.

There was no indication of stiffness in the money market, but probably the relaxed demand for speculative purposes had something to do with this. The end of the month and the quarter involve some preparations to meet dividends and interest obligations, and this factor begot some spirit of caution about using too freely the facilities of the money market in speculation. The Subtreasury, for the first time this week, gained a small amount from the banks, and the Government institution's debit balance at the clearing-house fell to $340,698, as against a daily average of nearly $1,000,000 heretofore this week. This symptom attracted attention, notwithstanding the gain between the banks and the Subtreasury for the week still amounts to over $1,000,000. London continued to trade actively in this market, but with much less influence on sentiment than heretofore, owing to the knowledge that the purchases for that account are carried to a large extent by money borrowed in New York.

The bond market continues active and for the most part strong, though there are points of weakness in the list. The total sales were $3,815,000. United States bonds were unchanged in bid quotations.

BONDS.

U. S. 2s, reg.*	104½	D. & R. G. 4s	99⅝
U. S. 2s, reg	100⅝	Gen. Electric 5s	115¼
do 3s, reg	110⅝	N. Y. Central 1sts	110½
do 3s, coupon	110⅝	North. Pacific 3s	68½
do new 4s, reg	134½	do 4s	100⅝
do new 4s, coup	134½	Oregon Nav. 1sts	110
do old 4s, reg	115½	do 4s	104¼
do old 4s, coup	116½	Oregon S. L. 6s	128
do 5s, reg	114⅝	do con. 5s	115
do 5s, coupon	114⅝	Rio Gr. West. 1sts	90½
Dist. Col. 3-65s	119	St. Paul consols	170
Atchison adj. 4s	84⅝	St. P. C. & P. 1sts	119½
C. & N.W. con. 7s	141	do 5s	121⅝
do S. F. deb. 5s	121	Union Pacific 4s	106
D. & R. G. 1sts	108½	Wis. Central 1sts	92½

*When issued.

STOCKS.

The total sales of stocks today were 939,100 shares. The closing quotations were:

Atchison	28⅝	Union Pac. pref	76⅝
do pref	72½	Wabash	7⅝
Balt. & Ohio	81	do pref	22⅝
Can. Pacific	97⅝	Wheeling & L. E.	11
Can. Southern	54⅝	do 2d pref	30½
Ches. & Ohio	32⅝	Wisconsin Central	18⅝
Chi. Gr. Western	14⅝	P. C., C. & St. L.	67½
C., B. & Q.	130⅝	Third Avenue	103½
Chi., Ind. & L.	25	EXPRESS CO'S.	
do pref	58	Adams	116
Chi. & East. Ill.	105½	American	140
Chicago & N. W.	164	United States	48
C., R. I. & Pac.	113½	Wells-Fargo	125
C., C., C. & St. L.	94½	MISCELLANEOUS.	
Colo. Southern	7	Amer. Cotton Oil	36½
do 1st pref	46½	do pref	94
do 2d pref	19½	Amer. Malting	4⅝
Del. & Hudson	116½	do pref	23½
Del., Lack. & W.	181½	Amer. Smelt. & R.	41⅝
Denver & Rio Gr.	22⅝	do pref	90
do pref	74⅝	Amer. Spirits	2⅝
Erie	14⅝	do pref	17
do 1st pref	42	Amer. Steel Hoop	35⅝
Great North. pref	164	do pref	81
Hocking Coal	19⅝	Amer. Steel & W.	55⅝
Hocking Valley	36½	do pref	90½
Illinois Central	115½	Amer. Tin Plate	35½
Iowa Central	17	do pref	82⅝
do pref	54	Amer. Tobacco	104⅝
Kan. C., P. & G.	20	do pref	138
Lake Erie & W.	23	Anaconda Min. Co.	49
do pref	87	Brooklyn R. T.	70½
Lake Shore	200	Colo. Fuel & Iron	49⅝
Louis. & Nash.	86½	Cont. Tobacco	31⅝
Manhattan El	96½	do pref	83
Met. St. Ry.*	163	Federal Steel	53½
Mexican Central	13	do pref	79⅝
Minn. & St. Louis	67⅝	General Electric	130½
do pref	96½	Glucose Sugar	52⅝
Missouri Pacific	49⅝	do pref	98½
Mobile & Ohio	47	Int. Paper	21½
M., K. & T.	12⅝	do pref	66
do pref	36	La Clede Gas	73
New Jersey Cent.	118	National Biscuit	36½
New York Cent.	137⅝	do pref	82½
Norfolk & West.	36⅝	National Lead	24
do pref	77⅝	do pref	104⅝
Northern Pacific	60	National Steel	43⅝
do pref	77⅝	do pref	97
Ontario & West.	25⅝	N. Y. Air Brake	132
O. R. & N.	42	North American	15⅝
do pref	76	Pacific Coast	52
Pennsylvania	135⅝	do 1st pref	82
Reading	19⅝	do 2d pref	31
do 1st pref	46⅝	Pacific Mail	37⅝
do 2d pref	33½	People's Gas	103
Rio Gr. Western	39½	Pressed Steel Car	52
do pref	91	do pref	83
St. Louis & S. Fr.	11½	Pullman Pal. Car	184
do 1st pref	70	Stand. Rope & Tw.	7
do 2d pref	37⅝	Sugar	96⅝
St. Louis & S. W.	12½	do pref	108
do pref	32⅝	Tenn. Coal & Iron	95
St. Paul	123⅝	U. S. Leather	12⅝
do pref	159	do pref	73
St. Paul & O.	113	U. S. Rubber	30⅝
Southern Pacific	41⅝	do pref	87
Southern Ry	15⅝	Western Union	83
do pref	60⅝	Republic Iron & S.	22⅝
Texas & Pacific	18	do pref	65⅝
Union Pacific	57⅝		

