

# Financial and Commercial

## COTTON MARKET VERY QUIET NEAR PRICES MADE ADVANCES TONE OF STOCKS IMPROVED

Fluctuations Were Comparatively Narrow, With Close Steady, One Point Higher to One Point Lower—Holiday.

New York, Dec. 31.—With tomorrow a general holiday and with Liverpool to remain closed until Friday morning, the cotton market was generally very quiet today and fluctuations were comparatively narrow, with the close steady, net one point higher to one point lower. The market opened early at an advance of 8 points on December, but generally unchanged to 3 points lower and active buyers sold off to a net loss of 6 or 7 cents during the early trading. Cash was rather better than due and Liverpool was a moderate buyer here, there was considerable scattering of liquidation for over the holiday, but there also appeared to be some assurance from Wall Street, Western Southern sources, buying by the interests absorbed those offerings on the decline and the market soon turned steadier, with prices advancing to a shade over the closing figures of last night during the middle of the day on a private ginning report which indicated only 397,000 bales ginned the last half of December. Realized by early buyers for a turn checked to advance, and the close was a point or two off from the best. Liverpool attributed the relatively steady showing there to American buying and covering of shorts. Memphis was again credited with selling in the local market, but the chief pressure, aside from scattering liquidation, was attributed to Wall Street houses who are supposed to be operating on the expectation of a continued slack spot demand and a gradual easing off of the spot situation after the first of the year.

### Prospects of Enlarged European Demand With Little Surplus in Sight Tended to Lift the Market—Other Grain.

Chicago, Dec. 31.—Prospects of enlarged European demand, with little surplus in sight except west of the Rockies, tended today to lift the wheat market. Closing prices were steady, at a net advance of 1/4 to 1 cent.

Corn finished 13c lower to 3c up; oats 3c off to a gain of 1/2c, and provisions varying from 5c decline to 2 1/2c increase in cost.

Cash grain:

Wheat—No. 2, red, 1.10@1.12; No. 2, hard, 89@94; No. 1, Northern, 87 1/2@90 1/2; No. 2, Northern, 86 1/2@90; No. 2, Spring, 88@90; velvet chaff, 87 1/2@89 1/2; durum, 88@90; Corn—Not quoted.

Oats—No. 2, 32 1/2; No. 2, white, 31 1/2@34 1/2; Standard, 32@33 1/2.

Closing prices:

Wheat—December, 87 1/2; May, 91 1/2; July, 88 1/2; August, 87 1/2; 49 1/2.

Corn—December, 32 1/2; May, 32 1/2@32 3/4; July, 32 1/2.

Pork—January, 17.47@17.50; May, 17.45@17.48; August, 17.45@17.48.

Lard—December, 6.95; January, 6.97 1/2; May, 6.97 1/2.

Ribs—January, 9.55; May, 9.70.

### Throughout the Closing Session of the Year There Was a Strong Current and Some Substantial Gains Were Made.

New York, December 31.—The tone of the stock market showed a distinct improvement today. Throughout the session there was a strong current and substantial gains were made in all departments. The Harriman and Hill issues, Coppers, Coals and Steel developed marked strength and many a less conspicuous issue also reached a higher level. Brokers active in trading said that the important feature was the small supply of stocks. The unexpected favorable condition of the money market contributed to the strength of stocks. Instead of the predicted year-end flurry, the rate for call money did not surpass the opening figure of 6 per cent and the demand for loans from the stock exchange was so small that before the end of the day there was a sharp drop. The comparative steadiness of the money market yesterday had given an indication that the acute actual stress of the month, involving a maximum of 12 per cent had been undergone last week, and the traders today were prepared to proceed more confidently.

The short interest proved to be susceptible to attack, and covering operations, together with some buying for the long account on the theory that easier money conditions would obtain with the passing of the year-end period, gave the stock market as the year ended on the exchange, an appearance of strength which was in marked contrast with conditions earlier in the month. Buying of Steel was encouraged by the weekly Iron Trade reviews which stated that the outlook for the year for iron and steel was exceptionally bright.

The bond market improved in sympathy with stocks, with a better demand for the investment movement which the year-end disbursements of interest and dividends are expected to bring.

