MC2289

POOR DOCUMENT

FINANCIAL and COMMERCIAL

N. Y. STOCK MARKET.

Dec. 22, 1908.

New York Stock Quotations, Chicago Market Report and New York Cotton Market, furnished by D. C. Clinch, Banker and Broker.

	Yesterday's Opening	Today's Closing	Noon
Amalg Copper	77⅞	77¼	77⅝
Anaconda	46½	46⅝	47¼
Am. Smelt & Rfg	80⅝	80⅝	79
Am. Car Foundry	45½	45½	46
Atchison	97	95⅞	96½
Am. Locomotive	53⅝	54½	54½
Brook Rpd Trst	59¼	59⅝	61
Balt & Ohio	107⅝	107½	108⅛
Ches & Ohio	55½	56½	56⅛
Canadian Pacific	174	174½	175
Chicago & Alton	54	54½	57⅝
Chi. & G West.	11½	11¼	11¼
Colo F & Iron	37½	37⅝	37⅝
Consolidated Gas	138¾	139	139½
Erie	32⅝	32⅝	33¼
Kansas & Texas	38¼	38½	40½
Great Northern pfd	142½	142½	143⅛
Louis & Nashville	120⅝	120½	121⅝
Mo P	130	129¼	129¼
Missouri Pacific	62¼	62¼	63
Nor. & Western	84⅛	84⅝	84¼
N Y Central x d 1¼	116⅞	116¼	117¼
North West	175	175	175
Ont & Wetstern	43⅞	44	44¼
Pacific Mail	34¼	34¼	34⅝
Peo. C and Gas	100	100¼	100
Reading	137¼	137¼	137⅞
Republic Steel	24¼	23¼	24¼
Sloss Sheffield	76½	77½	77½
Pennsylvania	128⅞	128½	128⅛
Rock Island	22¼	22⅝	22⅝
St. Paul	145¼	145	145⅝
Southern Rly	24¼	24¼	24¼
Southern Pacific	116⅞	117	117⅛
Northern Pacific	137⅞	128⅝	138⅛
Texas Pacific	31⅝	32	32½
Union Pacific	176½	176½	177
U S Rubber		32	32
U S Steel	52⅛	52¼	52½
U S Steel, pfd.	111	111½	111⅞
Wbash	19⅝	19⅝	19⅝
Wbash pfd.	49	49½	50⅞

Total sales in N. Y. yesterday 1,355,900 shares.

CHICAGO MARKET REPORT

Dec. Corn	56⅛	55⅞	56⅝
Dec. Wheat	100⅝	100⅞	100⅞
Dec. Oats	49⅛	49½	49½
May Corn	60½	60⅝	60⅝
May Wheat	106⅝	105⅞	106⅞
May Oats	51⅛	51⅛	51⅝
May Pork	1630	1635	1635
July Corn	60½	60⅝	60⅝
July Wheat	97⅝	97⅞	97⅞
July Oats	46⅛	46¼	46¼

MONTREAL QUOTATIONS

Dom I & S pfd.	69B	69	69
C P R	174⅛	175	175
Montreal Power	108¼	108¼	109
Rich & Ont Navigation	76	76½	76
Detroit United	53¼B	53¼	53¼
Toronto Street Rly	105½B	105⅝	105⅝

NEW YORK COTTON MARKET

Dec. Cotton	8.86	8.86	8.88
January Cotton	8.50	8.51	8.56
March Cotton	8.62	8.62	8.67
May Cotton	8.70	8.70	8.74

(Furnished by D. C. Clinch, banker and broker.)

New presenting itself for consideration refers to the Teller agitation for silver as reported in the Times, Venezuelan complications through revolution, Carnegie testimony before the tariff commission, possibility of further gold exports, all being on a somewhat unfavorable tenor, which conditions not a surprise to readers of daily news.

