

estimating the present movements in Wall street, or in forecasting their future results.

These two causes to which the present movement is chiefly due, are supplemented by a multitude of speculative influences, which are more or less suggestive of danger. There is danger lest the movement, which is itself natural and wholesome, should be urged on too fast and should provoke a spasmodic re-action. There is danger lest merchants who have their money safe in bank should tire of holding it unproductive till it is wanted in legitimate business, and should venture it in the treacherous whirlpool of Wall street speculation.

There is danger lest the example of these capitalists should be imitated by merchants who have no surplus of unemployed means, and whose "margins at their brokers" consist, therefore, of capital which they should not risk, as it belongs to their creditors and is the only basis of their mercantile solvency. We might multiply these examples of the peril which attends the present hopeful re-action, but we forbear. Enough has been said to show that such considerations do not in the least impair the force of the arguments which prove that the recovery in itself is natural, wholesome, and full of promise for the future.

PREVALENT FALLACIES ABOUT SPECIE PAYMENTS.

At this late day it is not a little surprising that so many men who otherwise exhibit in business and finance considerable intelligence and power, should be misled by the grossest fallacies and crudities of opinion in regard to resumption. Some of these fallacies we recently attempted to expose, but there are a multitude of others which are perpetually springing up and producing more or less discussion and perversion of opinion in the financial circles. The only remedy is to dispel the atmosphere of ignorance in which these errors find their sustenance, and to let in upon it the light of history and experience. We know of no more inviting field for young financial observers, who wish to contribute to the solution of the monetary problems of the day, than to study with minute accuracy the facts of the origin, growth and consummation of the various experiments which this country and others have made with paper money.

One of the most suggestive experiments, which has extraordinary value for the purposes referred to, is the paper money of France. By the latest advices we find that its aggregate is 2,490 millions of francs. In June the aggregate was 2,475 millions, to which point it had fallen in eight months from 3,012 millions, the highest point it has ever reached. In July, as we lately showed, a small temporary increase began; this has now ceased, and the tide of contraction is once more setting in. With many of our currency prophets there would be no difficulty in predicting the sad fate which contraction must inevitably bring on the trade and commerce of France. Stringency of the severest kind, disasters of appalling magnitude and frequency mark the course of currency contraction as these men imagine it.

From the fact that such evils have come when contraction has been conducted under bad legislation, they infer that the same evils would come under sound management and good legislation. Because a mischief has happened before their eyes, these men expect it to happen again, although the circumstances and conditions make it impossible. That contraction, badly managed, brings monetary stringency every one knows; but that contraction, if timely and well managed, is quite compatible with growing ease in the money market, is often denied; still the fact is undoubted. Experience offers abundant proofs, and history numerous instances, in cor-

roboration of it. It is one of the chief claims of the French paper money to the public attention just now that it sets in a clear light, and confirms with new arguments, the economic maxim that contraction does not bring stringency if it be well conducted. When the screw began to be applied a year ago, the note issues of the Bank of France were, as we have said, 3,012 millions of francs, or about 602 millions of dollars. The rate of interest was then 7 per cent. At the end of February the currency had been reduced to \$540,000,000, and the rate of interest was five per cent. In June the lowest point was struck, the currency having been gradually reduced to \$495,000,000. The rate of interest had then fallen to 4 per cent. This was not all. The money market was in a condition of growing ease during the whole period in which this movement of severe contraction was going on, and the monetary ease has continued without interruption to the present time.

So much is this the case that our contemporary, the *Economiste Francais*, demands that the rate of interest shall be reduced from 4 to 3½ or 3 per cent. This demand is supported by the fact that money is abundant, commercial paper being taken at 2½ to 3 per cent, and bankers' paper 2¼ per cent. In view of this plethora of capital, there is no reason, says the intelligent authority before us, why the rate of discount in France should be maintained at 1 per cent above that of the Bank of England. He adds that the coin reserves of the Bank of France, the general state of trade, and the influx of the precious metals, all prove that a reduction of the rate is not only safe but expedient, and even necessary. These points he argues as follows:

The strong situation of the Bank of France sheet, the general state of trade, the ease of the money market, and the importations of the precious metals, all indicate the necessity for a fall in the rate of discount. The bank reserve of cash has increased during the last seven months by 435 millions of francs, while the circulation is reduced by 830 millions, and is now less than the double of the cash, so that even without the protection of the legal tender law of 1870 the proportion is sufficient to permit of a moderate rate of discount. The diminution in the commercial bills held by the bank during the same period—from 1,130 millions to 650—is sufficient to show the stagnation in trade and the necessity for some measure of relief. At the same time the general rate of the capitalization of securities has decreased, the contango in operations on the Bourse has diminished, the Treasury has reduced the rate of interest on its bonds, and the banking companies that on deposits, while trade alone has had none of its burdens lightened. Europe, the writer says, is no longer disquieted by any financial danger; four causes contributed to the shocks suffered within the last two years by the Bank of England, and of which the effects were felt on all the European markets—the payment of the French indemnity, which was connected with the monetary transformation in Germany; the American crisis; the necessity for the Bank of France to reconstitute its reserve by withdrawing gold from the Bank of England; and, lastly, the deficient crops and the exportations of gold, which were the consequence. None of those causes now exist; the French indemnity is paid and the German monetary transformation is terminated, the American crisis is at an end, the reserve of the Bank of France is reconstituted, and the crops are everywhere excellent. No movements of the precious metals of a magnitude to cause perturbation in the European markets are therefore to be feared, and the Bank of France might without danger reduce its rate to 3½ or 3 per cent.

