COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS

Business yesterday was of the usual midsummer proportions, with no features of special interest, except enormous receipts of fruit. Receipts have been so heavy for the past few days, and there is so much on the road, that much lower prices are looked for. Butter and eggs continue firm at the recent advance, and pork and veal are selling better than ever before. As yet 9½c has been the highest figure asked for veal, but it is probable that 10c could be secured for an occasional small veal, so great is the demand. There is nothing doing in wheat.

Bank Clearings.

	Exchanges.	Balances.
Portland	$276,595	$ 36,293
Tacoma	180,234	42,693
Seattle	964,577	152,212
Spokane	166,860	47,309

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Grain, Flour, Etc.

Walla Walla cargoes dropped back to 29s in Liverpool yesterday, and were not in demand at that figure. The American markets were lower all round, and the Portland market is still in the torpid state in which it has rested for several weeks. There is no change in the quotations, which are largely nominal at 55@56c for Walla Walla and Valley and 60c for bluestem. There is not much wheat moving at these figures, sellers not yet being prepared to sell for export prices.

Wheat—Walla Walla, nominal, 55@56c; Valley, 55@56c; bluestem, 58@59c per bushel.

Flour — Best grades, $2 85 @ 3 20; graham, $2 60 per barrel.

Oats—White, 34@35c; gray, 32@33c per bushel.

Barley—Feed, $14@15; brewing, $16 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, $12 50 per ton; middlings, $19; shorts, $13; chop, $14.

Hay—Timothy, $10@11; clover, $7@7 50; Oregon wild hay, $6@7 per ton.

Butter, Eggs, Poultry, Etc.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 40@45c; store, 22@25c per roll.

Eggs—18@19c per dozen.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $3@3 50 per dozen; hens, $4@5; springs, $2 50@4; ducks, $3@4; geese, $4@5 per dozen; turkeys, 16@17c per pound.

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

Vegetables, Fruit, Etc.

Vegetables—Parsnips, $1; carrots, 75c@$1; turnips, 75c per sack; onions, $1 25 for red, $1 50 for silverskins; cabbage, $1 50 per cental; potatoes, 40@50c per sack for old, 50@60c for new; peas, 3@4c; beans, 6@7c; asparagus, 4@5c; cucumbers, 60@75c per box.

Fruit—Lemons, $4 75@4; oranges, $4@4 25 per box for late Valencias; pineapples, $4 50@6 per dozen; bananas, $2 50@3 per bunch; Persian dates, 7½@8c per pound; peaches, 40@75c; apricots, 50 @ 65c; apples, $1 @ 1 25 per box; raspberries, 5c; blackberries, 3@4c per pound; watermelons, $2 25@2 50; cantaloupes, $2@2 25 per dozen.

Dried fruit — Apples, evaporated, 7@8c per pound; sun-dried, sacks or boxes, 4@6c; pears, sun and evaporated, 5@8c; plums, pitless, 4@5½c; prunes, Italian, 3½@4½c; silver, extra choice, 5 @ 6c; figs, Smyrna, 22½c; California black, 5@6c; do white, 10c per pound.

Groceries, Nuts, Etc.

Coffee—Mocha, 28@29c; Java, fancy, 26@32c; Java, good, 24@24c; Java, ordinary, 18@20c; Costa Rica, fancy, 18@20c; do good, 16@18c; do ordinary, 10@12c per pound; Columbia, roast, $18 63; Arbuckle's, $16 13; Lion, $14 63 per case.

Sugar — Cube, $6 30; crushed, $6 30; powdered, $6 30; dry granulated, $6 30; extra C, $5 30; golden C, $5 20 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 25 @1 60; 2-pound talls, $2@2 50; fancy, 1-pound flats, $1 65@1 75; ½-pound fancy flats, 85@95c; Alaska, 1-pound talls, $1 20@1 30; 2-pound talls, $1 90@2 25.

Grain bags—Calcutta, $6 37½ per 100 for spot.