Fndamental features of optimism are temporarily overwhelmed, but they exist and work for bullish ends, as will be seen when the technical condition of the market structure shall have been corrected by the eliminating of weak long accounts and strengthened by the accumulation of a shortage, which latter feature yesterday over-extended and is responsible for the rally.

When the present re-adjustment takes place we expect to see the greatest bull market inaugurated for conditions will improve industrially with great force next year, and securities must take pre-recognition of a restoration of prosperity. Press comment this morning is somewhat mixed, and market literature shows an unsettled tone.—New York Financial Bureau.

DETAILED STOCK GOSSIP.

Removal of support at indicated levels yesterday was in each case followed by breaks, and the subsequent rallies will be used by professionals to again put out short lines generally speaking. The Carnegie testimony caused outside selling of Steel, which will be sold again by professionals on strength. The Gary plant started to work yesterday. While a rally is on in Amal., Anc., Paul, Fuel, N. P., Reading, R. I. Preferred. U P and Steel careful investigations indicate that they are reactionary in tone and may be attacked any time. It is dangerous to follow them down closely. BRT and Wa. Pfd are tipped for a rise. So Pacific should be bought on a scale down. M. K. & T. and Alton are again connected. GN Preferred may sympathize with general heaviness, but at such times we think it a purchase. Atch and Pa. are under accumulation according to our reports. The Con. Gas "disappointment" put that stock on the bargain counter.

SUMMARY.

Carnegie testimony before tariff commission in Washington makes great impression.

Americans irregular. Harrimans show strength.

U. S. Steel Corporation gives bonus to workmen holding its stock, estimated at 65 per cent. of their holdings.

Harriman much better and will be able to go to Arden for Christmas holidays.

Allis Chalmers reports orders in good volume coming in and believes situation will steadily improve.

Transactions in copper small, with electro at low prices for present move. No improvement in bar silver.

U. S. Steel earnings for current quarter expected to run between $25,000,000 and $26,000,000.

Tighter money considered largely responsible for liquidation, but funds expected to be ample after new year. New smelting company will handle lead and silver as well as copper.

Thirty-four roads for second week of Dec. show average gross inc. 4.53 per cent.

Total gold engaged since Dec. 3rd, $6,000,000.

TOWN TOPICS.

The position of market has been seriously weakened by the forced selling of leading stocks which have been going on during the past few days. On the other hand we see no evidence of any general good buying. The market will still remain in the hands of the professionals who are for the most part inclined to the bear side. Accordingly sales of leading issues on the rallies for turns will continued be the best paying policy. The recovering in Smelters again leaves look in a pregnable position and we would not hesitate to sell for turns on strong spots the leading industrials, especially Copper, Smelters ad Steel. Among the rails the undertone is weak, and in Union and So. Pac., Reading, St. Paul and R. I. Pfd. On any extension of yesterday afternoon's rally, sell them. Don't follow B.R. T. advance too far. We look for a strong market early and weakness the afternoon.—Topics.

THE ENGLISH MARKET.

Liverpool—Due 1 higher on May and 1-2 to 1 point lower on later. Opened quiet and unchanged. At 12.15 p. m.—Dull June, July net 1 1-2 lower, others unchanged. Spot dull and easier, 3 points lower; mids. 4.85d.; sales 5,000; spec. and export 300; American 4,000; imports 40,000 bales, including 35,000 American.

Consols 83 3-4, Anc 46 3-4, C 78 1-8, Atch 95 5-8, BO 107 1-2, CO 56, GW 11, CPR 175, D 35, Erie 32 3-4, EF 47 1-4, Ills 144 1-4, KT 38 1-4, LN 119 3-4, N 84 1-8, NP 138 1-4, Cen 116 3-4, OW 44, Pa 128 1-2, RG 137, RI 22, SR 24 1-4, SJ 57 1-2, SP 116 5-8, St. Paul 145 3-4, UP 176 3-4, US 52 1-8, UX 111, WZ 49 1-4.—London 2 p. m.