Total sales, par value \$2,150,000. United States bonds were unchanged on call. Total sale today, 196,000 shares.

### MARINE

Arrived.

Str. Duplin, Stokes, Smith's Bridge, J. W. Brooks.

Cleared.

Str. King George (Br.), 2,480 tons, Burnett, Bremen, Alexander Sprunt & Son.

Str. Duplin, Stokes, Smith's Bridge, J. W. Brooks.

Str. Montoria (Br.), 1,165 tons, Martlow, Sapelo, Ga., Alexander Sprunt & Son.

Exported.

Bremen—Br. str. King George, 13,120 bales cotton, valued at \$919,000; cargo and vessel by Alexander Sprunt & Son.

### MARINE DIRECTORY

List of Vessels Now in Port at Wilmington, North Carolina.

Steamers.

Str. Paula Blumberg (Ger.), 1,002 tons, Paulsen, Helde & Co.

Str. Membrand (Br.), 1,043 tons, Middleton, Bremen, Helde & Co.

Str. Heisterberg (Sw.), 1,362 tons, Meler, Helde & Co.

Barques.

Str. Madura (Nor.), 1,023 tons, Brandt, Helde & Co.

### THE PORT MOVEMENT

Galveston—Steady, 12 1/2; net receipts, 24,225; gross receipts, 24,525; sales, 600; stock, 1,170; Great Britain, 42,234; coastwise, 1,170.

New Orleans—Quiet, 12 1/2; net receipts, 18,947; gross receipts, 19,474; sales, 3,925; stock, 23,241; France, 3,000; continent, 19,241; coastwise, 588.

Mobile—Firm, 12 1/2; net receipts, 415; gross receipts, 415; sales, 2,700; stock, 169,280; coastwise, 5,423; France, 2,478; Boston—Steady, 13.20; net receipts, 449; gross receipts, 632; stock, 24,678.

Philadelphia—Steady, 13.45; gross receipts, 7,445; net receipts, 7,965; gross receipts, 7,965; stock, 71,344; coastwise, 4,194; Brunswick—Stock, 16,195; continent, 5,335.

Port Arthur—Net receipts, 7,080; gross receipts, 7,080.

Aransas—Stock, 1,332.

Jacksonville—Stock, 1,832.

Port today's receipts—Net, 68,437; Great Britain, 49,523; France, 8,000; continent, 3,714; stock, 1,246,388.

Consolidated, at all ports—Net, 148,167; Great Britain, 120,857; France, 24,740; continent, 30,615; Japan, 2,169.

Total since Sept. 1, at all ports—Net, 7,037,775; Great Britain, 2,365,883; France, 469,690; continent, 1,985,724; Japan, 118,623; Mexico, 1,000.

### INTERIOR MOVEMENT

Houston—Steady, 12 1/2; net receipts, 13,071; gross receipts, 13,071; shipments, 10,832; sales, 1,400; stock, 166,528.

Augusta—Steady, 13; net receipts, 585; gross receipts, 585; shipments, 834; sales, 1,500; stock, 11,445.

St. Louis—Quiet, 12 1/2; net receipts, 330; gross receipts, 1,160; shipments, 913; stock, 21,570.

Cincinnati—Net receipts, 10,943; gross receipts, 10,943; shipments, 1,743; stock, 23,222.

Little Rock—Quiet, 12 1/2; net receipts, 1,620; gross receipts, 1,620; shipments, 1,620; stock, 45,930.

Total today—Net receipts, 28,631; gross receipts, 30,111; shipments, 24,608; sales, 7,729; stock, 583,206.

### COTTON FIRM FAILS

Dreuil & Co., of New Orleans, File Petition of Voluntary Bankruptcy.

New Orleans, Dec. 31.—Announcement of the failure of the spot cotton firm of Dreuil & Company was made on the cotton exchange at noon today. Some little excitement ensued, but it was quickly quenched, the firm was not carrying enough contracts to embarrass any brokers who had to liquidate them, and prices, even of the most active months, barely moved.

The firm is one of the oldest in the local trade. One rumor was that its difficulties was due to shipments of cotton to them that were not up to grade as purchased.

The firm filed a petition of voluntary bankruptcy in the United States Court, placing assets at \$656,000, with \$762,000 liabilities.