Other fallacies quite as common as that which holds contraction to be the sure cause of stringency, may also be refuted by the facts of the French experiment as they are now developing themselves. In this country many persons suppose that if gold were at par, or if it could by any means be even temporarily brought down to within 5 per cent of par, specie payments would restore themselves, and resumption would be an accomplished fact. In Russia this fallacy some years ago was exalted to the dignity of a "policy," and brought failure and disaster in its train. The French, with that wonderful sagacity which, if it formerly left their Military Bureau, seems now to preside over that of Finance, have not fallen into this blunder. Gold during the whole infla-

tion era has never risen at Paris to 5 per cent premium in any of their greatest crises of financial pressure. For nearly two years gold has been at par. Still notwithstanding this, it has been found unsafe and impossible for the Bank of France to resume, and even now the preliminaries to specie payments are being arranged with the most anxious care and watchful deliberation.

As an instance, we may refer to a circular just issued by the French Minister of Finance to the Assistant Treasurers in the Departments. These officials, and the cashiers, who are their subordinates, have for the last four years been obliged to make their payments in paper. All the coin received by them in payment of taxes and other dues had to be sent to Paris where it was deposited in the Bank of France and aided that institution in accumulating its immense stock of specie. The circular to which we have referred abolishes this transfer of coin from the departments to Paris, and authorizes the treasurers-general and their cashiers to pay out gold coin as they receive it. Of course this circular is liable at any time to be recalled. Its appearance is perhaps to be regarded as tentative. So long as the legal-tender law of 1870 is unrepealed the payment of coin will be optional both with the government and the people. It is not improbable that a considerable further reduction will be necessary in the volume of the paper issues before specie payments can be definitely resumed in France.

The effect of this circular will be watched with the more interest from the failure of a somewhat similar attempt by Mr. Richardson a few months ago. Our space precludes the further examination of the instructive facts developed in connection with the indemnity payments and the large addition which they caused to the paper circulation of France. Ever since the disastrous explosion of the assignats in the last century, France has had a profound dread of paper money. Her late efforts to avoid its worst evils have been singularly successful. Whether her triumph will be permanent in this difficult struggle, which has been so costly and so ruinous to other nations, remains to be seen.

MR. SPINNER AND THE REDEMPTION BUREAU.

We very willingly insert the following communication. It is only fair to ourselves, however, to say that the article, which is criticized, in no manner reflected on the banks for not complying with the request of the Treasurer. Our object was simply to suggest that such a compliance would, in our opinion, be wise. Nor did we attempt to present or answer every objection which might be raised, and hence our correspondent's communication is a very suitable supplement to that article:

Editors of Financial Chronicle:

Your article in last week's FINANCIAL CHRONICLE reflects somewhat upon the National banks for not complying with Treasurer Spinner's circular requesting them to deposit with him a second five per cent on their circulation, to enable him to keep his new Bureau in motion.

You state two objections which have influenced the banks in their decision, or which, at any rate, prevented their complying with his wishes, and call them "illogical." I will endeavor to present one or two other reasons which are not "illogical."

1st. The law having been strictly complied with, what protection will the National banks now have if they, on their own responsibility, deposit any further amount with the Treasurer, merely to assist him in making his returns more promptly than he is now able to do? Suppose some of the money sent for this purpose is lost, stolen or what not, by anybody either in or out of the office—such things have been and may be again,—will the United States then have to make good an amount deposited without any law which now exists? I think not.

2d. Suppose a certain number of the banks comply with the request, while others do not, will not those who do not reap equal advantages with those who do?

3d. What assurance will the National banks have as to the paying back of this five per cent additional so advanced; when will it cease to be wanted? The time of year is now coming when they will want all their means to enable them to move the crops, and do the other necessary business of the country. The amount locked up by this new call would be between seventeen and eighteen millions, an important amount at this season of the year. There may be, and no doubt are, other reasons; but these are the most prominent ones which occurred to my mind to-day on reading your article.

Yours respectfully,

CINCINNATI, Sept. 21, 1874.

BANKER.

A few words in reply to the above, may serve to bring out the real point at issue more clearly.

1. In the first place, while discussing this subject, we should keep in mind the fact that an efficient system of redemption is in the opinion of all conservative men very desirable. It is the necessary first step toward the re-adjustment of our finances. Remembering this truth, and feeling its force, we shall be in a better condition to weigh objections to the working of the present system, and to lend our assistance to remedy whatever defects may from time to time be developed. No one could rightly expect that a first trial would result in a perfect system.

2. Hence, we are not surprised that Mr. Spinner in his efforts to organize and put into running order this redemption machinery should meet with a difficulty unforeseen by the legislator; and having met with it, that he should call upon the banks to assist him. Now, if we are really in favor of redemption, it does not become us to be too critical, but to judge the Treasurer's acts in a friendly spirit, assisting him so far as we have the right and the ability to do it. That some banks will not make the required deposit, but will have the advantage of our deposit, even if it should prove to be the fact, ought not to deter us or influence our act in the least; for, we are supposed to be in that frame of mind which would lead us to make a sacrifice, and even run some risk, to secure an end so desirable. As, however, this money, when deposited, continues to be a part of the required reserve, we do not see how any bank is injured or its resources crippled by complying with Mr. Spinner's request, which compliance appears to be necessary for the success of the present effort. Are we willing then to withhold the aid asked, because forsooth some other bank may not join us, when that aid may be vital?

