

STRAWS.

Time money New York is firm at 6 p.c. bid with none offered.

A broad gauge line from Denver to Cripple Creek will be begun soon and will take about 18 months in making.

Commercial Cable has declared quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 p.c. and a bonus of 1 p.c. payable Jan. 2. Books close Dec 22; reopen Jan. 3.

The very best authorities have given assurance that the Addyston Pipe decision can have no effect on existing companies.

American Sugar Refining Co. has declared regular dividends: 3 p.c. on common, 3 1/2 on semi-annual preferred and 1 1/2 on pfd when quarterly dividends are paid. Payable Jan 2. Books close Dec 11, reopen Jan. 3.

Immediately on the declaration of regular dividend Am. Sugar Co advanced price of granulated Sugar 1-16 at New Orleans and withdrew concessions on soft at New York. This is understood to mean that the Sugar

The mercantile paper market remains steady and unchanged. Rates are quoted at 5 1/2 p.c. for prime endorsed bills receivable 5 1/2 to 6 p.c. for first class single names and 6 to 6 1/2 p.c. for others not so well known.

Nearly every stock house is now doing something in Cotton and Wall Street has become more interested in the cotton market than was probably ever before the case in its history.

The demand for pig iron in Glasgow, Scotland, and Middlesborough, England, is strong. It is anticipated that Transvaal affairs will create a greater demand during the war and after it is finished.

The Soo line keeps other lines aware of its existence. Its reduction of rates between St. Paul and New York from \$25 to \$17, is practically the rate between Chicago and New York.

Bay State Gas—For the first time buying orders have been sent to New York from Boston for Bay State Gas. The Boston News Bureau has positive information that 75 p.c. of the Bay State Gas today is owned by the Standard Oil interest.

Louisville — The Hessian fly is said to be doing serious damage to the wheat crop in this state. In some sections it has been reinforced by a small white worm which is working at the root of the plant and destroying large fields. Farmers are much puzzled by the new pest, which they say is something entirely new to their experience.

Lake lumber rates have slumped \$1 per thousand, and as a result considerable lumber is going forward from the head of the lakes which would otherwise have waited till spring or else go all-rail during the winter to Chicago. Notwithstanding this 40 million feet will go all-rail to Chicago this winter and much all-rail to the Atlantic seaboard.

A large Stock Exchange house says that it has done more business in cotton during the last 60 days than during the past two years; that New York Cotton Exchange is the speculative centre for cotton, and that their customers are making money buying cotton. The buying is on the following argument:—in 1896 cotton went 9 1/2 cents, though then the crop was good and trade conditions were only moderate, whereas this year the crop is a short one and trade conditions were never so good as they are

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