*Ex dividend.

Foreign Financial News.

NEW YORK, March 29.—The Commercial Advertiser's London financial cablegram says:

Business was again small in the markets here today, there being a biggish account to arrange and profit-taking in many directions. The tone was fairly good, though not strong. It was slightly affected by rumors of trouble between Russia and Japan over Corea. Americans were decidedly less active. They started very sanguine, ½ point above parity. Louisville was strongly bought. Much profit-taking, however, caused sagging. New York came as a buyer of Chesapeake & Ohio, but a seller of others, and the close was dull. In the street dealings were quieter than for a week. London professionals, who are rather overloaded, are disappointed at New York's profit-taking. Paris is still buying Tintos, and New York Anacondas. A fresh campaign has opened in Utahs, Bostons and Avinos, which have been asleep for months. The bank bought £30,000 in gold bars, and lost £101,000 to Argentine. There was a strong demand for money for the big settlement and requirements to end the quarter. All loans due at the bank were renewed, and there was a very large fresh borrowing for the week. Bills were very firm. The British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association will be floated next week with £2,000,000 ordinary stock and £1,000,000 debentures, amalgamating 50 firms.

Stocks in London.

LONDON, March 29.—Canadian Pacific, 100¾; Union Pacific preferred, 79¾; Northern Pacific preferred, 79¾; Atchison, 29; Grand Trunk, 8½; Anaconda, 10¾.

Money, Exchange, Etc.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29. — Sterling on London—60 days, $4 83; do sight, $4 88.

Mexican dollars—48½@48c.

Drafts—Sight, 17½c; do telegraphic, 20c.

NEW YORK, March 29. — Money on call, steady at 1@4 per cent; last loans, 3 per cent.

Sterling exchange—Firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4 86¼ for demand and at $4 82½@4 82¾ for 60 days; posted rates, $4 83½ and $4 87; commercial bills, $4 81½@4 82¼.

Silver certificates—60¾@61¼c.

Mexican dollars—47¾c.

Bonds—Government, steady; state, inactive; railroad, irregular.

LONDON, March 29.—Consols—101½.