Nuts—Peanuts, 6½@7c per pound for raw, 9c 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, sheared, $5 50@5 75; dressed, 7@7½c per pound; Spring lambs, 5@6½c per pound gross.

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

Veal—Large, 7@7½c per pound; small, 8@9c per pound.

Beef—Gross, top steers, $3 50@4; cows, $3@3 50; dressed beef, 6@6½c per pound.

Provisions — Portland pack (Shield brand): Hams, smoked, are quoted at 13c 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, 9¾c; tierces, 9¼c per pound. Eastern pack (Hammond's): Hams, large, 12½c; medium, 13c; small, 13½c; picnic hams, 9½c; shoulders, 9½c; breakfast bacon, 12½c; dry salt sides, 8¼@9½c; bacon sides, 9¼@10c; backs, 9¾c; butts, 8c; lard, pure leaf, kettle rendered, 5s, 10½c, 10s, 10¼c.

Hops, Wool, Hides, Etc.

Hops—2@8c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12@13c for coarse, 15@16c for best; Eastern Oregon, 15@16c; mohair, 25c per pound.

Sheepskins—Shearlings, 15@20c; short-wool, 25@35c; medium-wool, 30@50c; long-wool, 60c@$1 each.

Pelts — Bearskins, each, as to size, $5@15; cubs, each, $1@3; badger, each, 50c; wildcat, 25@75c; housecat, 5@25c; fox, common gray, 40c@$1; do red, $1 75@3 50; do cross, $2 50@6; 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@3; raccoon, 25@80c; wolf, mountain, with head perfect, $3 50 @ 5; wolverine, $2 50@6; beaver, per skin, large, $@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, 14@15c; dry kip, No. 1, 5 to 16 pounds, 15c per pound; dry calf, No. 1, under 5 pounds, 16c per pound; dry salted, one-third less than dry flint; salted hides, sound steers, 60 pounds and over, 7@8c; do 50 to 60 pounds, 7½c; do under 50 pounds and cows, 7c; 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.

Manipulation of Specialties Failed to Brace Up the List.

NEW YORK, July 24.—Those who have sought to read in the recent stock market a reflection of general conditions outside were still further misguided by the course of today's market. The weakness, which showed progressive developments during the day, could not be adequately accounted for by anything in the news of the day. But as the result of efforts by professional speculators to take their profits without any demand for stocks to absorb the offerings the day's movement was capable of explanation. Efforts were made to sustain the market by manipulation of a few of the specialties, especially Sugar and Tobacco. Later in the day Tobacco was exclusively relied upon as a sustaining influence, and finally that stock, after having been pushed up nearly 8 points, dropped back more than 2 in the general weakness with which the market closed. Tobacco's net gain is 2%, but all of the earlier rise in Sugar was wiped out.

Many stocks show losses of a point or upwards for the day. There was realizing in evidence from the opening, but the first point of acute weakness to develop was in Brooklyn Transit. The recent advance in this stock has evidently been in anticipation of a favorable decision announced yesterday of the right of the company to charge 10c fares to Coney Island, and realizing was very large during the day. The last price today was 56, compared with 60 late yesterday afternoon. Doubtless the most potent influence in the late reaction was the pretentious growl emitted by the recent bear leader from his European retirement in an interview. The outside interest in the market proved wholly inadequate to absorb the offerings to realize, and a rapidly declining scale of prices was the natural result.

There was a feeling of doubt aroused in the minds of speculators by the general skepticism expressed by public commentators over yesterday's rise, which was universally attributed to artificial manipulation. The non-engagement of gold for export yesterday, which caused some feeling of relief in the then optimistic mood of speculation, gave place today to a fresh conviction that a large outgo of gold is imminent, and that a period of stringency in the money market later in the Summer can hardly be avoided.

Rates of sterling in New York were not quotably higher, although the market was reported firm, and sterling advanced an additional fraction in Paris. Call loans on discounts both advanced in London, and exchange houses are of the opinion that gold will go to Paris on Thursday's steamer. No engagements have yet been made, however.