ADVICE AND NEWS

The rally yesterday afternoon seemed to be merely on short covering. It may go a little further today but I don't think that liquidation is over yet and I believe that stocks are a sale this morning on any further advance. It is very notable that practically all of the selling yesterday came from pool and clique houses. The ordinary commission house has as yet unloaded very few stocks. Their turn will probably come on the next bad break. EVANS.

New York—It was rumored in conservative circles yesterday afternoon that Harriman had sold $5,000,000 worth of Union Pacific yesterday to get cash to put through a certain deal, details of which were lacking.

Investigation of certain reports found yesterday afternoon shows that support is being extended to Smelters by people who sold their stock above 90. Inquiries in specialist circles indicate that orders to buy the stock are under the market around 78.

There is exceeding bitterness expressed around the street in the very conservative institutions as to the attitude of Carnegie who is charged with selfish motives in his attack on the Steel tariff, the idea being that he would by crippling the Corporation get control of the concern in its entirety through his bond holdings. This theory is not generally held but comments are bitter. In some circles it is intimated that Carnegie's attitude indicates an international Steel agreement, rumors concerning which were in circulation last summer connecting J. P. Morgan with activity.

N. Y. FINANCIAL BUREAU.

Liverpool—Wheat opened quiet unchanged, Corn quiet 1-4 up. 1.30 p. m.—Wheat 3-8 from opening. Corn unchanged.

The indications are that the market will rally. If it does I think it will be a sale.

ED. RANDOLPH.

Ex dividend today Central, 1 1-4 per cent.

STIRLING EXCHANGE RATE

Cables, 487.55; Demand 4.87; 60 days, 485.10.

THE WINNIPEG WHEAT MARKET.

St. John, Dec. 22.

The Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Ltd., supply the following quotations of the Winnipeg wheat market:—December wheat, 98 3-8; May wheat, 102; July wheat, 102 3-4.

INTERESTING ITEMS

Ladies' party frocks, delicate net and lace waists, scrupulously cleaned by the Ungar process. Tel. 58.

A sweater as a Christmas present will bring many warm remembrances. See the great Pidgeon line of fine sweaters. 12-22-1i

A RANGE DOES ITS CHRISTMAS WORK best with Gibbon & Co's Free Burning Nut or Chestnut. Tel. 676.

The Nickel's Limerick Jingle contest closes on Thursday and tomorrow the great feature for child patronage will be "Little Nemo in Slumberland,"—The Vitagraph Co's wonderfully fine Christmas film.

Don't Miss seeing Walter H. Irving's Christmas stock, the most varied and most attractive in the city. His store full of all the season's novelties and the latest ideas in bracelets, pins, blouse sets, lockets, rings, signet rings, combs, fobs, and all other lines. Prices are right too.

Phoenix mufflers just received at F. W. Daniel & Company's. Hundreds of people have been waiting for them. Each one in pretty box. All colors and plenty of white and sky blue. Also received a shipment of fine lawn waists for Xmas. Each waist in a box; a nice useful present. Reduction sale of Christmas furs on Wednesday. See advertisement on page 5.

Hundreds of people are saving money and getting just the very things they are looking for at the J. N. Harvey stores in the Opera House block. If you want gifts for men or boys you should see these stocks, one of the finest displays of neckwear, mufflers, leather goods, house coats, bath robes, clothing, etc., in the city. The stores will be open each evening this week till 10 o'clock. Read the advance price list on page 7. 12-22-1i

THE UNREMEMBERED

Where have they gone, the unremembered things,
The hours, the faces,
The trumpet-call, the wild boughs of white spring?
Would I might pluck you from forbidden spaces,
All ye, the vanished tenants of my places!

Stay but one moment, speak that I may hear,
Swift passer-by!
The wind of your strange garments in my ear
Catches the heart like a beloved cry
From lips, alas, forgotten utterly.

An odor haunts, a color in the mesh,
A step that mounts the stair;
Come to me, I would touch your living flesh
Look how they disappear, ah, where, ah where?
Because I name them not, deaf to my prayer.

