The Hand THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE rules the world.

But few appreciate the danger to which the expectant mother is exposed, and the foreboding with which she looks forward to the hour of approaching motherhood. By the use of

"Mother's Friend"

the body is made to yield pleasantly to the change. Headache and nausea are dispelled, the depressed and nervous feeling yields to one of hopeful expectation. Danger to life of mother is avoided, and she passes through the trial quickly and her recovery is rapid. Sent by Mail, on receipt of price, $1.00. Book to "Expectant Mothers" free upon application. The Bradfield Regulator Co., Atlanta, Ga. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

A Pleasant Evening

gives a delightful finish to the day. Nothing is more agreeable than music when it emanates from the

STIEFF PIANOS

which are the finest home instruments in this country. Everyone who has purchased a Piano from us is highly pleased with the result. It's quite impossible for an inferior piano to masquerade as something better. It has neither quality, tone nor durability. The Stieff Piano sells on its own merits.

Standard Organs.
Tuning and repairing.
Accommmodating Terms.

CHARLES M. STIEFF.

BALTIMORE—9 N. Liberty St.
WASHINGTON—521 Eleventh St., N.W.
NORFOLK, VA.—416 Main St.
CEARLOTTE, N. C.—213 N. Tryon St.
no 24-3m

A CHANGE.

WE ADMIT A CHANGE IN THIS SPACE IS NOW IN ORDER, AS THE PROSPECTS ARE NOT SO BRIGHT AS THEY WERE. WE WILL HELP YOU OUT IF YOU WILL SEND US YOUR ORDERS FOR

Groceries - at - Wholesale.

REMEMBER, OUR MOTTO IS TO PLEASE OUR CUSTOMERS.

McNAIR & PEARSALL
oc 24

WE CAN ACCOMMODATE

A FEW MORE CUSTOMERS

WITH FIRST CLASS BUTTER

Also NEW CHEESE, 20 pounds average, fresh and sweet, fresh FRUITS, COFFEE of all grades, CAND Yin barrels, boxes, tubs, CAKES in barrels, boxes and half boxes, CHEWING GUM, any style, TOILET SOAP to suit everybody, DRUGS, INKS, PENCILS, WRAPPING PAPER, TWINES, paper and cotton, FISH, FLOUR. Use good Flour to make good Bread. PILLSBURY'S BEST is what to use. It makes Cakes just right

R. W. HICKS.

WHOLESALE GROCER.

Fresh Goods

JUST ARRIVED BY STEAMER.

Edam Cheese,
Roquefort Cheese,
English Dairy Cheese,
Neufchatel Cheese,
Twiss Cheese.

Fresh Ginger Wafers,

Fancy Cakes.

WE ALSO HAVE A SELECT ASSORTMENT OF

Martha Wasnington Flour Co.'s Goods

THEY ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND WE WOULD LIKE THE TRADE TO TRY THEM.

CALL AND SEE OUR NEW GOODS

The John L. Boatwright Co.

15 AND 17 S. FRONT STREET.

Both Phones No. 14.

no 17

HOW ABOUT YOU?

It is not only fashionable, but extremely easy to cry down monopolies and trusts at the present time, but the average business man as well as the average working man, is only consistent as far as the crying is concerned, and then he stops. They will spend several hours in discussing the hold monopolies have on the people, and what remedies should be adopted, and then they give the preference of their trade to the very monopolies they have been howling against. The different attempts which have been made in the oil business is an example which can well be cited. Every time an oil company has started in this state, the business men have promised them their support, and every time when the Standard Oil Company came in and cut prices in order to freeze out their rivals, the business men, en masse, have deserted the new company and gone, bag and baggage, to the old company and assisted them in doing their dirty work, only to suffer even more, eventually by having prices raised still higher after the competition is throttled. This is a matter of record, throughout the entire United States, and the Standard Oil Company, knowing the weakness of the business men in this respect will coutinue in the future, as they have in the past.

Be a Man! Support Competition!

DIXIE OIL COMPANY
no 3

The Messenger.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Goldsboro Argus: There are now in daily attendance at the white graded school of the city over 700 children from the youngest to the school age limit, occupying the large four-story building from the ground floor to the top.

A Raleigh writer in the Charlotte Observer, speaking of the possibility of Senator Pritchard accepting Judge Dick's place when the latter retires, says "it is known here that Russell would appoint Colonel Lusk to Pritchard's place in the senate in the case of a vacancy."