### DRY GOODS MARKET

New York, December 31.—The primary cotton goods markets were quiet and steady during the day. Secondary distribution had a normal business for the last day of the year. The clothing trade had a depressing effect on the men's wear market so far as spring goods were concerned. There was a large volume of business hooked on overcoatings for the Fall, 1917, season.

### THE WEATHER

United States Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau, January 1, 1918.

Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending at 8 P. M. yesterday:

Temperature at 8 A. M., 49 degrees; at 8 P. M., 52 degrees; maximum, 56 degrees; minimum, 48 degrees; mean, 52 degrees.

Rainfall for the day, .02; rainfall for the month to date, 2.46.

Stage of water in Cape Fear river at Fayetteville, at 8 A. M., Monday, 6 feet.

Weather Forecast.

For North Carolina—Cloudy Wednesday, preceded by rain; Thursday, fair.

Port Calendar—Jan. 1.

Sun rises 7:18 A. M.; sets 5:14 P. M.

Day's length, 9 hrs. 56 min.

Tides.

High water at Southport 3:17 P. M.

High water at Wilmington 6:17 P. M.

### WEATHER BUREAU REPORTS

STATIONS	Temperature		24-hour precipitation
	Weather at 8 P. M.	Lowest temperature	
Athens	clear	58	.0
Asheville	cloudy	50	.0
Atlanta	cloudy	48	.0
Aurora	rainy	46	.28
Birmingham	clear	50	.0
Boston	cloudy	52	.0
Charlotte	rainy	50	.0
Charleston	rainy	44	.38
Chicago	clear	44	.0
Galveston	clear	60	.0
Jacksonville	clear	54	.0
Memphis	clear	52	.0
Mobile	clear	56	.0
New Orleans	clear	62	.0
New York	cloudy	50	.0
Oklahoma	clear	50	.0
Pittsburgh	clear	54	.0
Raleigh	rainy	48	.08
Savannah	rainy	60	.0
Shreveport	clear	40	.0
St. Louis	clear	40	.0
Washington	cloudy	46	.0

### THE FINANCIAL MARKET

New York, Dec. 31.—Money on call firm; highest 6 per cent; lowest 3; ruling rate 6 per cent; last loan 3 1/2; closing bid 3; offered at 3 1/2. Time loans weaker; 60 days 6 per cent; 90 days 5 1/2; six months 5 1/4 to 5 1/2.

Prime mercantile paper 6 per cent. Stock exchange firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at 4.8125 for 60 day bills and at 4.8525 for demand. Commercial bills 4.81. Bar silver 62 3/4. Mexican dollars 49. Government bonds steady. Railroad bonds firm.

### NAVAL STORES

New York, Dec. 31.—Turpentine, firm; machine barrels, 42.

Rosin—Quiet.

Savannah, Dec. 31.—No naval stores market today or tomorrow—holiday.

### CAT BETRAYS CONVICT

Jesse Pomeroy, Under Life Sentence, Again Tries to Escape.

Boston, December 30.—Jesse Pomeroy, whose crimes started the country nearly 40 years ago, attempted, unsuccessfully to escape from the State prison at Charlestown today. Pomeroy is serving a life sentence for torturing two children to death when he was 13 years old.

The convict got out of his cell by sawing three bars from the door. The mewling of a cat which followed Pomeroy along the corridor attracted the attention of Thomas Brasel, an attendant, shortly before daylight and when he ordered the murderer to throw up his hands the prisoner did not resist.

Pomeroy had made careful plans to escape. A dummy had been arranged in his bed so that the officer on duty would not notice his absence. The steel bars of the cell door were cut with a saw made out of two small pieces of steel. The prison officials have not learned how the murderer obtained the pieces of metal.

Pomeroy, who is 53 years of age, was sentenced to be hanged in 1874 for the brutal murders of a small girl and boy, Katie Curran and H. H. Milon, in South Boston. The sentence was commuted to life imprisonment in solitary confinement.

The convict has attempted twice before to escape. Aided by his mother, he has petitioned every Governor of the State for 30 years to grant him a pardon.

### \$1 A DAY JUST FOR BREATHING

Paid at Laboratories of Medical College in New York.