If I could only call them as I used,
Each by his name!
That violin—that ancient voice that mused!
You is the hill, I see the beacon flame.
My feet have found the road where once I came.

Quick—but again the dark, darkness, and shame.
—Florence Wilkinson, in McClure's Magazine.

One hundred Ross rifles shipped to Hamilton, Ontario for the use of the army service corps, were found to have defects in the sight. Thirty were sent back.

The first consignment of Rhodesian ivory of any importance to be sold commercially realized nearly $2,500 at the London sale rooms recently.

The New York, New Haven and Hartford railway has placed a contract calling for the expenditure of $30,000,000 in and around New York city.

Ministers of the Free Church in Edinburgh have received intimation that unless the sustentation fund improves salaries may have to be reduced by one-half.

THE SHIPPING WORLD

VESSELS BOUND TO ST JOHN.

STEAMERS.

Almora, sld Glasgow, Dec. 19.
Almeriana, sld London, Dec. 15.
Dunmore Head, sld Maryport via Sydney, Dec. 12.
Lake Michigan, sld London, Dec. 2.
Manchester Shipper, sld Dec. 10.
Manchester Trader, sld Manchester, Dec. 11.
Montezuma, sld Antwerp, Dec. 16.
Pretorian, sld Glasgow, Dec. 9.
Pomeranian, sld London via Havre, Dec. 18.
Shenandoah, sld London, Dec. 12.
Salacia, sld Glasgow, Dec. 12.
Tunisian, sld Liverpool, Dec. 18.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

December 1908		Sun Rises.	Sun Sets.	Tide High.	Tide Low.
21	Mon	8.07	4.38	9.54	4.05
22	Tues	8.08	4.40	10.38	4.50
23	Wed	8.08	4.41	1.22	5.36
24	Thur	8.09	4.41	12.00	6.23
25	Fri	8.09	4.42	0.33	7.12
26	Sat	8.10	4.43	1.23	8.03

The time used is Atlantic Standard.

PORT OF ST. JOHN.

ARRIVED TODAY

Schr Garfield White, 99, Hatfield, from Boston, C. M. Kerison, ballast. In for harbor bound for Port Greville, and cleared.

Schr Preference, 243, Gale, from New York, G. L. Purdy, coal.

Coastwise:—Stmrs Harbinger, 46, Rockwell, River Hebert; Bear River, 70, Woodworth, Bear River; Mikado, 48, Lewis, Alma; schr Alma, 70, Pike.

CLEARED TODAY

Coastwise:—Stmrs Bear River, Woodworth, Digby; Granville, Collins, Annapolis; schrs Harry Morris, Trefry, St. Martins; Emerson Faye, Perry, Freeport.

SAILED YESTERDAY

Stmr Manchester Mariner, 2671, Linton for Manchester.

Stmr Talisman, (Nor.), 1178, Olsen, for Havana.

DOMINION PORTS

Kingsport, Dec. 19—Dec 19—Arrived and cld schrs E. Mayfield, Merriam, Parrsboro; Murray B. Carey, Parrsboro.

Mulgrave, Dec. 19—Ard, stmr Kilkeel, Hastings, for Georgetown, for water.

Passed south: stmr Pors.

Louisburg, Dec. 19—Ard 18, stmrs Cabot, Kemp, from Halifax; Cacouna, Holmes, from St. John; 19, Tanke, Hansen, from St. Pierre, Mic.

Cleared 18, stmrs Cabot, Kemp, for Goldboro, N. S.; Cacouna, Holmes, for St. John, N. B.; 19 schr Lewis, Trake, for Halifax; Tanke, Hansen, for Yarmouth, N. S.

Moncton, N B, Dec 18—Cld schr Theta, Salter, for New York.

Halifax, N S, Dec 21—Ard stmrs Oruro, from West Indies via St John; Senlac, from St John via ports (and sailed to return); Lady Sybil, from Boston; schr Gypsum Emperor, from New York.

