

THE COTTON MARKET

Closing of a Week of Remarkable Dullness and Suppression.

New York, Dec. 31.—The last week of 1896 has been an appropriate one to close a remarkable for the dullness and depression in the cotton market. Prices have fluctuated only moderately, and show no important net change. Liverpool sadly disappointed the bulls today by refusing to follow our advance of yesterday and by allowing a small decline there. Our market opened two to four points lower. After the opening it was very dull. The movement for the week was full. May opened 5.93, fluctuated between this figure and 5.95 and closed at 5.94 to 5.95 with the one of the market steady. The new year will open with the greatest uncertainty prevailing concerning the future course of prices. The wonderful demand for cotton everywhere has enabled prices to hold their own with remarkable stability during the past two months. This and the fact that there is no indication of any diminution in this demand has led many shrewd judges to the opinion that the worst is over. They admit, however, the possibility of some slight decline in the event of a January movement sufficiently large to justify revision in million bale estimates. Low prices, big demand, largely increased consumption, probable heavy reduction in acreage and the contingencies of the next planting season, are all factors in favor of cotton and worth considering. The bears mostly rely upon a yield of approximately eleven million bales and possible fighting in Europe incident to the carving up of China. To break the market, this array of factors is not so great, but either of them, if true, would probably be sufficient. We do not believe in such a crop and we are not fearful of a European war. The exchange will be closed until Tuesday. Wishing you a prosperous New Year, we remain, RIORDAN & CO.

TO BUILD NICARAUGUA CANAL

Party of Chicago Capitalists on the Way to the Isthmus.

New York, Dec. 31.—The party of contractors now engaged on the Chicago drain canal, who propose to undertake the construction of the Nicaragua Canal, departed from this city on the steamer "Titanic" today for the isthmus. They expect to reach Colon by January 8, and spend two days on the isthmus, examining the present condition and the machinery of the Panama Canal. At Managua they will be met by Mr. Monreal, of the government engineering commission. The party does not go under the auspices of the government of the United States. The Nicaragua Canal company, of which ex-Senator Warner Miller is president, has, however, encouraged them to make the journey, but does not pay their expenses. The government commission, of which Admiral Walker is chairman, and which has recently arrived in Nicaragua, has also encouraged them to go, and will aid them in every possible way to accomplish their purposes. The Chicago contractors do not go to Nicaragua to make a survey. They are satisfied with the survey made by Mr. Monreal ten years ago. The contractors will accept that survey and go over the route for the purpose of determining how much it will cost to complete the canal, and whether they want to attempt it, and what sort of bid they are willing to make for cash. While they have no formal organization, the members of the party represent nine of the strongest contracting firms in the world, which command unlimited capital, and can accomplish any engineering task within human power. These gentlemen have agreed to undertake the construction of the Nicaragua Canal, provided it appears to them practicable after making a personal examination of the route. If they undertake the work they will insist on having a contract covering the entire job to completion so that a fleet of the biggest battle ships in our navy can sail through from ocean to ocean before they surrender the work and settle their accounts. The government will probably be given the first opportunity to accept the proposition that is expected from the contractors, and congress will be asked to ap-

propriate a sufficient sum of money or guarantee a sufficient amount of bonds to complete the work; but that is a matter to which Mr. Craig and the contractors are indifferent. For it is the government, after a fair opportunity to consider the proposition, declines or refuses to accept it. Mr. Craig and Mr. Conley have received assurances from private capitalists, including some of the wealthiest men in the world, that they will furnish the funds without the aid of the government, and build the canal as a private enterprise, because they believe it will prove as profitable an investment as the Suez Canal, from which the government of Great Britain received a net revenue of \$3,867,000 over and above all expenses on its shares last year.

THE FLOWER OF BILTMORE PALACE.

Of all the flowers on nature's soil, trained by art, or nursed by toil, the "BILTMORE BRAND" is queen by right. The bread it makes is feathery light. 'Tis pure as snow and soft as dew. Its creamy substance through and through, 'Twill feed the babe, the athlete keep, And plant the rose in every cheek.

The busy housewife, up-to-date, must now prepare her Christmas cake. No other flour she dare compress. With fruit, nut and spice, a sugary mess.

The "BILTMORE BRAND" no weight keeps down, It rises by its own renown, A cake so mellow, soft and rich, Would tempt a mummy from his niche.

And as to muffins, gems and wafers, Crackers, cookies, rolls, pop-overs, If such things were in days of old, When stood the Sphinx, a statue cold—

And known to men was BILTMORE PRO-CHESS, Their odor wafted to her senses, Would have caused her woman, heart to sigh.

"Pray, what's the receipt you make them by?" Not strange that by yon rolling stream, A palace lovely as a dream, Is built by one who his home could buy In any land beneath the sky.