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

Prices for Cereals in European and American Ports.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29.—Wheat, inactive; spot, fairly firm. Barley, futures neglected; spot, weak. Oats, quiet.

Spot quotations:

Wheat—No. 1 shipping, 96½c; choice, 97½c; milling, 99½c@$1 01½.

Barley—Feed, 70@75½c; brewing, 80@82½c.

Oats—Gray, Oregon, $1 07½@1 12½; milling, $1 15@1 17½; red, 95c@$1 15.

Call board sales:

Wheat—Inactive; December, $1 05⅝ per cental; cash, 97½c.

Barley—No sales.

Corn—Large yellow, $1 15@17½.

Chicago Grain and Produce.

CHICAGO, March 29.—The wheat market opened unchanged from yesterday, at 66⅝@67c, and then, probably because Liverpool was lower than expected, in view of the advance here yesterday and because some private messages contradicted yesterday's reports of damage to the French crop, sold off to 66⅝c. At this point New York made an upward spurt, fearing war as an outgrowth of the difficulties existing between Russia and Turkey, and the local crowd of shorts covered in some alarm. A report from Duluth of a heavy export demand assisted in the demand, as did the strength of provisions. May rallied to 67½c, but failed to hold it, although further cables from France contradicted the earlier ones, reasserting that the damage in France was serious.

There was considerable profit-taking at the top, and shorts apparently took a calmer view of the Turko-Russian situation, for May sold off to 66⅝c, and closed barely steady, a shade under yesterday, at 66⅝c. At the advance the pit was excited, and at other times rather nervous.

The provision market repeated its exhibition of strength and excitement to a crowded pit. Hogs were higher at the yards and receipts small. This, with the heavy outside demand and the frantic shorts trying to cover in a market where offerings were light, caused a swift advance. May pork was the main attraction, opening at 17½@25c over yesterday, at $12 65@12 72½, and in a wild burst of bidding shot up to $13, the highest price since 1895. On the bulge there was heavy profit-taking. Lard suffered more than pork and ribs in this move. Pork lost only a part of the advance, closing 27½c over yesterday, at $12 75. May lard closed 2½@5c lower and May ribs 7½c higher.

The corn market was less active than wheat, and did little better than hold its own, although the export business was put at 100 loads and provisions extended an influence over the strength, while cables were strong. May closed a shade over yesterday.

The oats market was firm, with July in somewhat better demand than May. Trade was without much feature. May closed unchanged.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Opened.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closed.
WHEAT.				
March	.....	.....	.....	$0 66⅝
May	$0 66⅝	$0 67½	$0 65⅝	66⅝
July	67⅝	68⅝	67⅝	67⅝
CORN.				
March	.....	.....	.....	37
May	38⅝	39⅝	38⅝	38½
July	38⅝	39	38⅝	38⅝
September	39½	39½	39⅛	39⅝
OATS.				
May	24⅝	24½	24⅝	24⅝
July	23⅝	24	23⅝	23⅝
MESS PORK.				
May	12 65	13 00	12 65	12 75
July	12 50	12 60	12 35	12 37½
LARD.				
May	6 55	6 52½	5 42½	6 50
July	6 67½	6 72½	6 52½	6 60
SHORT RIBS.				
May	6 67½	6 75	6 60	6 70
July	6 65	6 75	6 52½	6 60

Cash quotations:

Flour—Steady.

Wheat—No. 3 spring, 65½c; No. 2 red, 69@69½c.

Corn—No. 2, 37⅝c.

Oats—No. 2, 24½@24⅝c; No. 2 white, 26½@27c; No. 3 white, 26⅝@27c.

Rye—No. 2, 54½c.

Barley—No. 2, 41@44c.

Flaxseed—No. 1, $1 65.

Timothy seed—Prime, $2 40.

Mess pork—$12 10@12 75 per bbl.

Lard—$6 55@6 47½ per cwt.

Short ribs—Sides, loose, $6 65@6 90.

Shoulders—Dry salted, boxed, $6 25@6 50.