3. But our correspondent in substance states that the law does not authorize this second deposit, and the Bank officer will run a great risk in making it. Have not the banks in Cincinnati ever advanced anything to the State officers of Ohio to meet an unexpected emergency when there was no law authorizing the loan? In New York State a similar act has been done many times by some one or more of our banks; and it was not considered a risk, because when we elect officers and give them work to do, we expect them to supply such temporary deficiencies of legislation, as may be necessary to keep the machinery running. In this case Congress has directed the Treasurer to organize a Redemption Bureau. That officer has done it; but now unexpectedly he finds that as the new system does not run smoothly, he will temporarily need more funds, or the law must remain inoperative until Congress meets. In his name as Treasurer of the United States he asks the banks under these circumstances to help him. Can it really be that any Bank officer is afraid to make the advance thus asked for? He must be timid; indeed, if

he fancies that the obligation to return that money, should he comply with such a request, would be any less sacred in the eyes of the Government or the people than the first deposit. In either case the bank could not sue the Government; and if the money was lost in transit, the Government's liability for the first deposit would be very doubtful as a legal question; but for the return of the second deposit the public faith and honor would be pledged. We fail, therefore, to see the force of the objection, if made by one who is in favor of an efficient system of bank redemption.

MOVEMENT OF BREADSTUFFS.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Editors of Commercial and Financial Chronicle:

Two weeks since you published an article with regard to the general movement of breadstuffs, taking occasion to question the wisdom of holding back our supplies, as is now being done. We look at this matter from a somewhat different standpoint, and reach a different result; and with your permission would like to present our views to your readers—not so much as a criticism on the article you published, as a statement of a few of the practical points in the problem.

The present and probable future position of the principal articles of Breadstuffs—in which we include wheat flour, wheat and Indian corn,—are just now the objects of much solicitude. This is, indeed, always the case, but especially is it so at the beginning of a new crop-year. The leading statistical facts affecting the market show wide differences between the present time and one year ago; to present these differences to the glance of the reader, we subjoin the annexed statement:

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, STOCKS, EXPORTS, AND PRICES OF FLOUR, WHEAT AND CORN.

	1874.	1873.
Receipts at principal Western markets since Aug. 1—		
Flour, bbls.....	495,775	528,371
Wheat, bush.....	9,536,487	11,210,062
Corn, bush.....	6,545,832	11,936,631
Visible supply of wheat, bush., Sept. 12.....	8,375,474	7,930,822
do corn, bush.....	6,435,451	13,264,388
Stock of wheat in New York, bush.....	1,015,581	69,597
do corn in do.....	1,827,385	2,288,270
Exports from five principal North Atlantic ports since August 1—		
Flour, bbls.....	140,391	159,215
Wheat, bush.....	5,802,369	5,477,672
Corn, bush.....	3,384,176	4,879,787
Opening prices—		
Flour, extra State, per bbl.....	\$5 10@5 40	\$6 85@7 20
Wheat, No. 2 Spring, per bush.....	1 18@1 19	1 60@1 65
Corn, prime mixed, per bush.....	95@ 97	65@ 66
Ocean freights—Grain by steam to Liverpool.....	4½@4¾d.	12@12¾d.

This is a very striking exhibit. It shows a marked falling off in the receipts of flour and wheat at the West, and a slight increase in the exports of wheat; ocean freights are scarcely more than one-third as much as a year ago, and yet prices show a decline of fully twenty-five per cent; that is, current prices are not more than seventy-five per cent of those current one year ago. This may be ascribed in part to the exceedingly small stocks of wheat in this market last September, for we find that at this date a year ago, when No. 2 Milwaukee was selling at \$1 66 on the spot, it brought no more than \$1 55 for October; but even the lower figure is a large advance over that now current.

This decline cannot be ascribed to excessive stocks, for the visible supply is but little larger than a year ago; nor can it be ascribed to excessive supplies, for the receipts of wheat at the West the past fortnight have not been equal to a single week in September, 1873; there is at the same time an increase in exports and a marked decline in ocean freights, and hence the lower

prices of wheat cannot, therefore, be attributed to an adverse turn of affairs in either of these particulars. They are rather the result partly of anticipated oversupply, and partly of the unsatisfactory returns of the trade for the past year. Dealers, and especially exporters, have encountered severe losses from the almost unvarying decline in prices which has been going on since April; and they are in no spirit to take hold of the new crop with vigor, until they feel assured that the unsatisfactory experience of the recent past will not be repeated in the early future. We are told that the crops of wheat have been good in the Western and Middle States, in California, in Great Britain, and in the western part of the Continent of Europe. A decline in the English markets equal to 18c. per bushel has been caused by these reports.

But, admitting that the crops of 1874 have resulted as above stated, there is reason to think that some recovery of prices may be anticipated. The American wheat grower is a very independent person. Does he owe any sum of money? Very well, he is "good for it," and will pay when his crops are sold, and will not sell till prices are satisfactory; his creditors may wait, and even his taxes lie over. The West has undoubtedly raised a good crop of spring wheat. The weather has been excellent for securing it and getting it into condition for the market; and yet, last week the deliveries were only about one and a half million bushels, against little less than four million bushels for the corresponding week of 1873. Prices have not been satisfactory. This spirit was seen in corn in 1873. The crop of 1872 was very large, and the quotation in this market declined to fifty cents per bushel and below, which would not pay the cost of marketing it from the trans-Mississippi States. Not till the higher prices of the past few months were reached, was any considerable portion of the corn crop of 1872 marketed, when it came in with the crop of 1873. So, apparently, will it be with the wheat crop of 1874; the indications now are that higher prices will be necessary to bring out the crop.