The bond market generally continued dull and irregular. Total sales, par value, were $1,030,000. United States old 4s, coupon, and the new 4s declined ½ per cent in the bid price.

BONDS.

U. S. 2s, reg.	104	Gen. Electric 5s	115
do coupon	104	N. Y. Cent. 1sts	108
do 2s, reg	100	North. Pacific 3s	66
do 5s, reg	109½	do 4s	105¾
do coupon	110½	Oregon Nav. 1sts	108
do new 4s, reg	132⅜	do 4s	102⅝
do coupon	133⅜	Oregon S. L. 6s	128½
do old 4s, reg	115½	do con. 5s	111
do coupon	115½	Rio Gr. West. 1sts	8½
do 5s, reg	112½	St. Paul consols	160½
do coupon	114½	St. P. C. & P. 1sts	116½
Dist. Col. 3-65s	123	do 5s	115¾
Atchison adj. 4s	84	Union Pacific 4s	105½
C. & N.W. con. 7s	141½	Wis. Central 1sts	87
do S. F. deb. 5s	120½	Southern Pacific 4s	79½
D. & R. G. 1sts	102	West Shore 4s	112
do 4s	95½		

STOCKS.

The total sales of stocks today were 396,400 shares. The closing quotations were:

Atchison	26¼	Union Pac. pref	75½
do pref	69½	Wabash	7
Balt. & Ohio	75½	do pref	16⅜
Can. Pacific	58⅝	Wheel. & L. E.	9
Can. Southern	45½	do 2d pref	24
Ches. & Ohio	27⅝	Wis. Central	14¼
Chi. Gr. Western	11	P. C. C. & St. L.	58
Chi., B. & Q.	126½	Third Avenue	110½
Chi., Ind. & L.	22	EXPRESS CO.'S	
do pref	52	Adams	122
Chi. & East. I.	98	American	103
Chicago & N. W.	150½	United States	143
Chi., R. I. & P.	107	Wells-Fargo	122
C., C., C. & St. L.	59¼	MISCELLANEOUS.	
Colo. Southern	6¼	Amer. Cotton Oil	34
do 1st pref	41½	do pref	89
do 2d pref	16½	Amer. Malting	3¼
Del. & Hudson	111¼	do pref	19½
Del., Lack. & W.	177½	Amer. Smelt. & R.	37½
Denver & Rio Gr.	17½	do pref	87½
do pref	66¼	Amer. Spirits	1½
Erie	11	do pref	17
do 1st pref	32⅜	Amer. Steel Hoop	21½
Great North. pref	154	do pref	71
Hocking Coal	14	Amer. Steel & W.	34⅝
Hocking Valley	35	do pref	73⅝
Illinois Central	119⅝	Amer. Tin Plate	23
Iowa Central	20	do pref	76
do pref	47	Amer. Tobacco	96⅝
Kan. C., P. & G.	16	do pref	123
Lake Erie & W.	26	Anaconda Min. Co.	43
do pref	90	Brooklyn R. T.	56
Lake Shore	210	Colo. Fuel & Iron	34
Louis. & Nash.	73¼	Cont. Tobacco	26
Manhattan El	91	do pref	79
Met. St. Ry.	155	Federal Steel	44¼
Mex. Central	12⅝	do pref	69⅝
Minn. & St. Louis	56¼	Gen. Electric	130
do pref	93	Glucose Sugar	51½
Missouri Pacific	50⅝	do pref	100
Mobile & Ohio	38	Int. Paper	22⅝
M., K. & T.	10	do pref	62
do pref	31¼	La Clede Gas	75½
New Jersey Cent.	125⅝	National Biscuit	51½
New York Cent.	129⅝	do pref	85
Norfolk & West.	33¼	National Lead	19½
do pref	55½	do pref	95½
Northern Pacific	51¼	National Steel	25¼
do pref	71⅝	do pref	84½
Ontario & West.	20⅝	N. Y. Air Brake	133½
O. R. & N.	42	North American	15¼
do pref	76	Pacific Coast	53¼
Pennsylvania	128⅝	do 1st pref	85
Reading	17	do 2d pref	63
do 1st pref	50⅝	Pacific Mail	30¼
do 2d pref	28	People's Gas	99⅝
Rio Gr. Western*	50½	Pressed Steel Car	41½
do pref.*	90	do pref	73¼
St. Louis & S. F.	9½	Pullman Pal. Car	182
do 1st pref	68	Stand. Rope & T.	5¼
do 2d pref	35¼	Sugar	127½
St. Louis & S. W.	16	do pref	117
do pref	26	Tenn. Coal & Iron	72
St. Paul	111⅝	U. S. Leather	11
do pref	171	do pref	65¼
St. Paul & O.	116	U. S. Rubber	24¼
Southern Pacific	32⅝	do pref	93½
Southern Ry	9½	Western Union	79⅝
do pref	51½	Republic Iron & S.	12⅝
Texas & Pacific	14⅝	do pref	54
Union Pacific	57½		