Short clear sides—$6 90@7.

Butter—Weak; creamery, 19@22c; dairy, 16 @22c.

Cheese—Firm, 12@13c.

Eggs—Steady; fresh, 10½c.

	Receipts.	Shipments.
Flour, barrels	83,000	65,000
Wheat, bushels	70,000	70,000
Corn, bushels	429,000	288,000
Oats, bushels	318,000	233,000
Rye, bushels	14,000	2,000
Barley, bushels	45,000	28,000

New York Grain and Produce.

NEW YORK, March 29.—Flour—Receipts, 31,600 barrels; exports, 11,207. Market steady at old prices.

Wheat—Receipts, 87,700 bushels; exports, 58,775 bushels. Spot, steady; No. 2 red, 80⅝c f. o. b. afloat, 77⅝c elevator. Options opened steady, not very active, but developed a pronounced bull movement later in the day on heavy St. Louis buying and local demand of shorts. All of the foreign markets came higher, with rumors of a good export demand West and remarkable strength in pork also contributed to the up-turn. The close, however, owing to late realizing, was rather easy at a partial advance net. March, 78½c; May, 73⅝c; July, 73½c; September, 73⅛c.

Wool—Dull.

European Grain Markets.

LONDON, March 29. — Wheat — Cargoes on passage, sellers at an advance of 3d; cargoes of Walla Walla, 28s 6d; No. 1 standard California, 30s; English country markets, steady.

LIVERPOOL, March 29.—Wheat—Spot, nominal. Futures, steady; March, nominal; May, 5s 9¼d; July, 5s 9¼d.

Corn—Spot, firm; American mixed, new, 4s ¼d; old, 4s ¾d. Futures, quiet; March, 4s ¾d; May, 3s 11½d.

Tacoma Wheat.

TACOMA, March 29. — Wheat — Market unchanged; club, 50½c; bluestem, 52½c.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29.—Wool—Spring—Nevada, 12@15c; Eastern Oregon, 12@16c; Valley, Oregon, 20@22c. Fall—Northern, mountain, 10@12c; mountain, 8@10c; plains, 8@10c; Humboldt and Mendocino, 14@17c per pound.

Hops—1899 crop, 11@13c per pound for choice.

Millstuffs—Middlings, $17@20; bran, $12@13 per ton.

Hay—Wheat, $6 50@9 50; wheat and oat, $6 @9; best barley, $5@7; alfalfa, $5@6 50; stock, $5@5 50; compressed wheat, $7@10 per ton; straw, 25@40c per bale.

Potatoes—Early Rose, 60@75c; River Burbanks, 40@75c; Oregon Burbanks, 65c@$1 per cental; sweet potatoes, $2 25@2 50 per cental.

Vegetables—Silverskin onions, $2 25@2 75 per cental; garlic, 2½@3½c; green peas, 1@1¼c; string beans, 6@8c; dried okra, 22½c per pound; asparagus, 65c@$1 50 per box; egg plant, 8@10c per pound.

Apples—$1 25 for choice; common, 50c.

Citrus fruits—Oranges, navels, $1 25@2 50; Mexican limes, $5 50@6; common California lemons, $1; do choice, $1 25@1 50 per box.

Bananas—$1@2 50 per bunch.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 18c; do seconds, 17 @17½c; fancy dairy, 16@17c; do seconds, 14@15c per pound.

Cheese—California, new, 7½@8c; Young America, 8½@9c; Eastern, 16½@17c per pound.

Eggs—Store, 12½@13c; fancy ranch, 13½@15c per dozen.

Poultry — Turkey gobblers, 10 @ 12c; turkey hens, 12@13c per pound; old roosters, $3 50@4 per dozen; young roosters, $6@6 50; small broilers, $2 50@3 50; large do, $4@4 50; fryers, $5@6; hens, $5@5 50 per dozen; geese, $2@2 25 per pair.