For nowhere else can flour so good Be falling nature's daily food. He acres grown in soothing wheat To have BILTMORE bread so fresh and sweet.

Long life rewards such wisdom rare, For good digestion kills all care, And princely and peasant can procure Just what he buys in BILTMORE flour.

Good health, long life, and joyous days,

A Standard Reference Book.

An Encyclopedia of Facts

THE Richmond Times Almanac

FOR 1897.

Prepared to Especially Interest People of Virginia.

Nearly 500 pages, and handsomely bound. The biggest, best Almanac ever issued in the South.

Price, by mail, 25c.

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- Educational, Statistical, National, Historical, Political, Articultural, Official, Commercial, Financial, Astronomical, General. Cities, Counties, States, Population, Mortality, Railroads, Shipping, People, Animals, Insects, etc., etc.

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The Acme Wine and Liquor House.

Where they make a specialty of first-class whiskey and wines, and defy competition in either quality or price.

And I still claim to have the largest stock of first-class goods of any house in the State. It is useless for me to try to name the different brands of goods I keep in stock. A visit to my place will convince you that I have the only first-class liquor house in the State.

Bottled fresh every day and delivered to any part of the city. Orders from a distance solicited. Boxing and packing free.

"Quality, Not Quantity," is My Motto.

Jas. H. Loughran, Prop.

Phone 139. P. O. Box 372

56 and 58 South Main Street.

The chief blessings poets praise, A patent thing—how strange the thought, The flower of flowers at BILTMORE wrought. Victoria, N. C., 1897. Biltmore Patent Flour is for sale by all first class grocers. Ask for it. 271-11

Revenue officers who have returned from the "Dark Corner" of Fok county report the seizure of two large stills with 2,000 gallons of beer, and three of the distillers.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.

Amateur Photographers

and here a full line of Photo supplies. Cameras, films, plates and developers of all kinds.

The New American cartridge film is the best on the market. They fit all daylight loading cameras.

The Buckeye film camera produces the best results with the least trouble and requires less experience to operate than any other camera made.

We do developing and finishing for amateurs. We make films a specialty correcting over exposure or under exposure.

You press the button, we make the pictures.

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Wine! Wine!

At 50 Cents Per Gallon

In lots of five or more gallons.

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TRYON, N. C.

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SOUVENIR SKETCHES.....

(In Water Color.)

Local Scenery and Character Studies.

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Primary, Secondary or Tertiary. BLOOD POISON permanently cured in 15 to 30 days. You can be treated at home for same price under same guarantee. If you prefer to come here we will contract to pay railroad fare and hotel bills, and send you home with your money.

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which may be taken at home under our direction. We will pay \$5.00 for each bottle of our medicine which we will come here, if we fail to cure. We have no free prescriptions. Free cure of G.O.D. Aids. We are \$2.00 a bottle and guaranteed to cure every case we treat or refund every dollar you pay us, or our name may be deposited in any bank to be paid when a cure is effected. Write for full particulars. STATE MEDICAL CO., Omaha, Neb.

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ASHEVILLE AND MURPHY.

In Effect November 7, 1897.

(Central Time.)

Table with 2 columns: Westbound Trains and Eastbound Trains. Lists train numbers and destinations.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

In Effect June 20, 1897.

(Central Time.) NO. 14

Table with 2 columns: NO. 14 and NO. 15. Lists train numbers and destinations.

SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA RAILROAD.

(Central Time.)

Table with 2 columns: NO. 21 and NO. 22. Lists train numbers and destinations.

GAARDEN BRANCH.

(Daily Except Sunday.)

Table with 2 columns: NO. 23 and NO. 24. Lists train numbers and destinations.

AIKEN ACCOMMODATION.

(Daily Except Sunday.)

Table with 2 columns: NO. 25 and NO. 26. Lists train numbers and destinations.

GEORGIA DIVISION.

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Table with 2 columns: NO. 27 and NO. 28. Lists train numbers and destinations.

CENTRAL TIME.

Table with 2 columns: NO. 29 and NO. 30. Lists train numbers and destinations.

SUNDAY ONLY.

Table with 2 columns: NO. 31 and NO. 32. Lists train numbers and destinations.

NORTH AND SOUTH VIA DENMARK THROUGH SLEEPER TO AND FROM NEW YORK.

Leave Augusta 9:05 a. m. 3:05 p. m. 7:00 p. m. Arrive Savannah 12:15 p. m. 6:15 p. m. 10:15 p. m.

AUGUSTA AND ASHEVILLE SHORT LINE.

Schedule in Effect Oct. 3, 1897.

Table with 2 columns: NO. 33 and NO. 34. Lists train numbers and destinations.

MIXED TRAINS.

(Central Time.)

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