Greensboro Telegram: Dr. Robinson, who was bitten on the ear by a rabid cat at Guilford College several days ago, is in Baltimore where he went to take the Pasteur treatment. The terrible news that the dread disease had developed in the case of Dr. Robinson, at Baltimore, reached Greensboro today.

Hickory Times: A life long republican and a clever man and a hard worker made the remark the other day that heretofore he had been voting the straight radical ticket, but that hereafter he proposed to vote so his conscience would let him sleep good—the straight free silver, democratic ticket. He meant what he said, too.

Washington Messenger: We regret to learn that Mr. A. B. Covington has made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors, to Mr. Chas. P. Aycock, of Pantego. This is unfortunate because it means the temporary suspension of the operation of the saw mill plant at Pungo creek. We learn that the liabilities of Mr. Covington are not more than $7,000.

Charlotte Observer: Since the 6th of last November the Atlantic, Tennessee and Ohio railroad has hauled 10,000 bushels of apples out of Taylorsville. Seven thousand bushels went direct to Charleston. The apples are shipped in car load lots and the record will be very largely increased before the shipping season is over, and there is still a good store of apples about Taylorsville.

King's Greenville Weekly: While fooling with a gun last Saturday at Bethel, a negro named Andrews was badly shot in the leg by a white boy named Philpot. It was an accident.—We have heard from reliable authority that Judge Sutton got on a drunk while holding the last term of Edgecombe criminal court. It was also stated that his honor was anything but a beauty while tackling red eye.

Morganton Herald: The Burke county bank opens for business on Monday next, temporarily occupying the front of the store building immediately west of the Morganton Hardware Co. It is understood that Mr. A. A. Shuford will be president. The other officers and directors will be announced later. The business will be started under the personal direction of Mr. K. C. Menzies, cashier of the First National bank, of Hickory.

Manufacturers' Record: The secretary of war has sent a report to the house of representatives relative to the improvement of the harbor at Southport, N. C. It is estimated that the cost of a break water and the engineering work would be $3,700,000. This harbor is one of the finest on the Atlantic and gulf coasts and has a depth of water sufficient to accommodate the largest ocean steamers. With the improvements referred to it would become one of the largest and finest harbors in the world.

Durham Sun: Dave Jones, formerly employed in this office, had a right painful accident Sunday night. He accidentally ran against a fence, making a considerable wound about the face. After reaching home he fainted away.—Lloyd Lasater got one of his hands caught in a folding machine at the Erwin cotton mills in West Durham and painfully mashed. L. J. Andrews also had one of his hands mashed in the same machine. Clyde Reagan had one of his arms mashed in the lapper room of the East Durham cotton mills, by being caught between two steel rollers.

Greensboro Record: This morning between 3 and 4 o'clock the Southern Varnish Company's storage house, which is situated down the railroad several hundred yards below Hucomuge mills, was discovered to be ablaze and the entire building with all of its contents was destroyed. The loss is said to approximate $8,000, while $5,500 insurance is carried. O. W. Carr & Co. are the insurance agents concerned.—Rev. J. W. Lee announced in his sermon last night that he visited the jail yesterday and among the other prisoners there, had a talk with Sonly Ryan. Ryan stated to him that whiskey was the one cause of his long history of crime. He also promised Mr. Lee to give him a written statement on Wednesday in order to warn other young men against the certain ruin which is caused by drink.

Raleigh News and Observer: The statement of the Raleigh Savings bank, published elsewhere, makes a most remarkable showing. It was organized about ten years ago with a capital stock of $15,000. It has all along paid a semi-annual dividend of 3 or 4 per cent, usually 4 per cent, and yet it has $12,500 of surplus fund and $3,548.04 of undivided profits. This bank with a capital of $15,000 has deposits aggregating $197,018.72.—The statement of the National Bank of Raleigh, published elsewhere in today's paper, shows individual deposits subject to check amounting to $449,187.42, and total resources aggregating nearly a million dollars.—Washington, D. C., December 20.—A prominent North Carolina republican, talking to a friend yesterday, said: "There is a perfect understanding between Senator Pritchard and Butler, and a reconciliation has been effected. The republicans are crazy to organize the senate and get the offices. They cannot do it without populist help. Butler is anxious to come back to the senate from North aCrolina. These two things caused the coming together. Butler is to vote with the republicans to reorganize the senate if his vote is needed; if not, he is to be permitted not to show his hand at present by declining to vote at all. Pritchard is to throw the republican support to Butler in 1900, and they are to secure co-operation in 1898."