We see no reason to apprehend any great falling off in the export demand for flour and wheat, so long as moderate prices rule at the seaboard markets. London has been a large and regular buyer for more than a year, and the quality of some of the stock that she has been getting has been such as to commend our productions; and the lower rates of ocean freights—about fifteen cents per bushel—will, by reducing the cost of laying down on the other side, in conjunction with the lower prices in this market, serve as a stimulus to the export movement. The decline in Liverpool has been much more decided than in Chicago, the lower cost of transportation having so much reduced the cost of laying down there. It is also to be considered that the consumption of bread may be greatly increased by its comparative cheapness, especially with reference to the much greater cost of meats.

As to the price of Indian corn, it exhibits the natural reaction from extreme depression. Compared with wheat, it is now as much too high as it was one year ago too low. No doubt a considerable portion of the crop of 1874 has been injured by drought, for corn does not well withstand dry weather. Stocks are nowhere large, receipts are comparatively small, the export not greatly reduced, other articles of feed are fully as high, and nothing favors any considerable reduction in price. Still, it must be observed, that in the item of Corn Meal, the high prices cut down the export more than one-half. Mills have already stopped on this account.

Yours,
NEW YORK, Sept. 16.

BREADSTUFFS.

In our report of the dry goods trade will be found the imports of dry goods for one week later.

The following is a statement of the exports (exclusive of specie) from the port of New York to foreign ports, for the week ending Sept. 22:

EXPORTS FROM NEW YORK FOR THE WEEK.

Table with 4 columns: Year (1871, 1872, 1873, 1874) and categories (For the week, Previously reported).

Since Jan. 1... \$173,689,053 \$166,646,895 \$208,673,287 \$212,713,745

The following will show the exports of specie from the port of New York for the week ending Sept. 19, 1874, and since the beginning of the year, with a comparison for the corresponding date in previous years:

Table showing specie exports for Sept. 17-Str. Cuba, Sept. 17-Str. Frisia, Sept. 19-Str. Parthia, etc.

Total for the week... \$400,184 Previously reported... 42,171,442

Total since Jan. 1, 1874... \$42,571,626

Table with 2 columns: Same time in- and Same time in- with years 1873-1877.

The imports of specie at this port during the past week have been as follows:

Table listing imports of specie: Sept. 15-Str. City of Panama, Sept. 16-Str. Etna, etc.

Total for the week... \$82,716 Previously reported... 4,614,254

Total since Jan. 1, 1874... \$4,696,970

Table with 2 columns: Same time in- and Same time in- with years 1873-1877.

We call attention to the notice of the Union Pacific Railroad Company to holders of Income Bonds. The amount of these bonds outstanding has been reduced below \$1,000,000, and the daily exchanges are rapidly diminishing the balance.

The Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Company gives notice through its treasurer, Mr. John N. Denison, that proposals will be received till Monday, October 5, directed to said Treasurer in Boston, for the sale to the trustees of one hundred thousand dollars of the "Seven per cent. Land Grant Mortgage Bonds" of the Company.

The attention of bondholders of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad is directed to the announcement of Messrs. Fisk & Hatch in our advertising columns. So large a majority of bondholders has already come into the funding arrangement that it is important for the interests of all that the matter should be settled speedily.

NATIONAL TREASURY.—The following forms present a summary of certain weekly transactions at the National Treasury.

1.—Securities held by the U. S. Treasurer in trust for National Banks and balance in the Treasury:

Large table with columns: Week ending, For Circulation, For U. S. Deposits, Total, Bal. in Treasury, Coin, Currency, and Coin certificates outstanding.

Table with 6 columns showing weekly data for various months from May 9 to Sept. 19, including values for circulation and currency.

2.—National bank currency in circulation; fractional currency received from the Currency Bureau by U. S. Treasurer, and distributed weekly; also the amount of legal tenders distributed:

Table with 5 columns: Week ending, Notes in Circulation, Fractional Currency Received, Currency Distributed, and Leg. Ten Distrib'd.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

ANY NATIONAL BANK IN MASSACHUSETTS OR RHODE ISLAND

having a circulation of not more than \$300,000, and willing to part with any portion of it, is requested to address "CASHIER," in care of THE CHRONICLE, stating amount and terms.

PUTS, CALLS, DOUBLE PRIVILEGES negotiated at favorable rates. Stocks and other securities bought and sold on margin. "The Art of Speculating in Wall Street" given or mailed free to any address by

J. HICKLING & CO., Bankers and Brokers, Box 1535. 72 Broadway, New York.

COTTON CONTRACTS

Bought and sold on Commission only. Advances made on Cotton and approved Stock Exchange Collaterals. R. M. WATERS & CO., 56 Broad street.

RAILROAD BONDS.—Whether you wish to BUY or SELL, write to HASSLER & CO., No. 7 Wall street, N. Y.

\$3,200 PROFIT FROM \$200.