Receipts—Flour, quarter sacks, 29,865; do Oregon, 816; do Washington, 7200; wheat, centals, 5050; barley, centals, 3875; oats, centals, 870; corn, centals, 600; potatoes, sacks, 3402; do Oregon, 717; bran, sacks, 630; middlings, sacks, 625; hay, tons, 738; wool, bales, 728; hides, 290.

EASTERN LIVESTOCK.

CHICAGO, March 29.—Cattle—Receipts, 8500. Opened stronger, closing lower; natives, best on sale today, two cars Kansas, $5 75; good to prime steers, strong to a shade lower, $5@5 90; poor to medium, steady to 10c lower, $4@4 75; selected feeders, firm, $4@4 75; mixed stockers, steady, $3 40@3 90; cows, steady, $3@4 35; heifers, steady, $3 25@4 75; canners, slow, $2@2 65; bulls, steady, $2 50@4 25; calves, steady, $4 50@5 75. Texas—Receipts, 400; best on sale today, one car at $5 10; Texas fed steers, closed easier, $3 90@5 10; Texas bulls, steady, $3 20@3 50.

Hogs—Receipts, today, 20,000; estimated tomorrow, 18,000; left over, 3500. Average fully 10c higher; top, $5 52½; highest hog market since October, 1894; mixed and butchers, $5 15@5 47½; good to choice heavy, $5 30@5 52½; rough heavy, $5 10@5 25; light, $5 15@5 40; bulk of sales, $5 35@5 45.

Sheep—Receipts, 10,000. Sheep strong to 10c higher; lambs strong to a shade higher; good to choice wethers, $5 65@6 25; choice mixed, $5 85@5 90; Western sheep, $5 80@6 25; yearlings, $6@6 75; native lambs, $6@7 35; Western lambs, $6@7 35.

OMAHA, March 29.—Cattle—Receipts, 2400. Market 5c higher; native beef steers, $4@5 80; cows and heifers, $3 25@4 30; canners, $2@3 25; stockers and feeders, $3 70@4 90; calves, $3 50@7; bulls and stags, $2 50@5 80.

Hogs—Receipts, 4000. Market 10c higher; heavy, $4 50@5 25; mixed, $5 10@5 17½; light, $5 05@5 15; bulk of sales, $5 15@5 17½.

Sheep—Receipts, 3400. Market 10c higher; fair to choice natives, $5 75@6 25; fair to choice Westerns, $5 50@6; common and choice sheep, $4 25@5 25; lambs, $6@7.

KANSAS CITY, March 29.—Cattle—Receipts, 7000. Market strong to 10c higher; Texas steers, $3 50@4 80; Texas cows, $2 90@3 65; native steers, $3 75@5 25; native cows and heifers, $2 25@4 50; stockers and feeders, $3 50@5 50; bulls, $3 25@4 35.

Hogs—Receipts, 11,000. Market 5@10c higher; bulk of sales, $5 10@5 20; heavy, $5 10@5 35; packers, $5 05@5 25; mixed, $5@5 15; lights, $4 85@5 15; Yorkers, $5@5 15; pigs, $4 50@5.

Sheep—Receipts, 3000. Market steady; lambs, $4 65@6 90; muttons, $3@5 60.

The Metal Markets.

NEW YORK, March 29.—The local market for metals continued to develop general activity and strength today. Advices from London were favorable, showing an advance of £2 12s 6d for spot tin. Under this influence tin here ruled firm. Lead and spelter steady and unchanged. Pig-iron warrants, weak; Lake copper, $16 75; tin, $32; spelter, steady and unchanged, $4 50@4 60; lead, steady, unchanged, $4 67½@4 72½. The firm that fixes the selling price for miners and smelters quotes lead at $4 45 at the close. Bar silver, 59⅝c.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29. — Bar silver, 59⅝c.

LONDON, March 29.—Bar silver, 27 9-16d.

Coffee and Sugar.