Having used three bottles of P. P. P. for impure blood and general weakness and having derived great benefit from the same, having gained 14 pounds in weight in four weeks, I take great pleasure in recommending it to all unfortunate like

Yours truly,
JOHN MORRIS.
Office of J. N. McElroy, Druggist,
Orlando, Fla., April 20, 1891.

Messrs. Lippman Bros., Savannah, Ga.
Dear Sirs:—I sold three bottles of P. P. P. large size yesterday, and one bottle small size today.
The P. P. P. cured my wife of rheumatism winter before last. It came back on her the past winter and a half bottle, $1 size, relieved her again, and she has not had a symptom since.
I sold a bottle of P. P. P. to a friend of mine, one of the turkies, a small one, took sick and his wife gave it a teaspoonful, that was in the evenin and the little fellow turned over like he was dead, but next morning he was hollowing and well.

Yours respectfully,
J. N. McELROY.

Savannah, Ga., March 17, 1891.
Messrs. Lippman Bros., Savannah, Ga.
Dear Sirs:—I have suffered from rheumatism for a long time and did not find a cure until found P. P. P., which completely cured me.

Yours truly,
ELIZA JONES,
16 Orange St., Savannah, Ga.

Senator Pritchard, in a recent speech, says that Mr. Cleveland did not make his sweeping civil service extensions until he had removed the republicans and saw his party was repudiated. If the senator will go back to the record he will find that Mr. Cleveland's order was issued relatively many months earlier in his administration than Mr. Harrison issued a similar order in his administration. It may be that both of them awaited to get their friends in before acting.—Raleigh News and Observer.

CURES TO STAY CURED.

Thousands of voluntary certificates received during the past fifteen years, certify with no uncertain sound, that Botanic Blood Balm, (B. B. B.) will cure to stay cured, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Ulcers, Sores, Blotches, and the most malignant blood and skin diseases. Botanic Blood Balm is the result of forty years experience of an eminent, scientific and conscientious physician. Send stamp for book of wonderful cures, and learn which is the best remedy. Beware of substitutes said to be "just as good" and buy the long-tested and reliable Botanic Blood Balm, (B. B. B.) Price only $1.00 per large bottle.

EFFECTED AN ENTIRE CURE.

For over two years I have been a great sufferer from Rheumatism, affecting both shoulders to such an extent that I could not put my coat on without help. The use of six bottles of Botanic Blood Balm, B. B. B., effected an entire cure. I refer to Rev. W. W. Wadsworth, proprietor Coweta Advertiser, and to all merchants of Newman.
JACOB F. SPONCLER.
Newman Ga.

For sale by all druggists.

WILMINGTON MARKETS.

COTTON REPORT.

Wilmington, N. C., December 22.
Receipts of cotton today—1,324 bales.
Receipts same day last year—925 bales.
This season's receipts to date—255,394 bales.
Receipts to same date last year—203,602 bales.
The quotations posted at 4 o'clock today at the exchange.
Cotton firm.

Ordinary	2 15-16
Good ordinary	4¼
Low middling	4 15-16
Middling	5⅝
Good middling	5⅝

Same day last year, 6½c.

NAVAL STORES.

Spirits turpentine—Machine barrels steady at 31c; country barrels steady at 30½c.
Rosin firm at $1.15 and $1.20.
Tar firm at $1.05.
Crude turpentine steady; hard $1.40; yellow dip $1.90; Virgin $1.90.
Prices same day last year—Spirits turpentine 24¾c and 24¼c; rison $1.45 and $1.50; tar $1.05; crude turpentine $1.40, $1.80 and $1.90.
Receipts today—76 casks spirits turpentine, 429 barrels rosin, 921 barrels tar, 72 barrels crude turpentine.
Receipts same day last year—86 casks spirits turpentine, 524 barrels rosin, 729 barrels tar, 40 barrels crude turpentine.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Peanuts—North Carolina, prime 55@60c per bushel; extra prime, 65c; fancy 72½c. Virginia—Extra prime, 40@45c.
Rice—Uplands, 65@80c; lowlands, $1.10@$1.15.
Corn—47½@50c.
North Carolina Bacon—Hams, 10@11c; shoulders, 6@6½c; sides, 7½@8c.
Chickens—Dull; spring 10@18c; hens 18@25c; roosters, 18@22c.
Turkeys, (live), 7c to 10c per pound.
Eggs—Dull at 17c.
Shingles—Per 1,000 five inch, hearts and saps, $1.05@2.10; six inch, $2.50@3.50.
Timber at $3.00 to $5.00 per 1,000 feet.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH

FINANCIAL.