As an instance of how large profits are made from small investments in Stock Privileges, we cite the following: On August 15 a customer secured a Put on 200 shares of C. C. & I. C. at 12%, which cost him \$212 50. On Sept. 3 his contract was closed at 8, realizing \$925. He then secured a Call on 800 shares of the same stock at 10%, which he closed on the 24th inst., at 14%, realizing \$3,200, less commissions, at the same time securing a Spread on 1,000 shares at 13% and 15%, on which he will no doubt realize handsomely before the expiration of his contract.

TUMBRIDGE & CO., Bankers and Brokers, 3 Wall st., New York.

The Bankers' Gazette.

NATIONAL BANKS ORGANIZED.

The United States Comptroller of the Currency furnishes the following statement of National Banks organized the past week :

- 2,188—Citizens' National Bank of Evansville, Ind. Authorized capital, \$175,000; paid in capital, \$110,000. R. C. Slaughter, President; S. P. Gillett, Cashier. Authorized to commence business Sept. 23, 1874.
2,189—Waco National Bank, Texas. Authorized capital, \$100,000; paid in capital, \$50,000. Wm. A. Fort, President; Geo. W. Jackson, Cashier. Authorized to commence business Sept. 24, 1874.

DIVIDENDS.

The following Dividends have recently been announced :

Table with columns: COMPANY, PER CENT., WHEN PAYABLE, BOOKS CLOSED. Includes entries for Railroads like Camden & Atlantic, Chicago Rock Island & Pacific, etc.

FRIDAY, September 25, 1874—6 P. M.

The Money Market and Financial Situation.—The date of our present report inevitably calls to mind the recollection of events which were taking place at this time in 1873. At that period the financial crisis had fully opened, and on the 20th of September the Stock Exchange closed its doors.

Our local money market is, if possible, easier than heretofore, and call loans are easily obtainable at 2@2 1/2 per cent. One cause for the superabundance of money on call, is found in the circumstance that banks during the spring and early summer put out much money returnable in September, but now as it comes in they find no use for it.

Commercial paper is in good demand at 5@5 1/2 on short date, and 5 1/2@7 for prime paper of three and four months. There is only a moderate amount of paper offering.

Cable advices from London on Thursday reported a loss of £49,000 during the week in the bullion of the Bank of England, the discount rate remaining unchanged at three per cent.

The last weekly statement of New York City Clearing House banks, issued Sept. 19, showed a decrease of \$171,675 in the excess above their 25 per cent legal reserve, the whole of such excess being \$25,546,700, against \$25,718,375 the previous week.

The following table shows the changes from the previous week and a comparison with 1873 and 1872 :

Table comparing financial data for 1874 (Sept. 12, 19), 1873 (Sept. 20), and 1872 (Sept. 21). Categories include Loans and dis., Specie, Circulation, Net deposits, and Legal tenders.

United States Bonds.—Government securities have shown only a moderate activity, and prices close a shade below last week on some of the issues. The demand now is merely for investment, and speculation seems to be absent from the market.

Closing prices daily have been as follows :

Table of closing prices for various bonds and currencies from Sept. 19 to Sept. 25, 1874. Columns include bond descriptions, interest periods, and prices.

*This is the price bid ; no sale was made at the Board.

The range in prices since Jan. 1 and the amount of each class of bonds outstanding Sept. 1, 1874, were as follows :

Table showing bond prices since Jan. 1 and amounts outstanding as of Sept. 1, 1874. Columns include bond types, price ranges, registered amounts, and coupons.

Closing prices of securities in London have been as follows :

Table of closing prices for U.S. and New 5s securities in London, comparing prices from Sept. 11, 18, 25 and ranges since Jan. 1.

State and Railroad Bonds.—There has been very little business in State bonds; Tennessees have been stronger, as indicated in our last report. For the New York State loan of \$2,000,000 registered stock 6 per cent gold, proposals were received to-day at Albany, the total bids amounting to \$8,500,000 in gold, and running as high as 105; the whole loan was taken by the Comptroller for the sinking fund at 103, gold.

In railroad bonds the movement has been decidedly more active the Pacific issues being the most popular at advancing prices. We have footed up the total sales of these bonds at the Board during the week, and find them as follows: Central Pacific first mortgage gold 6s, \$143,000; Western Pacific do., \$7,000; Union Pacific 1st mortgage, \$364,000; Union Pacific Land Grants, \$101,000; Union Pacific Sinking Funds, \$246,000; do. Incomes, \$6,000.

Closing prices daily, and the range since Jan. 1, have been :

Table of closing prices and ranges since Jan. 1 for various railroad and miscellaneous stocks, including Tenn., N. Car., Virg., and others.

* This is the price bid, no sale was made at the Board. † Range since June 27, 1874.

Railroad and Miscellaneous Stocks.—The stock market has been strong and advancing on a tolerably active business, the advance on most of the list being 2 to 3 per cent for the week.

There is the appearance of a more positive confidence in stocks than has been seen before for some time. Union Pacific is believed to be under speculative manipulation by a powerful clique, and the buoyancy in this stock, together with the dividends on Central & Hudson, Western Union Telegraph, Rock Island, and Delaware Lackawanna & Western—the two latter declared to-day—have tended to give the whole market a strength, which is based, in part, upon substantial foundations.

The daily highest and lowest prices have been as follows :

Table of gold and silver prices for various locations (N.Y. Cen. & H.R., Erie, Lake Shore, etc.) from Saturday to Friday.