NEW YORK, March 29.—Coffee options closed at a decline of 10@20 points. Sales, 21,750 bags, including April, $6 45; May, $6 40; August, $6 60; September, $6 65@6 70; spot Rio, nominal; No. 7 invoice, 7½c; No. 7 jobbing, 8½c; mild, dull; Cordova, 9½@14c.

Sugar—Raw, firm; fair refining, 3 3-32c; centrifugal, 96 test, 4 15-32c; refined, irregular.

Railway Work in the Philippines.

W. Gilbert Irwin in Cassier's Magazine.

The fact that the entire railway system of the Philippine Islands at present consists of a single line of antiquated pattern, having a length of less than 125 miles, gives some idea of the neglect of this economic form of travel and transportation under the long Spanish regime. The road intersects the rich peninsula northwest of Manila, and connects that city with Dagupan, a town on the east coast of the Island of Luzon which will eventually become an important one. To be exact, the length of the line is 122 miles. The gauge is three feet six inches, and the ties are of the finest hardwood, obtained from the forests about the line. On the entire length there are 60 iron bridges. As compared with the fairly substantial character of the roadbed, the rolling-stock is very light. In speed and capacity the locomotives are insignificant, being of less than 10 tons burden. The usual speed varied from 15 to 20 miles an hour, and when the American troops took possession their railroading astonished the natives, the speed being frequently doubled. Compartment coaches are used, and these are divided into three classes or apartments, each apartment seating eight passengers. The few first-class coaches are provided with comfortable cane chairs, while the second-class apartments have rough wooden benches, and the third-class are bare and are usually crowded with natives carrying baskets and bundles of all descriptions. An ordinary train is made up of eight or 10 carriages, most of them third-class, and the fare ranges from 2 to 5 cents, Mexican, per mile. The bulk of the freight now carried is made up of rice, sugar, hemp and building material, and the rates on all classes of traffic are considerable.

Owing to the exacting requirements of the Spanish authorities the buildings on the line are first class. The Manila depot is a well-arranged two-story wooden structure, 70 feet long and 45 feet wide, with train sheds 325 feet long, covering four tracks. Before the recent insurrection natives were largely employed in operating the road. They served as clerks, telegraph operators, station masters, conductors, engineers, firemen and mechanics. Cheap labor enabled the inexpensive operation of the road. The wages paid ranged from about $15 per month, Mexican money, for laborers, to $40 for clerks, station masters, engineers and similar employes. The term Mexican is in general use in the Islands in referring to money value, taking precedence over the Spanish.

This pioneer road, which was opened in 1891, has been of untold benefit to the country through which it passes. The damages done to the line during the recent war have all been repaired and 25 miles of track have been shipped from San Francisco to be used in the work of reconstruction. Already American capitalists have turned their attention to the matter of railway construction in the Philippines. As soon as the insurrection is finally blotted out, the work will be commenced, and upon its heels will undoubtedly follow the phenomenal development of the agricultural resources of this garden spot of Nature, and the opening up of the timber lands and mineral wealth of the Islands.

WHEAT!

A Most Astonishing Record

Purchases of wheat made in March invariably show a good profit during April and May, as the following table, compiled from the official records, will prove:

Year.	Low in March.	High in April-May.	Adv.
1879	88½	$1 01⅝	13⅛
1880	$1 12	1 25⅞	13⅞
1881	96½	1 12⅝	14⅞
1882	1 24½	1 40	15½
1883	1 05	1 13⅝	8⅝
1884	82	94⅝	12⅝
1885	73⅝	89⅝	15⅝
1886	75	83⅝	8⅝
1887	72⅝	88⅝	16⅝
1888	71⅝	89⅞	18⅛
1889	82⅝	1 06⅝	14
1890	76⅝	1 00	23⅝
1891	99⅝	1 16	16⅞
1892	77⅝	91	13⅝
1893	72⅝	88	15⅝
1894	50⅝	65⅝	9⅝
1895	51⅝	85⅝	34
1896	59⅞	71	11⅛
1897	69⅝	97⅝	28½
1898 (Leiter)	1 00	1 85	85
1899	66	79½	13½

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