Sld—Stmr Shimosa, for Boston—having coaled.

BRITISH PORTS

Liverpool, Dec. 20—Ard, stmr Canada, Jones, Portland, Me.

Bristol, Dec 20—Ard stmr Alexander Kamburoff, from St John.

Liverpool, Dec 18—Sld stmr London City, for St John's (Nfld.)

Glasgow, Dec 20—Ard stmr Hesperian, from Boston via Halifax (N S.)

FOREIGN PORTS

St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 20—Ard, stmr Pretorian (Br) Main, Glasgow and Liverpool for Halifax.

Yokohama, Dec. 19—Sld stmr Monteagle, (Br) Davison (from Hong Kong), Vancouver.

Boston, Dec. 20—Ard stmrs Laurentian, Glasgow, Cambria, London.

Bridgeport, Ct., Dec. 19—Sld schrs M. Y. S. (Br) St. Martins, N. B.

Calais, Me., Dec. 18—Sld schrs Lanie Cobb, New York; Samuel Hart, do.

Fernandina, Fla., Dec. 19—Sld schr Advance (Br), Burgess, Halifax.

New York, Dec. 20—Ard schr Laura Innis, from Bonaire, 21 days with salt.

City Island, Dec. 20—Ard schr Manuel R. Cuza, Gayton, St. John for New York.

Mobile, Dec. 19—Cld schr Clara C., Scott, Havana.

Pascagoula, Dec. 20—Ard schr Diomidon, Bodden, Kingston.

Philadelphia, Dec. 19—Cld schrs Emily Anderson, Dexter, for Windsor; Abani, McKay, for Martinique.

Boston, Dec 21—Cld schrs Lila D Young, for Lunenburg (N S.); Alma Nelson, for La Have (N S.)

New York, Dec 21—Cld schrs Bluenose, for Elizabethport; Freedom, for Halifax.

City Island, Dec 21—Bound south, stmr Orifiamme, Halifax; schrs Adriatic, Weymouth (N S); Harry Miller, St John via Providence.

Bound east—Stmr Beatrice, New York for St. John.

Providence, R I, Dec 21—Ard schr Leora M Thurlow, from Bangor.

Saunderstown, R I, Dec 21—Ard schr Lizzie H Patrick, from Windsor (N S), for New York; Moana, from St John for Philadelphia.

Returned on account of high southwest wind—Schrs Emily I White, R Bowers and Mayflower.

Hyannis, Mass, Dec 21—Ard schrs Eva A Danenhower, from St John for New York; William L Elkins, do for do; Rhoda Holmes, from St George (N B), for Norwalk.

Eastport, Me, Dec 21—Ard schr Clifford I White, from New York.

Portland, Me, Dec 21—Ard schr Harold B Cousens, from Philadelphia.

Cld—Stmr Hird (Nor), for Parrsboro (N S.)

Vineyard Haven, Mass, Dec 21—Ard and sailed, schrs George E Prescott, from St George for Spruce Head; Cora May, from New York for St John; Lucille, from Port Johnston for Yarmouth (N S); M D S, from Bridgeport for St Martins (N B.)

Sld—Schrs Nettie Shipman, from South Amboy for Rockland; Arthur N Gibson, from New York for St John; Chesile, from do for do; Walter M Young, from Perth Amboy for Quebec; G M Porter, from South Amboy for Calais; Judge Low, from South Amboy for Eastport.

Delaware Breakwater, Del, Dec 21—Passed schrs Peerless, from Philadelphia for Yarmouth (N S.)

SPOKEN

Nov. 7, in Karimata Strait, ship King George (Br) White, from Hongkong for New York.

Schr Roberts & Russell (Br) from Jacksonville for Nassau, Dec. 17, lat 29.37 lon 79.45, all well.

REPORTS AND DISASTERS

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 20—Stmr Shimosa (Br) from Yokohama &c., for Boston and New York put in today short of coal.