This is the price bid and asked; no sale was made at the Board. The entire range from Jan. 1, 1873, to this date was as follows:

Table showing price ranges for various locations from Jan. 1, 1874, to date, and for the whole year 1873.

Lapsley & Bazley, Brokers, 74 Broadway and 9 New street quote stock privileges, \$100 for 100 shares, 30 days; \$150 to \$200, 60 days...

Table of Puts and Calls for various locations (Rock Island, Mil. & St. Paul, etc.) for Sept. 26, 1874.

Railroad Earnings.—The latest railroad earnings reported are given below, and it appears that in nearly all cases the gross receipts are somewhat lower than in the corresponding periods of 1873:

Table of Railroad Earnings showing latest earnings reported and Jan. 1 to latest date for various roads.

The Gold Market.—The quotations for gold have been almost stereotyped throughout the week at 109 1/4 @ 109 3/4. Business has been very quiet, and the total clearings amount to only \$85,528,000.

The following table will show the course of gold and operations of the Gold Exchange Bank each day of the past week:

Table showing Quotations, Open-Low-High-Closing, Total Clearings, and Balances for the Gold Exchange Bank from Saturday to Friday.

The following are the quotations in gold for foreign and American coin:

Table of gold and silver coin quotations including Sovereigns, Napoleons, German X thalers, etc.

Foreign Exchange.—Exchange has been quiet throughout the week, and prices have not reacted from the decline previously noticed. There has been little more than the demand from importers; although, on the other hand, the supply of commercial bills is quite moderate and certainly insufficient to depress the market.

Table of Foreign Exchange rates for various locations (Prime bankers' sterling bills, London good bankers' do, etc.) for Sept. 25.

The transactions for the week at the Custom House and Sub-Treasury have been as follows:

Table of Custom House and Sub-Treasury transactions showing Receipts and Payments for Gold and Currency.

New York City Banks.—The following statement shows the condition of the Associated Banks of New York City for the week ending at the commencement of business on Sept. 19, 1874.

Table of New York City Banks showing AVERAGE AMOUNT OF Capital, Discounts, Specie, Legal Tenders, Net Deposits, and Circulation.

Total... \$32,135,200 \$280,569,200 \$19,452,100 \$64,904,000 \$236,840,800 \$25,638,600

The deviations from the returns of previous week are as follows:

Table showing deviations from previous week for Loans, Specie, Legal Tenders, Net Deposits, and Circulation.

The following are the totals for a series of weeks past:

Table showing totals for a series of weeks past for Loans, Specie, Legal Tenders, Deposits, Circulation, and Aggregate Clearings.

Boston Banks.—Below we give a statement of the Boston National Banks, as returned to the Clearing House on Monday, Sept. 21, 1874:

Table with columns: Banks, Capital, Loans, Specie, L.T. Notes, Deposits, Circul. Lists various banks like Atlantic, Atlas, Blackstone, etc.

Total... \$49,550,000 \$131,583,600 \$2,436,000 \$8,715,600 \$49,830,600 \$25,112,700

The deviations from last week's returns are as follows: Loans... Increase \$579,090 Deposits... Decrease \$101,900

Table showing totals for a series of weeks past: Date, Loans, Specie, Legal Tender, Deposits, Circulation

Philadelphia Banks.—The following is the average condition of the Philadelphia National Banks for the week ending Monday, Sept. 21, 1874:

Table with columns: Banks, Capital, Loans, Specie, L. Tender, Deposits, Circulation. Lists banks like Philadelphia, North America, Farmers and Mech, etc.

* No statement same as last week.

The deviations from the returns of previous week are as follows: Loans... Inc. \$339,203 Deposits... Inc. \$153,677

Table showing totals for a series of weeks past: Date, Loans, Specie, Legal Tender, Deposits, Circulation

WASHINGTON, D. C.—PRICES.

Table with columns: Bid, Ask. Lists various bonds and securities like Wash. Co. S. bonds, Chicago Relief bonds, etc.

QUOTATIONS IN BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE, &c.

Large table with columns: Bid, Ask. Divided into sections for BOSTON, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE, and CINCINNATI, listing various securities and their prices.

QUOTATIONS OF STOCKS AND BONDS IN NEW YORK.

United States Bonds and active Railroad Stocks are quoted on a previous page and not repeated here. Prices represent the per cent value, whatever the par may be. "N. Y. Local Securities" are quoted in a separate list.

Table with columns for Securities, Bid, Ask, and multiple columns of stock and bond listings. Includes sections for State Bonds, Railroad Bonds, and Southern Securities.

Investments

AND

STATE, CITY AND CORPORATION FINANCES.

STATE SECURITIES, CITY SECURITIES, RAILROAD STOCK AND BOND LIST, CANAL AND MISCELLANEOUS STOCK AND BOND LIST.

[Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1874, by WILLIAM B. DANA & Co., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, Washington, D.C.]

The month of September has not been without features of interest concerning investment matters. There have been few changes in regard to Government, State, or city bonds, but as to railroad finances there have been more events of importance. The report of the Investigating Committee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has lately appeared in a pamphlet of nearly 250 pages, and is, upon the whole, a pretty satisfactory document. The Committee does not hesitate to condemn some of the contracts and engagements made by the directors of the Pennsylvania

road, particularly those for connections south of Baltimore, and the values set upon the stock and bonds of various companies held by the Pennsylvania are also in many cases heavily scaled down, but the conclusions of the report are favorable to the general soundness of the Pennsylvania road, and to the value of its stock.