New York, December 22.—Money on call stiff at 2½@4 per cent.; last loan at 3 per cent.; closed at 2½@3 per cent.; prime mercantile paper 3½@4½ per cent.; sterling exchange dull and easy with actual business in bankers bills at $4.84½@4.84⅝ for demand and at $4.81½@4.81⅝ for sixty days; posted rates $4.82½@4.83½ and $4.85½@4.86½; commercial bills $4.81; silver certificates 56⅝@57⅝; bar silver 56⅞; Mexican dollars 45⅝; government bonds firm; state bonds dull; railroad bonds firm.

STOCKS.

Atchison	12⅝	W. & L. E.	2
B. & O.	13½	W. & L. E., pre	10
Ches. & Ohio	21½	Adams Ex.	156
Chic. & Alton	161	American Ex	115
Chic., B. & Q.	89¼	United States	38
Del. & Hudson	112	Wells Far.	114
Del., L. & W.	156	Cons. Gas	137
Fort Wayne	168½	Am Cot Oil, pre	74¾
Illinois Central	103¾	Am. Tobacco	86
L. & N.	156½	Am. Tobac, pre.	111½
Manhattan L.	103	People's Gas	96¼
Mobile & Ohio	27½	Con. Gas	189
N. J. Central	95	Gen. Electric	33¼
N. Y. Central	107	Lead	34
Pittsburg	163	Nat. Lin. Oil	16¾
Reading	23	Pacific Mail	29¾
Southern Ry.	8¾	Pullman Pal	172
South. Ry., pre.	32⅛	Silver Cer.	56¾
Texas & Pacific	10¾	Sugar	138¾
U. P., D. & G.	7¾	T. C. & Iron	24⅝
Wabash, pre.	17⅞	West. Union	88¼

BONDS.

U. S. N. 4's reg.	125⅝	L. & N. Un. 4's	87¼
U. S. N. 4's cou.	128⅝	Missouri 6's	100
U. S. 4's reg.	112¾	N. J. Cen. 6's	112
U. S. 4's cou.	114¾	N. Caro. 6's	125
U. S. 2's	99½	N. Caro. 4's	103
U. S. 5's reg.	114¼	Pa. 6's, of '95	102⅝
U. S. 5's cou.	114¾	S. Caro. non-fu.	¾
Ala. Class A	108	South. Ry.	95
Ala. Class B	108	Tenn N set 3's	92
Ala. Class C	100	Union Pa. 1's	102¾
Ala. Currency	100	Va. Cen.	69½
La. N. con 4's	101½	Va. deferred	2½

COTTON.

New York, December 22—Cotton steady; middling 5⅞c; net receipts 1,218; gross receipts 2,291; exports to Great Britain 8,628; to the continent 200; forwarded 75; sales 1,341; spinners 41; stock 99,863.

Total today: Net receipts 47,273; exports to Great Britain 8,628; to France 26,813; to the continent 14,383; stock 1,131,742.

Consolidated: Net receipts 262,059; exports to Great Britain 83,666; to France 39,938; to the continent 78,201.

Total since September 1st: Net receipts 5,103,346; exports to Great Britain 1,639,928; to France 473,376; to the continent 1,333,297.

Futures closed steady; sales 122,000 bales: January 5.76; February 5.79; March 5.84; April 5.89; May 5.94; June 5.98; July 6.02; August 6.06; September 6.06; October 6.08; December 5.75.

PORT RECEIPTS.

Galveston—Firm at 5 7-16c; net receipts 8,821.
Norfolk—Steady at 5½c; net receipts 2,883.
Baltimore—Nominal at 5⅝c; gross receipts 652.
Boston—Steady at 5⅞c; net receipts 3,290; gross receipts 5,383.
Wilmington—Firm at 5⅝c; net receipts 1,324.
Philadelphia—Firm at 6⅛c; net receipts 446.
Savannah—Steady at 5½c; net receipts 6,486.
New Orleans—Firm at 5 5-16c; net receipts 18,892; gross receipts 19,345.
Mobile—Quiet at 5 3-16c; net receipts 1,351.
Memphis—Steady at 5 5-16c; net receipts 1,661; gross receipts 1,992.
Augusta—Firm at 5½c; net receipts 1,561; gross receipts 1,673.
Charleston—Steady at 5 3-16c; net receipts 3,221.
Cincinnati—Quiet at 5½c; net receipts 1,[illegible].
Louisville—Strong at 5⅝c.
St. Louis—Steady at 5 3-16c; net receipts 905; gross receipts 6,325.
Houston—Steady at 5 7-16c; net receipts 6,001.