Schr Latuka from Cardigan, P. E. I for Boston, with potatoes, went ashore yesterday in a snow storm off the entrance to La Have harbor, near Irin Bound Island. Tugs pulled her off and were able to get her up the river, where she now lies on her beam ends full of water.

MARINE NOTES

The Norwegian steamer Freia has just completed loading a cargo of pine lumber at Lewisport, Newfoundland, for Buenos Ayres. The shipment is the most valuable which has ever gone out of the Ancient Colony. It was shipped by Harry J. Crowe from his limits, is of good size and excellent quality. The cargo is principally pine and averages in prices from $22.50 to $71.00 per thousand. Mr. Crowe is one of the pioneers in the South American trade and this cargo of one and a half million feet closes up his operations in Newfoundland this year.

SPOKEN BY WIRELESS YESTERDAY

9.45 a. m.—S. S. Columbia, southwest of Cape Sable, bound east.

10.15 a. m.—S. S. Ultonia, southwest of Cape Sable, bound east.

11.05 a. m.—S. S. Hamburg, 230 miles south of Cape Sable, bound to New York.

11.25 a. m.—S. S. Patricia, 200 miles southeast of Cape Sable, bound to New York.

RECENT CHARTERS

The following charters are announced by Scammell Bros, in their weekly circular, dated New York, Dec 19: Br ship Timandra, 1,500 tons, Boston and Maine to River Plate, w pine and spruce, owner's account; Nor bark Valborg, 1,375 tons, Yarmouth (N S), to Buenos Ayres, lumber, $7.25, March; Br schr Invictus, 237 tons, New York to San Domingo, coal, p t; Br schr Cartagena, 199 tons, New York to Central America and back, time charter, p t; Br schr Archie Crowell, 174 tons, Mobile to Demerara, lumber, p t; Br stmr Alice, 490 tons, Richmond (Va), to Amherst, lumber, p t; Br schr Collector, 99 tons, Perth Amboy to Halifax, coal, $1.20; Br schr Mineola, 270 tons, Hoboken to St. John (N B), coal, 75 cents; Br schr Alaska, 118 tons, same, from Perth Amboy, 90 cents; Br schr Ronald, 268 tons, same, from Edgewater, 90 cents; Br schr Emily Anderson, 217 tons, Philadelphia to Windsor (N S), fertilizer, p t; Br schr Unity, 248 tons, Philadelphia to Halifax, coal, $1; Br schr Lucille, 164 tons, Pt Johnston to Yarmouth, coal, $1; schr Isaiah K Stetson, 273 tons, New York to Boston, cement, 35 cents; schr Nettie Shipman, 297 tons, South Amboy to Rockland, 75 cents; schr H H Chamberlain, 205 tons, Port Reading to Provincetown, $1.10.

VESSELS IN PORT

STEAMERS.

Empress of Britain, 3,024, C P R Co.
Lake Michigan, 5340, C P R Co.
Parthenia, 3,310, R Reford Co.
Tabasco, 1913, Wm Thomson & Co.
Yola, 2,245, J H Scammell & Co.

BARKS.

Conductor, 1,063, A W Adams.
Merioneth, 1,280, Wm Thomson & Co.

SCHOONERS.

Annie A Booth, 165, A W Adams.
Cora May, 117, N C Scott.
C B Ward, 224, A W Adams.
Erie, 119, N C Scott.
Francis V Sawyer, 324, master.
Francis A Rice, 122, C M Kerrison.
Georgia, 231, J W Smith.
Genevieve, 124, A W Adams.
Georgia Pearl, 118, A W Adams.
Hunter, 187, D J Purdy.
Harold B Cousens, 399, P McIntyre.
Ida M Barton, 102, J W McAlary.
Jennie A Stubbs, 159, master.
J Arthur Lord, 180, A W Adams.
Lucia Porter, 255, P McIntyre.
Lois V Chaples, 191, A W Adams.
Minnie Slawson, 271, Stetson, Cutler & Co.
Mineola, 270, J W Smith.
Oriole, 124, J Splane.
Rebecca M Wells, 516, R C Elkin.
Rewa, 123, D J Purdy.
Romeo, 111, P McIntyre.
Silver Spray, 163, C M Kerrison.
St Bernard, 123, J W Smith.
Tay, 124, P McIntyre.
Theresa Wolfe, 244, A W Adams.
S A Fownes, 123, C M Kerrison.
Wanola, 272, J W Smith.
Willena Gertrude, 271, J W Smith.
W B & W L Tuck, 395, J A Gregory.
W H Waters, 120, A W Adams.

