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Advices by cable have been received here from Liverpool, stating that sales of American apples were made there as low as 11s per hbl., and a despatch from Liverpool dated Sept. 10th reports that the apples ex SS. Seythia from New York, which were landed in medium condition, sold at 12s to 14s—for sound fruit. Here sales have transpired at \$2 to \$2.50 for good sound lots, but fancy kinds have brought \$2.75 to \$3.00.

The visible supply of cotton on Sep. 12, 1884, was 1,404,741 bales, against 1,617,856 a year ago, showing a decrease of 213,115 bales, but, as compared with that of two years ago an increase is shown of 154,518 bales. Late cables from Bombay state that accounts of the cotton crop in the districts tributary to that port are generally satisfactory. Floods are reported in some districts, but they have done little harm as yet. Since the monsoon set in the rainfall at Bombay has been 55.98 inches.

The British Empire Mutual Life Insurance Co. are now the sole possessors of the Exchange Bank building, having not only paid over the purchase price, \$110,000, but have wiped off the mortgage of \$50,000 held on the property by the Standard Life Insurance Co. This fine property will undergo several important alterations before the owners take up their quarters in it. The liquidators of the Exchange Bank, who have removed to 11 Hospital street, expect shortly to be able to declare a dividend.

Advices from Boston reported a fairly active demand for wool last week, and prices for fine descriptions were steadily maintained, Ohio and Pennsylvania selling at 33½c to 37½c per lb., Michigan and Wisconsin at 29c to 31½c, and Territory at 18c to 24c. The aggregate sales for week ending Sep. 13 were 2,954,215 lbs, against 2,875,712 lbs the week previous, and 3,256,300

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lbs for the corresponding period last year. The total sales of wool in Boston since January 1, 1884, have been 88,551,229 lbs., against 87,965,745 lbs. for the corresponding period of 1883, a decrease of 2,414,516 pounds.

From advices received from English cable markets they do not vary much from those received a week ago the best American and Canadian cattle selling at 16c per lb., sinking the offal. At Glasgow the markets were easier, and American cattle were reported as selling at 14½c to 15c per lb., but shippers are not anticipating much, if any, advance in prices for Canadian stock for some weeks to come, as at this season of the year, especially September and October, the markets depend much upon the home supplies of grass-fed cattle, many being brought into the Liverpool and Glasgow markets from the surrounding country.

THE CONTINENTAL TRADE.—Of late there has been an enquiry for wheat from Antwerp, and a sale has just been put through of 16,000 bushels on p.t. but known to be at a better price than English buyers are prepared to pay. Since this sale was made, a party here has been asked to make a firm offer of 64,000 bushels to a continental house, which it is thought may result in business. These enquiries are believed to be on account of short contracts made some time ago at much higher prices. It is known that a prominent merchant in Antwerp sold a large quantity of red winter wheat early in the season for future delivery at 22 francs, which he has since bought in at 19 francs, and is now delivering it at a big profit. It is said that he has already filled in 1,500,000 bushels of his contracts, upon which he realizes a handsome fortune. It is estimated that his total gains this season on selling wheat for future delivery aggregate close upon a million dollars.

Advices from Philadelphia state:—There is considerable shading from the circular prices for coal; tolls are lower than usual for this season of the year, and freights have never been lower than at present. Captains complain that to take cargoes at ruling rates is not only profitless but an actual loss. Another week's stoppage of mining in this month now seems inevitable. If the "combination" would at an early date determine upon another week's suspension before October 1st, to be followed by one week in October, one week in November and two weeks in December, it would most likely hasten an improvement in the trade. The total amount of anthracite coal sent to market for the week ending September 6, as reported by the several carrying companies, was 51,408 tons, compared with 717,529 tons in the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 666,061 tons.

THE Chicago lumber market was reported last week as follows by the *Northwestern Lumberman*: Prices at all points are still demoralized. The disposition to unload is all the time manifest without any pretense of modesty in the avowal. Salesmen offer low prices as the principal inducement to buyers. There is even competition between sellers in the offer of low prices, which must incidentally tend to demoralization. The prevailing urgency to sell is, to a great extent, the result of the necessity on the part of dealers to obtain funds. A dragging trade throughout the season, and meagre profits on sales, have reduced the bank balances of many dealers to the minimum. Stocks on hand must, in many instances, be sacrificed to meet maturing demands. There can be no hope of stronger prices while this state of things exists. The only salvation of dealers is to go slow about stocking up. The unfortunate part of this condition is that the retail yard man catches the infection, and also refuses to stock up, although his trade may be good.