*Offered. †Ex dividend.

Money, Exchange, Etc.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 24.—Sterling on London—60 days, $4 85; do sight, $4 88¼.

Mexican dollars—49@49½c.

Drafts—Sight, 12½c; do telegraphic, 15c.

NEW YORK, July 24.—Money on call, steady at ⅝@1¼ per cent.

Prime mercantile paper—4@4½ per cent.

Sterling exchange—Firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at $4 87½ for demand and at $4 83¾@4 87½ for 60 days; posted rates, $4 84½@4 85 and $4 88@4 88½; commercial bills, $4 83@4 83¼.

Silver certificates—61¼@62½c.

Mexican dollars—45½c.

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

LONDON, July 24.—Consols—97½.

Money—2⅝@3 per cent.

Foreign Financial News.

NEW YORK, July 24.—The Commercial Advertiser's London financial cablegram says:

The markets here were quite active this morning, but relapsed in the afternoon on the disappointing treasury bill allotments, those for nine months being over 4, while "yearlings" were 4. Americans were hard in the early session, despite the fairly heavy realizing, but they relapsed on fear of higher money rates. Thirteen Lancashire cotton mills have been closed on account of the close of trade in China.

Stocks in London.

LONDON, July 24.—Atchison, 27½; Canadian Pacific 91⅝; Union Pacific preferred, 77½; Northern Pacific preferred, 73½; Grand Trunk, 6½; Anaconda, 5⅝; Rand Mines, 3⅝.

THE GRAIN MARKETS.

Prices for Cereals in European and American Ports.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 24.—Wheat, inactive on call and weak in the spot market. Barley, futures quiet, spot barley weak. Oats, strong.

Spot quotations were:

Wheat—No. 1 shipping, $1 05; choice, $1 06¼; milling, $1 08¾@1 10.

Barley—Feed, 67½@70c; brewing, 80@83c.

Oats—Poor to fair, $1 07½@1 12½; good to choice, $1 15@1 25; gray, Oregon, $1 07½@1 10; milling, $1 10@1 15; red, $1 05@1 20.

Call board sales:

Wheat—Inactive; December, $1 15½; cash, $1 06¼.

Barley—No sales.

Corn—Large yellow, $1 15@1 17½.

Chicago Grain and Produce.

CHICAGO, July 24.—Wheat had not recovered from the injection of foreign bearish news when the market opened today, and September accordingly began the session ⅝@⅞c to ¼@⅝c down, at 76⅝@76¾c. The crowd figured that with little export business here probably large Southwest receipts and the increased Russian and Danubian shipments announced yesterday, wheat was not worth the prevailing prices. Following this, the market, on covering by shorts for profits and a little scattered buying, rallied to 76⅞c.