GRAIN AND PROVISION.

Chicago, December 22.—The leading futures were as follows:

	Open.	High.	Low.	Clos.
Wheat—				
December	99½	99¾	98⅝	98¾
January	93½	94	93½	93½
May	93⅝	93⅞	92¾	93
Corn—				
December	26⅝	26½	26⅜	26⅜
January				26½
May	29⅞	29½	29¼	29½
Oats—				
December	21⅞	22	21⅞	22
May	22½	22¾	22½	22⅝
Mess pork, per bbl—				
December				$7.65
January	8.60	8.70	8.60	8.70
May	8.85	8.92½	8.85	8.92½
Lard, per 100 lbs—				
December				4.45
January	4.52½	4.57½	4.50	4.57½
May	4.70	4.72½	4.67½	4.72½
Short ribs, per 100 lbs—				
December	4.40	4.42½	4.40	4.42½
January	4.40	4.42½	4.40	4.42½
May	4.52½	4.57½	4.52½	4.52½

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour firm; No. 2 yellow corn, 26¾c; No. 2 spring wheat, 88@89c; No. 3 spring wheat, 86@93c; No. 2 red, 93⅝c; No. 2 corn, 26⅝c; No. 2 oats, 22½c; No. 2 white, —c; No. 3 white, f. o. b., 23¼@24c; mess pork, per bbl., $7.65@7.70; lard, per 100 lbs., $4.57½@4.60; short robs sides, loose, $4.47½@4.75; dry salted shoulders, boxed, $4.62½@4.75; short clear sides, boxed, $4.77½@5.00; whiskey, distillers' finished goods, per gallon, $1.19.

New York, December 22.—Flour moderately active, closing easy with wheat.

Wheat—Spot weak; No. 2 red $1.00⅝. Options opened steady on unexpected favorable cables and later showed some firmness on light offerings and fair bull support, but finally broke under liquidation in December, which closed ¾c off, against ⅛@¼c net loss in other months. No. 2 red, January 98⅛@98¾c, closed at 98½c; May closed at 93⅝c; December closed at 99⅝c.

Corn—Spot easy; No. 2 34¾ f. o. b. afloat. Options steady with wheat and ruled dull, selling off late under liquidation and closing unchanged. May closed at 34½c; December closed at 32⅝c.

Oats—Spot quiet; No. 2 27⅝@27½c. Options inactive and barely steady all day, closing unchanged. February closed at 27⅝c; May 27⅝c; December 27½c.

Lard—Steady; continent $5.05.
Pork—Steady.
Eggs—Steady; western fresh 20@22c.
Petroleum—Dull.
Rice—Steady.
Cotton Seed Oil—Easier; prime crude 18@18½c; prime summer yellow 21½c; off summer yallow 21c; butter oil 24@26c; prime winter yellow 27c.
Coffee—Opened barely steady at 5 to 10 points decline and ruled inactive and featureless, with a weak undertone following unfavorable European cables and record breaking American visible supply; closed quiet, with prices 5 to 10 points net decline.
Sugar—Raw strong; fair refining 3 9-16c; centrifugal 96 test 4 1-16c; refined firm.

NAVAL STORES.

New York—Rosin steady. Turpentine firm at 33@33½c.
Charleston—Turpentine firm at 30c bid, 30½c asked; sales none. Rosin firm and unchanged; sales none.
Savannah—Spirits of turpentine opened firm at 30¾c, with sales of 1,005; closed firm at 31c with further sales of 50 casks; receipts 574. Rosin firm; sales 2,500; receipts 4,699. Quote: A B C D $1.20; E F $1.25; G $1.35; H $1.45; I $1.60; K $1.75; N $2.30; W G $2.65; W W $3.35.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

CLEARED YESTERDAY.

American brig Gabrielle, Munday, Boston, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.

EXPORTS COASTWISE.