INTERESTING BUDGET OF NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington, D. C., Dec. 17—The political situation during the past week has been replete with interesting events and episodes. The Panama Canal deal has been the subject of unfounded charges against the government and those nearly related t othe president, and of indignant and vindictive countercharges coming direst from the president in the shape of a message to congress and containing threats of libel suits against the chief offender, the editor of the New York World.

Congress is writhing under the stinging lash of the president charging it with an effort to choke off or Scotch detective activity with regard to its members. Some members of congress (like some of the rest of us) would not care to have too strong a searchlight turned on all their outgoings and incomings. The president knows who some of them are and he is perhaps waiting with some impatience for the national legislature to rise in its holy wrath and repudiate the insinuation. Congress, or at least some congressmen, will not play with fire for fear of an explosion. The president is merciless in his exposures and his denunciation and what they have done in the closet, he is capable of proclaiming on the housetops of their constituencies in a way that all men and their wives will hear and believe him. It is a little short of shameless how some members and senators make the United States treasury pay their election expenses and even bribe their constituents. The common remark, "they all do it," renders it not one whit more respectable or less dishonest.

There are navy yards on the New England coast and on other coasts that are supported by the United States for no other reason than that a senator or a member of congress has use for them to sustain his political fortunes by keeping him in congress. These navy yards are too small for modern warship construction, therefore useless ships are appropriated for and hundreds of men are employed and millions of dollars are paid in wages (wasted) to the friends and political henchmen of certain senators and members.

The lower house of congress has just passed a bill for the next census with a provision that the clerks are to be selected independent of the civil service competitive examinations. Every member of congress knows that this is not in the interest of economy or efficiency. Wright and Porter, two capable superintendents of the census, are on record as regretting that the service under them was not included in the classified civil service examination list. Wright, especially, believed the cost of the last census had been increased to the extent of two millions of dollars by the neglect of the application of the civil service to the selection of clerks. The motives of congressmen in relieving the census appointments from the necessity of competitive examination are open to everyone. They are seeking appointments for their political supporters or their relatives—their sons, their wives, cousins, aunts and mothers-in-law—who are constantly after them for some place at the public crib. They cannot fight publicly against the Civil Service Law. With the country at large it is too popular. It has reedeemed a service that was scarcely less rotten than that of Russia or China. But they are desperately hungry for patronage. In putting the large body of fourth-class postmasters under civil service protection, these congressmen have been robbed of much influence and they are trying to recoup themselves through the census office and at the expense of the country at large.

Some few members of congress are independant of patronage. All of them should be. To well-informed, enlightened statesmen, patronage is a curse. It curses him that gives and him that receives. The person who gets the office is an ingrate and the twenty who fail to get it become enemies. But the average congressman is not an enlightened statesman; he is a small politician.

There is still time for the senate to amend the house bill by inserting a clause insisting on competitive examination for the census office appointments. Without such examination, thousands of incompetent persons will be appointed. Moreover, many more persons than are needed will get offices and the cost of the census will be greatly increased by politicians insisting on having their friends taken care of. The public good demands that the thousands of persons to be employed in taking and publishing the next census should be appointed for efficiency and independently of political pull. The senate has an opportunity to further establish itself in the confidence of the country by insisting on amending the bill so that the census office, like the other offices of the government, shall be filled with clerks chosen for their efficiency and not because they need places, but because the government needs a clerical force chosen on the principle of the survival of the fittest.