New York, December 30.—A dollar a day just for blowing one's breath is being paid at the laboratories of the College of Physicians and Surgeons to eight women, who started upon their unique occupation today.

When a representative of the laboratories went to the Municipal Laboratory House to get recruits he explained that the women were wanted in connection with experiments in sick-room ventilation. They were to breathe into bottles imbedded in refrigerators. The condensed vapor is to be analyzed in an effort to learn how to improve atmosphere conditions of hospitals.

### MORPHINE

Calum, Whiskey and Drug Habits treated when cause is in brain. Book on subject free. DR. B. M. WOOLLEY, 79-N, Victor Building, Atlanta, Georgia.

### CHANGE IN A. C. L. SCHEDULE

Effective January 5th, 1918.

A. C. L. train No. 42 for Goldsboro, Richmond, Norfolk, Washington and New York, will leave Wilmington at 6:45 P. M. instead of 7:00 P. M., as formerly.

A. C. L. train No. 50 from Chatham, Conway, Florence, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, Tampa, etc., will arrive Wilmington 12:20 A. M., instead 12:30 A. M. as formerly.

T. C. WHITE, General Passenger Agent.

### LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET

Liverpool, Dec. 31.—Spot cotton in fair demand, prices easier. American middling fair 7.65; good middling 7.31; middling 7.11; low middling 6.93; good ordinary 6.47; ordinary 5.99. The sales of the day were 10,000 bales, of which 500 were for speculation and exports and included 8,100 American. Receipts 108,000 bales, including 100,700 American.

Future opened quiet and steady and closed quiet and steady. January 6.87; February and February 6.83; February and March 6.81; March and April 6.80 to 6.81; April and May 6.78; May and June 6.75 to 6.76; June and July 6.74; July and August 6.69 to 6.72; August and September 6.58 to 6.61; September and October 6.39; October and November 6.31.

Official noon closing: December 6.89 value; December and January 6.68.



## Splendid Gifts

### SUBSTANTIAL GIFTS!

For every member of the family—for Mother or Sister:

Shoes, Evening Slippers to match their gowns—all colors, \$3.50. Felt Slippers, \$1.00 to \$1.50.

For Brother or Father: Shoes, Hunting Boots, Rubber or Leather House Slippers—leather or felt, \$7.50. Shoe Trees, 50c. and \$1.00. Doll Shoes, all colors, 25c.

## HEWLETT & PRICE

24 NO. FRONT.



### BEHIND A SPANKING TEAM

from this lively stable and with some chosen companions what more pleasure could you have if you were a millionaire? If you think such pleasure is too expensive for you, even occasionally, you are mistaken. You'll admit it, too, when you learn how moderately we charge for even the most elaborate conveyance.

## City Livery Co.

C. W. MILLS, Mgr.



### ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

Whether it is a plate, a crown or a bridge, to be comfortable, serviceable and natural looking, it must be MADE CORRECTLY.

My reputation for six years of successful practice in the same place must mean something to you—it means that you get Good Work Promptly Done at the Best Prices.

The cleanest office in the Carolinas. Graduate nurse in attendance.

## DR. J. W. POWELL, Dentist

Phone 1634. Garrell Bldg.

### Paid at Laboratories of Medical College in New York.

New York, December 30.—A dollar a day just for blowing one's breath is being paid at the laboratories of the College of Physicians and Surgeons to eight women, who started upon their unique occupation today.

## OF COURSE

We thank you for business entrusted to our care, and extend you compliments of the season.

## THE STONE CO.

Wholesale Grocers & Distributors.

J. B. McCabe, Local and Long Distance Manager. Phone 302.

Carolina Audit & Adjustment Company, Licensed Accountants and Auditors. Room 405 Southern Bldg. Wilmington, N. C.

Accounting Systems.

## H. deW. RAPALJE

CONSULTING ENGINEER. Room 511 Southern Building. WILMINGTON, N. C.

## COAL and WOOD

\$25.00 Reward will be paid for evidence to convict any person or corporation who sets fire or burns any of my lands in this or any other county in this State. D. L. GORE, 120 N. Water Street, Wilmington, North Carolina.

## W. B. THORPE & CO.

BUILDERS' SUPPLIES.