For Boston, per brig Gabrielle, 319,104 feet of lumber, cargo by Hilton Lumber Company; vessel by Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.

VESSELS IN PORT.

STEAMSHIPS.

Hawkhurst, (Br.), 1,538 tons, Watson, Rio Janeiro, Alex. Sprunt & Son.
Magdala, (Br.), 2,297 tons, Reed, New York, Alex. Sprunt & Son.
Yearby, (Br.), 1,664 tons, Goldsworthy, Hull, Alex. Sprunt & Son.
Fram, (Br.), 1,405 tons, Tysland, Hamburg, Heide & Co.
Lucerne (Br.), 1,227 tons, Wallace, Glasgow, J. H. Sloan.

BARKS.

Falcon, (Nor.), 389 tons, Henriksen, Bahai, Paterson, Downing & Co.
Poseidon (Nor.), 544 tons, Pattersen, Pernambuco, Heide & Co.
Hans, (Swed.), 546 tons, Ebbersen, Bristol, Heide & Co.

SCHOONERS.

D. J. Sawyer, (Am.), 326 tons, Kelley, Philadelphia, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Cora M., (Am.), 137 tons, Mitchell, Charleston, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Mable Darling, (Br.), 111 tons, Roberts, Dunmoretown, Bahama, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Bessie Brown (Am.), 220 tons, Smith, Lewes, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
May Thompson (Am.), 60 tons, Cahoon, Savannah, Geo. Harriss, Son & Co.
Roger Moore (Am.), 277 tons, Miller, Savannah, J. T. Riley & Co.

Cotton Futures

(Special to The Messenger.)

New York, December 22.—In spite of a decline of 1-64d in Liverpool this morning, the cotton market advanced today. The Liverpool quotations were not encouraging to the bulls and the opening here was a shade under yesterday's closing prices. May sold on the first call at 5.89. Receipts both at the ports and interior towns were moderate. This was attributed to bad weather in the south, but, nevertheless caused some uneasiness among the shorts who bought quite freely. One large interest especially was a good buyer. After the opening the market immediately developed an upward tendency and advanced slowly throughout the day. May advanced to 5.95 and closed at 5.94 to 5.95, with the tone of the market steady. The rise today is generally regarded as indicating only the desire of nervous shorts to cover before the holidays.

RIORDAN & CO.

(By Associated Press.)

New York, December 22.—Today's cotton market had all the holiday characteristics, fluctuating very narrowly, the volume of business small and chiefly in the hands of the local element. Opening steady at 1 point decline to 1 point advance, the subsequent variations were within the scope of 6 points. The close was steady at a net gain of 2 to 4 points. The room traders had their interests fairly covered and were not disposed to add new responsibilities in view of the holidays. This morning's cables were regarded as encouraging to spot sales at Liverpool.

New York Stock Market

New York, December 22.—There was nothing in today's stock market to refute the opinion generally held in Wall street that speculation in securities will continue dull until after the first of the year and of the release of some of the funds at present locked up in large financial operations. Sagging prices are generally the accompaniment of such a market, but there was sufficient strength in special stocks due to special causes today to act as a sustaining force on the general list and not gains are the rule in consequence. The marked features in the trading and the centres of great strength were local traction companies. The motives for the buying of these stocks were the reports of a business compromise between the Metropolitan and the Third Avenue companies and a belief that the chances were not good for the success of the underground rapid transit scheme. Third Avenue was benefitted to the extent of 6 points and Metropolitan street railway over 2. Manhattan rose 3 points, but lost a fraction. The coalers were also aggressively strong and showed gains of between 1 and 2 points, the Reading issues being especially prominent. There were rumors of an intended dividend on Reading's first preferred stock, which influenced the trading. The industrial specialties generally show net gains of large fractions. The statement of estimated earnings for the last quarter of the year of the several Vanderbilt railroads were viewed unfavorably and acted as something of a decline on the railroad list. Call loans were made today at rates ranging between 3 to 4 per cent. and there was a further decline in exchange posted rates, both long and short sterling being marked down ½ and actual business being done at a decline of ¼ for cable transfers and long sterling and of ⅛c for demand sterling. The price for demand sterling at the time of gold improvement last September did not fall below $4.84½. Money was cheaper in Europe and at London at that time. The present stiffness in the money market, it is believed, will be only temporary and the completion of the operations connected with the Union Pacific settlement and the disbursement incident to the beginng of the year will give relief. For this reason the weakness of exchange has not induced talk of gold imports at New York. Gold is, however, on the way from Australia to San Francisco.