FACTS AND SNAPS FOR XMAS BUYERS

Felt Slippers.

Nothing could be better for a Christmas gift than a pair of good warm felt slippers. We have them in the best styles and qualities for men, women and children at **35c., 60c., 85c., $1.25, $1.35, $1.40, $1.45, $1.50, $1.60.**

Men's Kid Slippers.

We have quite an overstock of these goods and have decided to make a big cut in prices for the next three days. Men's Black and Brown Kid Slippers, formerly sold at $2.00 per pair, we are selling at **$1.50.** Don't miss a chance to get a good article for a small price

Overgaiters and Leggins.

Our Tailor-made Overgaiters and Leggins are always acceptable as gifts. They fit like gloves, keep their shape, and for a very small outlay yon can get the best. Prices from **50c. to $1.45.**

Snaps in Overshoes.

Girls Three Buckle Overshoes that regularly sell at $2.00. We are selling for Christmas trade while the lot lasts at **$1.15.** Women's Overshoe Rubbers, Rubbers all sizes, **85c.**

McCOLOUGH SLATER SHOE STORE

81 King Street.

The Bagster Bible

A Most Acceptable Christmas Gift

and one that will please the most fastidious. These Bibles are manufactured by Samuel Bagster & Sons, Limited, London, England, are bound in the finest of Morocco leather, are finely illustrated and are well printed, the type being very large and easily read.

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ST. JOHN, N. B.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

(C. B. Quincy in the New York American)

"The Christmas Day I remember best," said the veteran traveller, "was one I spent in Africa. I was proceeding along an obscure trail, thinking of the dear ones at home, when a large lion appeared in the path. I believe in the Christmas dinner as an institution, but I have every obection to being the dinner myself, so I ran wildly down the trail, with the lion in close pursuit. In that way I spent Christmas Day, but fortunately the lion became exhausted before the end of December, and I had a peaceful New Year's Eve."

"Ah," remarked the old sailor, "how well I remember the Christmas Day I spent on a raft in the South Atlantic. The raft was made of the top of a match box and was far from secure, especially as a number of large sharks were circling slowly around it, their savage cries adding much to my terror. 'Christmas Day,' said I to myself, 'and here I am alone on this raft!' Just at this moment, as I was resigning myself to my fate, along came the Lusitania, which had lost her way. I piloted her into New York, and what a Christmas reoicing we did have! The passengers all subscribed and presented me with a beautiful dog watch as a memento."

"Never shall I forget," said the veteran actor, as he fell into a reminiscent mood, "the Christmas Day performance I took part in once at Wabunk. The play was 'Uncle Tom's Cabin,' and I had the parts of Uncle Tom, Eliza and the ferocious bloodhound. We were playing to an unusually good house—the local barber and two boys—and I had just gone across the ice as Eliza and was following the fugitive as the bloodhound, when one of the boys cried: 'Ah, go chase yerself: Overcome with rage, I paused on the ice and cried: 'Can't you see that's what I'm doing?' Just then the ice, which was played by the manager, yelled: 'Are you going to stand on my face all night, you chump?' I replied with some heat, and got back to Broadway after a two months' walk."

EXPORTS

For London and Antwerp per S. S. Sardinian—Canadian Goods:—102 pkgs machinery, 2 cases cakes, 85 cases lobsters, 105,178 ft hardwood planks, 40,025 ft spruce deals, 9 bales cattle switches, 55 casks extracts, 600 bags asbestos, 198 sacks peas, 33,000 bushels wheat 4 pkgs valves, etc. 120 boxes fresh salmon, 72 boxes cod liver oil. Value $81,596.

Foreign Goods:—7,500 boxes lard, 11,149 sacks flour. Value, $114,243.

Total value of cargo, $195,839.

MERELY EXISTING

(Boston Transcript)

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"The state of single blessedness."

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