Almost every week now brings the intelligence of the sale of one or more roads in foreclosure, and with these sales and the re-organization of some roads, and the adjustment of the affairs of others by the acceptance of their funding propositions, it is found that railroad finances are gradually getting into better shape. In THE CHRONICLE on page 295 (Sept. 19), it was stated that the Maryland & Delaware railroad was advertised for sale on the 30th inst.; this was an error, and it should have read, the "Maryland & Pennsylvania" road.

It is now a year since the panic, which proved so disastrous to railroad investments of every kind, swept over the country. But, as will be seen, railroad securities are fast regaining their former popularity the present month, showing this in a more marked degree than any of its predecessors, the Pacific mortgages being decidedly popular, and advancing sharply in prices

CANAL AND MISCELLANEOUS STOCK AND BOND LIST.

[Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1874 by Wm. B. DANA & Co., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.]

Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Miles of Canal, Date of Bonds, Size or par value, Amount Outstanding, Interest or Dividends (Rate per Cent, When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom), Bonds, \$ Principal, When Due, Stocks, Last Divid., REMARKS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Date of Bonds, Size or par value, Amount Outstanding, Interest (Rate per Cent, When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom), Bonds, \$ Principal, When Due, Stocks, Last Divid., REMARKS.

STATE SECURITIES.

[Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1871, by Wm. B. Dana & Co., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.]

Subscribers will confer a great favor by giving us immediate notice of any error discovered in our Tables.

Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Date of Bonds, Size or par Value, Amount Outstanding, Rate per Cent., When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom, Principal when due, REMARKS. Rows include entries for Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Missouri.

Also, or par value.—This column shows the several sizes or denominations in which each issue of bonds is made. When Payable.—J. & J. stands for Jan. & July; F. & A., Feb. & Aug.; M. & S., March & Sept.; A. & O., April & Oct.; M. & N., May & Nov.; J. & D., June & Dec. Q.—J., quarterly from Jan.; Q.—F., quarterly from February. Q.—M., quarterly from March.

STATE SECURITIES.

Subscribers will confer a great favor by giving us immediate notice of any error discovered in our Tables.

Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Date of Bonds, Size or Value, Amount Outstanding, Rate per Cent, Interest (When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom), Principal When Due, and REMARKS. The table lists various state securities from Michigan to Virginia, including bonds, loans, and interest details.

CITY SECURITIES.

[Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1874, by Wm. B. Dana & Co., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.]
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Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Date of Bonds, Size or par Value, Amount Outstanding, Rate per Cent., When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom, Principal when due, REMARKS. Rows include Albany, N.Y.; Augusta, Ga.; Baltimore; Bangor, Me.; Boston; Brooklyn; Charleston, S.C.; Chicago; Cincinnati; and various municipal bonds.

Size or par value.—This column shows the sizes or denominations in which each issue of bonds is made.
When payable.—J. & J. stands for Jan. & July; F. & A., Feb. & Aug.; M. & S., March & Sept.; A. & O., April & Oct.; M. & N., May & Nov. J. & D., June & Dec. Q.—J., quarterly from Jan.; Q.—F., quarterly from Feb.; Q.—M., quarterly from March.
Remarks.—Figures in brackets at the end of remarks, in any case, refer to the volume and page of CHRONICLE containing fuller information.

CITY SECURITIES.

Subscribers will confer a great favor by giving us immediate notice of any error discovered in our Tables.

Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Date of Bonds, Size or par value, Amount outstanding, Rate per cent, When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom, Principal, When Due, REMARKS. Includes entries for Cincinnati, Columbia, S. C., Columbus, Ga., Detroit, Mich., Jersey, City, Louisville, Ky., Lynchburg Va., Memphis, Tenn., Milwaukee, Mobile, Montgomery, Ala., New Orleans, New York.

Population, 1870 9,296, against 8,052 in 1860. \$250,000 market bonds were issued in May, 1872.

Total debt, \$620,800, annual interest required about \$44,000. Bonds are all coupon, and were issued in small amounts as wanted. City holds some stocks and other property. Valuation of property 1873 \$4,067,840.

Population in 1870, 79,601; value of waterworks, \$1,361,000, against a debt of \$90,000. Taxation in 1873 \$63,619, on an assessed value of \$19,085,160 real estate, and \$8,006,485 personal.

April 1, 1874, the total bonded debt of the city was \$13,082,775 as follows: general, \$3,259,975; assessment debt, \$7,286,511; water debt, \$1,530,300. The sinking fund was \$423,000. Assets in overdue taxes, waterworks and public buildings about \$18,503,408. Assessed valuation, including railroad property is \$88,496,885, on which the tax rate is \$2.70 per \$100, or \$63,496,885 and 1 per cent on railroad property assessed at \$11,000,000. Population, 110,000. (V. 17, p. 691; V. 18, p. 190.)

The commissioners of the sinking fund reported that the resources are adequate to meet all the city debt, except the \$1,000,000 to the E. & P. R. Population in 1870 was 191,750 against 68,083 in 1860. The following figures exhibit the increase since the year 1868: Outstanding Jan. 1, 1868, \$3,352,747 94 Bonds issued since, 6,872,000 00 Total, \$10,224,747 94 Retired to Jan. 1, 1874, 1,951,247 94 Outstanding, \$8,273,500 00 Loans to railroads, 1,508,000 00 Total city bonds out, \$9,781,500 00 Floating debt, 693,000 00

Total bonded and floating debt, \$10,474,500 00 The following figures give the assessed property valuation for the past six years. For 1868, \$39,425,971; for 1869, \$63,284,911; for 1870, \$70,806,712; for 1871, \$76,545,995; for 1872, \$77,153,542; for 1873, \$77,223,322. In 1868 the taxation per \$100 was \$1.98; in 1873 it was \$2.55 for the Eastern district and \$2.47 for the Western district.