The bond market was comparatively inactive, especially in some of the favorite speculative issues, but prices were well maintained. Total sales were $1,400,000. United States new 4's coupon declined ⅛ bid. Total sales of stocks today were 184,400 shares.

The Chicago Market

Chicago, December 22.—It was a holiday market in wheat today, the price of May keeping within less than 1c range. The bears had a trifle the better of it, the close showing ¼ to ⅜c decline. December was weaker and declined 1⅝ on the selling of about 250,000 bushels. Corn, oats and provisions were dull, but steady and closed at prices unchanged to a point higher.

Funeral Services Over Remains of Miss Herbert

Washington, December 22.—Impressive funeral services were held this afternoon over the remains of Miss Leila Herbert, daughter of ex-Secretary Herbert, whose tragic death yesterday shocked both the capital and the country. The services were held at St. Andrew's Episcopal church and were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Perry. A large and distinguished gathering was in attendance. The floral offerings were magnificent and completely hid the black cloth casket containing the remains.

The casket bears a heavy silver plate with the name of the lamented young lady, the date of her birth and death. The honorary pall bearers were Senators Pettus and Morgan, of Alabama, Dr. G. L. M. Curry, Secretary of the Navy Long, Paymaster General Stewart, of the navy; Chief Naval Constructor Hichhorn, Charles J. Bell, Colonel Winthrop, Admiral Ramsay and Captain Charles O'Neill, of the navy. The active pall bearers were Lieutenant Gilmore of the army; Mr. L. A. Shaver, Mr. L. H. Finney, Mr. T. H. Clark, Representative Plowman, of Alabama; Mr. John W. Wright and Lieutenant Sutherland, of the navy. The services were conducted according to the rites of the Episcopal church. The choir sang "Lead, Kindly Light" and "Nearer my God to Thee." Justice White, of the supreme court and many persons prominent in army and navy, diplomatic and social circles were present. This evening the remains were taken to Montgomery, Alabama, where they will be interred on Friday beside those of Mrs. Herbert, Secretary Herbert and Mr. Micou, his son-in-law, accompanied the remains.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec., 19, 1896.
Messrs. Ely Bros.:—I have used Ely's Cream Balm a number of years and find it works like a charm. It has cured me of the most obstinate case of cold in the head in less than 48 hours from the time I felt the cold coming on. I would not be without it.
232 Hart St. FRED'K FRIES.
Cream Balm is kept by all druggists. Full-size 50c. Trial size 10 cents. We mail it. ELY BROS.,
56 Warren St., N. Y. City.

Russia All-Powerful With China

Pekin, December 22.—The Chinese government has granted Russia permission to winter a squadron at Port Arthur. Great Britain demands a quid pro quo, if concessions have been made to other powers. It has been suggested that the Japanese and British occupy Wei-Hai-Wei jointly. The situation at Kiao-Chou bay is unchanged.

Germany remains unyielding and the Chinese councils are divided as to whether it should be peace or war with Germany. China regards Russia as her only friend and is asking her advice alone. In spite of official denials, it is regarded that Port Arthur and Kiao-Chou bay were promised to Russia by a secret treaty.

British influence is nil, having suffered greatly through the failure of the loan negotiations. China is now negotiating a loan with Russia. The latter demands the dismissal of the British railroad engineers in north China and it is probable that it will be granted. The German drill instructors will be dismissed at the expiration of their contracts, and will be replaced by Russians. Russian officers have already been appointed to drill the armies of north China.

Weyler Opposed to Autonomy

Madrid, December 22.—General Weyler, in an interview just published, is quoted as declaring formally that there is no hope of the success of autonomy, adding that no insurgent will submit except to the marquis of Santa Lucia and another chief, asserting that the insurrection would continue furiously. The general is also quoted as saying that if the Spanish government persisted in autonomy, Spain would lose Cuba in a few months. He also said he opposed the dissolution of the chamber until the government renounced its policy of giving Cuba an autonomous form of government.

PUBLIC OPINION

A beet sugar factory was finished at Rome, N. Y., some time ago at a cost of $353,000. It has received 15,000 tons of beets this season, and the output will be 12,000 barrels of granulated sugar. Eight hundred farmers in the surrounding country are raising the beets. South Texas could duplicate this work two or three times over with the cane sugar industry, in addition to what is already done, with the right kind of "get up and get."—Houston Post.