# TOOLS OF ALL KINDS. HARDWARE FOR EVERY ONE



No matter what you do, you must have tools to carry on your work. We have tools of all kinds; for farmers, carpenters, blacksmiths, gardeners—for everybody. Our line of hardware is always up-to-date. Our stuff will wear. If you don't believe our prices are low, come in and see.

## PECK & HOLLOWAY

EVERYTHING IN HARDWARE AND PAINTS. 100 North Front. Phone 612.

# WONDERFUL BARGAINS

## IN MEN'S TAILORED SUITS, AT J. W. H. FUCHS' DEPARTMENT STORE.

The American Art Custom Tailors, of Cincinnati, have authorized us to cut the prices on their entire line of fine woolens. Note these Thrilling Prices:

All \$16.50 to \$27.50 Suits or Overcoats, for . . . \$13.50

\$28.50 to \$45.00 Suits or Overcoats, for . . . \$19.50

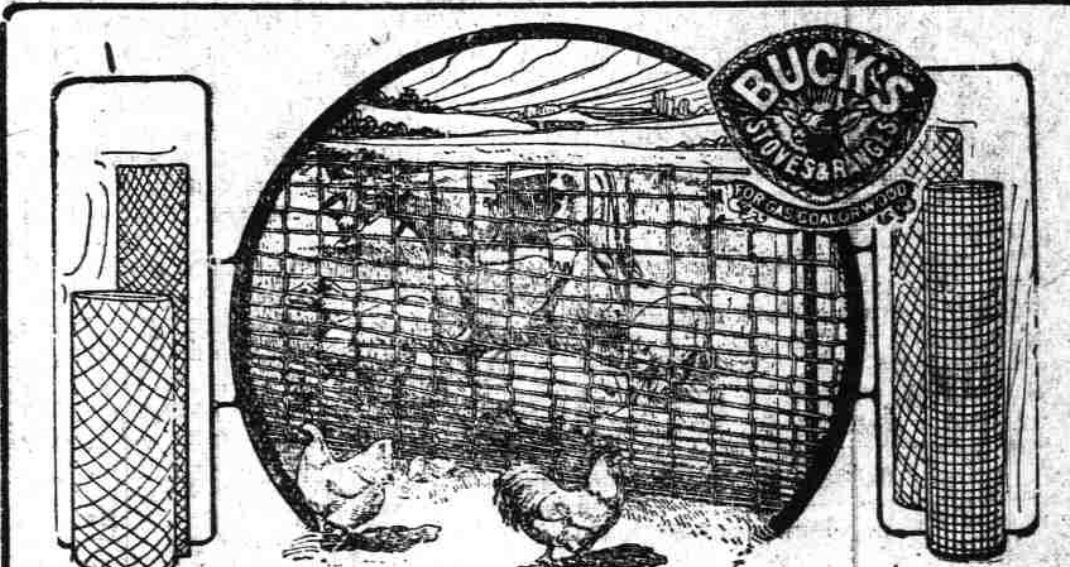
\$4.50 to \$8.00 Pants, for . . . \$4.00

\$8.75 to \$12.00 Pants, for . . . \$6.00

This sale will last only a few more days. Call at once, and have your measure taken by an expert cutter, and your Suit will be delivered by Christmas.

## J. W. H. FUCHS' DEP'T STORE

28 and 30 South Front Street.



### "SOUTHERN" FIELD FENCING.

Five Cars on hand at the old price. It won't last long. Write or call and see us, as to price.

## WM. E. SPRINGER & CO.

PURCELL BUILDING.

## CLOSED

We wish to announce that our Art and Portrait Departments will be closed until January 14th, 1918. Our Commercial and Amateur Departments will be open as usual.

## FOLTZ & KENDRICK

'Phone 731. 504 Southern Bldg.

## "MURA-LIKE"

The only perfect Flat Oil Paint for Interior Use. Sanitary and Durable.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS: Atlantic Paint and Varnish Works 21 MARKET STREET.

## COAL and WOOD

\$25.00 Reward will be paid for evidence to convict any person or corporation who sets fire or burns any of my lands in this or any other county in this State. D. L. GORE, 120 N. Water Street, Wilmington, North Carolina.

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BUILDERS' SUPPLIES.