The bulge held about like a small boy hanging to the tail of a greased pig on the Fourth of July. It slid off with the greatest ease, helped by a decline at Paris, reports that France would raise enough wheat for her own consumption, and that Russia held a large supply of hold-over wheat, and by lack of outside support. September early declined to 75⅝c, rallied to 76⅛@76¼c, lost its hold again, and then on Bradstreet's announcement that the world's visible had decreased 2,000,000 bushels recovered to 76⅝c. This bulge, like the others, was lost, and the close found that market at its weakest, September 1½@1⅝c under yesterday, at 75¼c.

Corn was quiet and lower early, but steadied after a good concession in prices. There were heavy rains in the best growing states. September closed 1@1⅛c down, at 35½c.

Oats were relatively firm, supported by the Iowa report that oats in shock and in stack had suffered from the incessant rains. September closed ¼c down, at 23½c.

Compared with the grains, provisions were firm, easing but little in sympathy with the grain weakness. The market felt the sustaining influence of light hog receipts and liberal shipments of produce. Trade was quiet. September pork closed unchanged, lard 5c lower and ribs 2½c depressed.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Close.
WHEAT.				
July	$0 75½	$0 75¾	$0 74¼	$0 74¼
August	75¼	75⅝	74¼	74¼
September	76⅛	76⅝	75¼	75¼
CORN.				
July	38⅝	39	38¼	38⅝
August	35⅝	39	35⅛	35½
September	38⅝	39	38	38¼
OATS.				
July	22¼	22¼	22⅛	22⅛
August	22¼	23	22⅛	22½
September	23¼	23⅝	23⅛	23⅛
MESS PORK.				
July	.....	.....	.....	11 80
September	11 95	12 00	11 87½	11 92½
LARD.				
July	6 82½	6 82½	6 72½	6 72½
September	6 82½	6 87½	6 77½	6 77½
October	6 85	6 90	6 80	6 82½
SHORT RIBS.				
July	7 00	7 00	6 92½	6 92½
September	6 95	7 00	6 92½	6 95
October	6 95	6 95	6 90	6 92½

Cash quotations were as follows:

Flour—Steady.

Wheat—No. 3, 70½@73c; No. 2 red, 77@77¼c.

Corn—No. 2, 38⅝c; No. 2 yellow, 38⅝@38¾c.

Oats—No. 2, 24c; No. 2 white, 25½@27½c; No. 3 white, 25@27½c.

Barley—Good feeding, 40c; fair to choice malting, 45@46c.

Flaxseed—No. 1, $1 50; No. 1 N. W., $1 50.

Mess pork—$11 45@11 90 per bbl.

Lard—$6 65@6 80 per cwt.

Short ribs—Sides, loose, $6 95@7 20.

Shoulders—Dry salted, boxed, $6 75@7.

Short clear sides—Boxed, $7 40@7 50.

Clover—Contract grade, $8.

Butter—Firm; creamery, 15@19½c; dairy, 14@17c.

Cheese—Firm, 9½@10¼c.

Eggs—Firm; fresh, 11½c.

	Receipts.	Shipm'ts.
Flour, barrels	21,000	8,000
Wheat, bushels	84,000	10,000
Corn, bushels	500,000	396,000
Oats, bushels	312,000	165,000
Rye, bushels	4,000	1,000
Barley, bushels	26,000	7,000

New York Grain and Produce.

NEW YORK, July 24.—Flour—Exports, 2724 barrels. Minnesota patent, $4 45@4 65; Winter straights, $3 70@3 85.

Wheat — Receipts, 574,805 bushels; exports, 280,000 bushels. Spot, weak; No. 2 red, 82⅝c f. o. b., 74⅝c elevator. Options were weak and heavy early on weak cables, lack of export demand and the break in corn; rallied later on a liberal decrease in world's stock and local covering and closed weak at ⅝@1⅛c net decline. July closed at 81⅝c; September, 80½c; October, 80½c; December, 81⅝c.

European Grain Markets.

LONDON, July 24.—Wheat—Cargoes on passage, very little doing; English country markets, quiet.