If the extraordinary revelation from Wall street, printed in the last issue of The Criterion, be a true bill and capable of proof, the proof of the United States should be impeached. As it stands, only half of the event prophesied has happened, and it remains to be seen whether the other half, making the perfect whole of wickedness, will occur in the ripeness of time. But if it can be proved that a Wall street magnate, interested in the prolongation of the war in Cuba so that a syndicate may buy the Island for a song, when Spain is weary and Vuba is ruined, actually was closeted several times with the president prior to the writing of the message, then William McKinley should be impeached of high treason to the American people, to civilization and common humanity. But can it be proved? Is the charge true? We hope not. Still, it seems rather strange and ugly that McKinley's message should give the lie so flatly in its Cuban section to the pledge of the platform to which he gave allegiance and on which he was elected.—New York Criterion.

The failure of retail trade to grow as anticipated, or at least prophesied by our prosperity boomers, has set such boomers to manufacturing explanations. The fact that the ultimate consumption of goods is not increasing is of most serious import, for until such consumption does increase retail stocks will not be worked down, they cannot be turned over more rapidly, and the demand for manufactured goods cannot expand and remain expanded so as to keep open all the mills that have kept abreast of the times and give employment to all factory employes. And so the time when increased consumption of goods will show itself by increased sales of goods at retail, when a healthy increased demand for goods will make itself felt and cause prices to advance is anxiously waited for, anxiously waited for by the 28,000 operatives of Fall River, whose wages have just been cut by 10 per cent, because of lack of demand and falling prices for cotton goods. Our prosperity boomers, declaring this time will soon come, have to find temporary causes in order to explain why it has not already come. And explanations from time to time have been many, but quite unsatisfactory.—Philadelphia American.

Something to Know

It may be worth something to know that the very best medicine for restoring the tired out nervous system to a healthy vigor is Electric Bitters. This medicine is purely vegetable, acts by giving tone to the nerve centres in the stomach, gently stimulates the Liver and Kidneys, and aids these organs in throwing off impurities in the blood. Electric Bitters improves the appetite, aids digestion, and is pronounced by those who have tried it as the very best blood purifier and nerve tonic. Try it. Sold for 50c or $1.00 per bottle at R. R. Bellam's drug store.

STATE PRESS.

A prominent merchant informs us that a careful estimate places the amount of cash (in money and express orders and checks) that leave the town every day to pay for retail purchases made of merchants in the larger cities, at $250. That is nearly $100,000 a year. Now, think how much the spending of this amount here in Fayetteville would add to the business of our merchants. This leakage has been going on for years, under the impression of those who contribute to it that goods were cheaper elsewhere.—Fayetteville Observer.

We are told that there are several hundred bales of cotton on the Roanoke farms not picked for want of labor, much of which must necessarily be injured if not wasted altogether. And while we do not agree with the director concerning the use of convicts on railroads, yet he certainly is right in his protest against hiring them out to work on private farms, and working on strictly private properties, as has been done, and is now being done, we believe. The construction of railroads in the state is of such a general public character as to justify the use of convicts thereon, but the raising of truck and strawberries for market is as uncalled for as opening a public laundry at the penitentiary.—Raleigh Post.

"I do not wish to wrong Senator Butler. I published what he said because I thought it right to do so and not as part of a plot, as Mr. Butler charges. I did not consult with any one before publishing it, nor have I done so since except as far as to get testimony to substantiate my statement. If I have maligned Mr. Butler there is a course open to him by which he can obtain vindication, and I receive the punishment the crime deserves. If I have libeled him, by all means let him file his complaint with the proper authorities and have me punished for the same. To be sure such a course on the part of the senator might prove a boomerang and he might come out of it with the seal of slander and liar stamped upon his brow. I am willing to take the risk on my part—are you willing to take it on yours—Senator Marion Butler?"—Editor Campbell in The Argonaut.

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The great remedy for nervous prostration and all nervous diseases of the generative organs of either sex, such as Nervous Prostration Failing or Lost Manhood, Impotency, Nightly Emissions, Youthful Errors, Mental Worry, excessive use of Tobacco or Opium, which lead to Consumption and Insanity. With every $5 order we give a written guarantee to cure or refund the money. Sold at $1.00 per box, 6 boxes for $5.00. DR. MOTT'S CHEMICAL COMPANY, Cleveland, Ohio.

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Yours truly,
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