Interest on \$200,000 of the sixes is paid in Baltimore. City holds nominal assets of \$956,645.

The floating debt July, 1874, including overdue interest, was \$351,397. Valuation of real property in 1872, \$21,986,340; personal, \$4,690,000; tax rate, \$2 1/2 per \$100. Population in 1870, 40,290. (V. 18 p. 526; V. 19, p. 189; page IV of adv'ts, Sept. 12.)

The City cannot issue debt beyond 5 per cent of its average assessed value for 5 years, which is \$43,515,000, and for the year 1874 \$51,324,887, being \$35,157,004 of real, and \$16,167,883 of personal. Sinking funds are provided for all the bonds. (v. 16, p. 20, 346; v. 17, p. 187, 628, 691.)

Valuation of property, \$20,047,866; tax, 2 per cent. Mobile County also has 8 per cent bonds outstanding. Interest in default, Jan'y 1873. (v. 16, p. 661, 693; v. 17, p. 19.)

Bonds are endorsed by N. & S. Ala. RR.

To provide for interest and principal of consolidated bonds the sum of \$650,000 per year is required by law to be raised by tax on real estate. Special provisions are made for some other issues of debt as follows: R.R. bonds interest by 20-175 of real estate tax and 1-175 of personal; Ponchartrain RR., int. by 2 per cent of licenses; 7 per cent loan or 1869, by \$34,140 monthly; wharf bonds, by levee dues pledged for interest and principal; 10 per cent bonds of 1871, by monthly deposits out of current revenue. The total funded and floating debt, July, 1871, was \$11,828,232. Population, 1870, 191,418, against 188,670 in 1860. (v. 18, p. 526.)

The city and county, though identical as to boundaries, have separate organizations and distinct debts. The following statement shows the amount of funded and temporary debt, and the amount in the city sinking fund at the dates named.

Table with columns: Description, 1873, 1874. Rows include: Funded city debt, \$63,786,255; Funded county debt, \$9,868,165; Total funded debt, \$73,654,420; Sinking funds, \$28,233,076; Total, less \$1,540,333; Temporary city debt, \$16,927,372; Revenue bonds, \$8,114,197; Total temp'y debt, \$25,041,569.

CITY SECURITIES.

Subscribers will confer a great favor by giving us immediate notice of any error discovered in our Tables.

Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Date of Bonds, Size or par Value, Amount Outstanding, Rate per Cent, When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom, Principal, When Due, REMARKS. Includes sections for New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland, Me., Providence, R. I., San Francisco, Savannah, Ga., St. Joseph, Mo., St. Louis, and St. Paul, Minn.

RAILROAD STOCK AND BOND LIST.

(Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1874 by WM. B. DANA & CO., in the office of the Librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.)

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Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Miles of Road, Date of Bonds, Size or par value, Amount Outstanding, Interest or Dividends (Rate per cent, When Payable, Where Payable and by Whom), Bonds Principal when Due, last Divid., and REMARKS. The table lists various railroad stocks and bonds across multiple states, including Alabama, New York, and Pennsylvania.

NOTE.—The figures sometimes given in brackets, at the end of remarks, refer to the volume and page of CHRONICLE containing fuller information. The letters s. f. mean "sinking fund," and "gr." land grant. Companies consolidated with, or leased to others will often be found under the consolidated or lessee's name. * For stocks, this means the miles of road operated; for bonds, the miles covered by the mortgage. † These figures are dollars, showing the denominations or par value of each issue of stocks and bonds. The figures 100, &c., signify 100 and larger. ‡ The interest here given is given on bonds, but the last dividend on stocks; g means gold; z, extra; s, stock or scrip. [J. & J. starts for Jan. & July; F. & A., Feb. & Aug.; M. & S., Mar. & Sept.; A. & O., April & Oct.; M. & N., May & Nov.; J. & D., June & Dec.; Q—J., quarterly from Jan.; Q—F., quarterly from Feb.; Q—M., quarterly from March. These dates show the period when the principal falls due on bonds; but the time when the last dividend was paid on stock.

RAILROAD STOCK AND BOND LIST.

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Table with columns: DESCRIPTION, Miles of Road, Rate of Interest, Amount Outstanding, Interest or Dividends, Bonds, and Remarks. Contains detailed financial data for various railroad companies and their securities.

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GENERAL PRICES CURRENT.

Table of general prices including Ashes, Breadstuffs, Butter, Cheese, Coal, Coffee, Copper, Cotton, Drugs & Dyes, Fish, Flax, Gunnies, Hides, Hops, Iron, and Leather.

Table of specialized prices including Molasses, Naval Stores, Oil Cake, Oils, Petroleum, Provisions, Rice, Salt, Saltpetre, Sugar, Tallow, Wool, Zinc, and Freight.

Commercial Cards.

Advertisement for Everett & Co., Fabbri & Chauncey, Jewell, Harrison & Company, Smith, Baker & Co., John Dwight & Co., Olyphant & Co., and Wright, Bliss & Fabyan, listing agents and services.

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