LIVERPOOL, July 24.—Wheat—Dull; No. 1 standard California, 6s 2½d; wheat and flour in Paris, weak; French country markets, quiet; spot wheat steady; No. 1 Northern Spring, 6s 2½d; No. 1 California, 6s 1½d@6s 2½d. Futures steady; July, nominal; September, 6s 1d; December, 6s 1½d.

Corn—Spot, steady; American mixed, new, 3s 11d; do old, 3s 11½d. Futures, quiet; September, 3s 11½d; November, 4s.

Available Supplies of Grain.

NEW YORK, July 24.—Special cable and telegraphic information to Bradstreet's show changes in available supplies from last advices:

Wheat, United States and Canada, east of the Rockies, decrease	625,000
Afloat for and in Europe, decrease	1,300,000
Total supply, decrease	1,925,000
Corn, United States and Canada east of the Rockies, decrease	1,168,000
Oats, United States and Canada, east of the Rockies, decrease	872,000

Among the more important decreases are those of 102,000 bushels at Port Huron, and 100,000 bushels at Northwestern elevators. The important increases are those of 181,000 bushels at Chicago private elevators, 75,000 bushels at East St. Louis.

SAN FRANCISCO MARKETS.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 24.—Wool—Spring—Nevada, 13@15c; Eastern Oregon, 10@15c; Valley, Oregon, 18@20c. Fall—Northern mountain, 10@12c; mountain lambs, 8@10c; San Joaquin plains, 8@10c; Humboldt and Mendocino, 13@14c per pound.

Hops—1899 crop, 11@13c per pound.

Millstuffs—Middlings, $17@20; bran, $12 50@13 50 per ton.

Hay—Wheat, $8@12; wheat and oat, $8@11 00; best barley, $8 50; alfalfa, $6@7 50; stock, $5@5 50; compressed wheat, $8@12 per ton; straw, 25@37½c per bale.

Potatoes—River Burbanks, 35 @ 65c; Early Rose, 30@75c per cental.

Vegetables—Onions, 90c@$1 10 per cental; garlic, 2½@3½c; green peas, 2@3c per pound; string beans, 1½@3c; dried okra, 32½c per pound; asparagus, 75c@$2 50 per box; egg plant, 8@10c per pound; cucumbers, 20@30c per box.

Citrus fruit — Oranges, navels, $2 50; Mexican limes, $6@8 50; common California lemons, $1@1 75; choice, $2@2 50 per box.

Bananas—$1 50@2 50 per bunch.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 20½c; do seconds, 17@18c; fancy dairy, 19@19½c; do seconds, 15@16½c.

Cheese—American, new, 9@9½c per pound; Young America, 9½@10c; Eastern, 16½@17c.

Eggs—Store, 14@16c; fancy ranch, 20½@21c; Eastern, 15@16c.

Poultry—Turkeys, gobblers, 9@10c; do hens, 10@11c per pound; old roosters, $3 50@4 per dozen; young roosters, $4 50@6; small broilers, $1 75@2 25; large do, $5@6 50; fryers, $5 50@4 50; hens, $4@4 50 per dozen; geese, $1@1 25 per pair.

Receipts—Flour, quarter sacks, 15,883; do Oregon, 11,580; wheat, centals, 2600; barley, centals, 4000; oats, centals, 1710; do Oregon, 1180; potatoes, sacks, 3741; bran, sacks, 2070; do Oregon, 4930; middlings, sacks, 950; do Oregon, 485; hay, tons, 1368; wool, bales, 27; hides, 716.

EASTERN LIVESTOCK.

CHICAGO, July 24.—Cattle—Receipts, 5000, including 500 Western rangers and 500 Texans. Generally steady; natives, best on sale today, three carloads at $5 50; good to prime steers, $5 15@5 75; poor to medium, $4 00@5 10; selected feeders, $4 25@4 70; mixed stockers, $3@3 85; cows, $3@4 50; heifers, $3@5; canners, $2@2 90; bulls, firm, $2 75@4 00; calves, weak, $4 50@6 50. Texans—Receipts, 500. Texas fed steers, firm, $4 35@5 15; Texas grass steers, steady to strong, $3 40@4 45; Texas bulls, steady, $2 50@3 40.

Hogs—Receipts today, 11,000; tomorrow, 25,000; estimated left over, 2500. Best grades steady, others lower; top, $4 55; mixed butchers, $5 15@5 45; fair to choice heavy, $5 25@5 45; rough heavy, $5@5 10; light, $5 20@5 45; bulk of sales, $5 25@5 40.

Sheep—Receipts, 12,000; strong; lambs weaker; good to choice wethers, $4 10@4 35; fair to choice mixed, $3@4; Western sheep, $4@4 30; Texas sheep, $3@4; native lambs, $4@5 50; Western lambs, $5@5 60.

Boston Wool Market.

BOSTON, July 24.—The wool market here continues quiet, although some houses are making inquiry for wool by manufacturers. Prices are generally nominal for fine medium and fine territory. While staple lots call for 52@53c, fleece wools continue in a nominal position, with practically nothing doing and prices largely guesswork. Quotations: Unwashed medium, etc., Missouri quarter-blood, combing, 23@24c; three-eighths blood, 23@24c; braid combing, 21c. Territory, scoured basis—Montana and Wyoming, fine medium and fine, 17@18c; scoured, 50c; staple, 52@62½c; Utah fine medium and fine, 16@17c; scoured, 50c; staple, 52c; Idaho fine medium and fine, 19@17c; scoured, 50c; staple, 52@55c. Australian, scoured basis, spot prices—Combing superfine, nominal, 62@87c; good, 80@82c.

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ALL ALIKE TO CHINESE.

They Do Not Distinguish Even English From Japanese.

Pall Mall Gazette.

It is 34 years since the Rev. Mr. Owen first went to China as an agent of the London Missionary Society; 29 of these years he has spent in China itself. He is now in England completing his third holiday of 18 months, a holiday which seems to be tempered with a good deal of work, speaking, writing, preaching in English towns, making known the work carried on by his society in the Celestial Empire. Mr. Owen kindly consented to explain some of the features of the reform movement.

I asked him of the Empress Dowager.

"She is a member of the respectable Foh family, and her brother is a wealthy man. The Emperor Hien Feng was a somewhat dissolute man, and she was the only woman who ever bore him a child. That child was an infant when Hien Feng fled beyond the great wall into Mongolia, before the allied British and French forces in 1860. The Emperor died whilst in Mongolia, and had appointed a regency of eight to carry on the government. This arrangement did not suit the Manchu party; six regents were murdered; two allowed to commit suicide. The real Empress and the present Dowager Empress, with her son, Tung Chih, were packed off to Pekin. Both were made co-regents, the first as Empress of the East, the superior title in China; the second as Empress of the West. After the death of the former, the Empress of the West became sole regent for her son, who came to the throne at the age of 17, and died four years later."

"Who, then, is the present Emperor, whom she treats like a puppet?"

"Hien Fang had eight brothers, and the present Emperor, Quang Hsu, is the son of Prince Chun, the seventh brother.

"What effect had the war between China and Japan upon the cause of progress?"

"A quickening effect; it is the simple truth that the defeat of China, utterly unexpected as it was, brought the reform movement to the birth. Defeat after defeat caused China to bow her head in shame and the Emperor to sign a humiliating treaty. People have but little idea of the appalling nature of Chinese ignorance. It is penal just now to know anything of Western civilization, or, at any rate, to show it. The word used to designate anything pertaining to the West is 'vicious.' During recent examinations for literary degrees the chancellors were instructed to weed out all those who showed Western knowledge. Not only were they to fail to pass, but to be punished. And if the chancellors neglected this duty the Viceroys were to be held responsible.

"A map that was shown to me in China, constructed according to Chinese ideas, represented all the best and most central parts of the world as China, all other nations being a mere insignificant fringe, added as a setting. So you see that to show any knowledge of geography or to know that twice two make four is a disqualification for a scholar."

"Do you mean that?"

"I do mean that in mathematics they are centuries behind our present knowledge, and that their ancient standard leaves them hopelessly out of the running. A Chinese official has been heard to ask if in the West we have the same sun and moon as shine in China. I don't mean to say that there are no intelligent men in China, but they are not in power."

"Is the Emperor the weak man we suppose him to be?"

"The Emperor is not a noodle, but a well-read and intelligent man; not weak in brain power, but weak in health. He ascended the throne in 1887, and by the coup d'etat in 1898 the Empress seized the power that he was preparing to seize. She is astute, unscrupulous, and far more versed in state affairs than he could be, so that it is not surprising she outwitted and outstripped his calculations. The very walls have ears in the imperial palace."

"Have you seen Quang Hsu?"

"Never, though I have been very near him. On the rare occasions when the 'Lone Man (that is one of his imperial titles) traverses the streets, the thoroughfares are cleared and guarded."

"When did the Boxers reach Pekin?"

"In the end of April or beginning of May. Stripped to the waist, like fakers, the Boxers stood at the city gates, claiming to be spiritualists or devout personages. The Empress has smiled on them, and all the rabble of China is gathering into the organization. I confess that this action of the Empress Dowager surprises me."

"How do you mean exactly?"

"There is plenty of corruption in Pekin, moral and material. Our rules of decency are transgressed at every turn; in fact, there are no rules. But the one function of government that is discharged unflinchingly is order. The slightest disturbance is quelled with a heavy hand. Riots are unknown. But all the evil birds of prey are now assembling, disgorged from all the nooks."

"It sounds like Paris when a revolution is brewing. All the harpies and uncaged criminals rise out of the sewers. But perhaps the Empress cannot now maintain order."

"It may be, but up to now she has been resolute on that head. In a day, in an hour, she could have put the Boxers down, for she has from 10,000 to 30,000 Kansu troops under her pet General, Tung Fuhsiang, and at least 30,000 Manchu bannermen under her orders. This is the incomprehensible part of the business; even to her, social order must be more important than killing foreigners."

"You have been to the legations?"

"Certainly, very often. Many of them can be easily assailed from the city walls and made quite untenable by men armed with modern rifles. Others, though less exposed, are ill adapted for defensive purposes, being simply the residences of former Chinese princes and nobles. And they may fall short of food. If Dr. Morrison, the Times correspondent, cannot get his messages through to Tien Tsin or Taku, the legations must be hard pressed."

"Is the British legation as unpopular as those of other nations which have recently attacked China?"

"The Chinese do not distinguish among 'foreign devils'; they do not even distinguish English from Japanese. I mean the bulk of them. They do not know where England and Japan are situated. When the Japanese war broke out Chinamen said to each other: 'The foreigners have rebelled.' They are the only people; all others are, or ought to be, subject to them. This is where their appalling ignorance comes in."

Prisoners and Keepers Change.

In the course of an account of the capture of Pretoria, Winston Churchill says: "The Duke of Marlborough, procuring a Dutch guide, galloped ahead to the cage where the British officers were confined and requested the Boer Commandant to release them forthwith. Though the demand was not supported by any force the Dutch officer complied, and after a little demur the gate was opened and the officers, rushing out, seized the rifles from their jailers, and in five minutes 129 British officers were free, and 48 burghers, lately their jailers, were confined in their stead.

Mohammedans in China.

New York Sun.

Tradition says that Mussulmans first came to Canton in the sixth year of the Hegira, early in the seventh century, under the leadership of a maternal uncle of Mohammed, whose tomb is still an object of reverence for Chinese Mussulmans. In 758 their numbers were increased by some 4000 Arabs, who came to assist in quelling an insurrection, and then, like the Manchus, declined to withdraw. Their increase since then has been mainly due to the ordinary causes and the purchase of poor children in the time of famine.

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