

price that will pay a better profit than any other product, and the demand for which will always exceed all we can produce in Canada.

In view of the importance of the subject, and the great necessity that exists for more information, we gladly give place to the following excellent and practical suggestions which have been kindly furnished us by Messrs. Cowan & Anderson, of this city, extensive dealers and shippers of provisions:—

"Casks.—Farmers and storekeepers should observe, when they get casks from a cooper, whether they are smooth inside, and be sure to get all in-qualides removed before beginning to pack. Casks should be steeped for 24 hours in cold water, scoured thoroughly with salt and water after, then rinsed out with hot water. A second washing with salt and cold water should be given just as the cask is to be packed; casks should be made of white oak or white ash, and perfectly seasoned. On getting the cask ready for the butter, a handful of powdered Liverpool salt should be put in the bottom, a white cloth—entirely free from starch—thrown over it. When packed, another cloth should be put on—made a little large—and pushed down the sides of the butter all round; another handful of salt laid on top, the end put in by a cooper, and no nails of any kind put into the hoops.

"Hoops should be narrow, and seven or eight put on each end; round hoops are always the best for butter casks.

"Butter—the moment it comes into store in lumps,—should be kept entirely from the air; a covered trough is the best for this. It ought to be packed every second or third day; the colours should be arranged before packing. On no account let any milky butter into a cask, or it is spoiled. In order to mix the butter properly a machine should be used, except a person accustomed to packing can be got. Powdered Liverpool salt is the proportion of 1 oz. per lb. should be used—never more; wooden spoons and a beetle should be used in packing into kegs; the hand should not touch the butter from the time it comes into store. All imperfect butter ought to be packed by itself and sold separately. Packed butter ought to be turned at least once a week; that is, the other end of the keg turned up.

"Storekeepers should adopt the English system of paying for butter according to quality; there it is often 31 to 4d per lb. on kegs in the same store. Were the above system adopted, careless butter makers would improve.

"If the above instructions are carefully attended to, storekeepers' butter will be worth about as much as dairy in any Canadian or United States market.

"Storekeepers need never expect to realize remunerative prices for butter while they pack so carelessly. When butter goes into any first-class market, its character is generally known by the imperfection of the first two or three kegs. No butter is bought until thoroughly inspected. Sooner or later bad butter is found out, and a depreciated price adopted. Canadian

butter is, for this reason, much lower in British markets than United States. Here are the quotations in Glasgow on Dec. 11:—United States, first quality, 80s to 90s; Canadian, first quality, 67s to 80s."

THE WOOL TRADE.

A constant increase in the growth of wool all over Canada, is the most gratifying circumstance of the business. Notwithstanding a much larger number of markets in all directions, and an increased number of buyers, the increase in receipts at this point is considerable, and there is no question that the total product of Canada shows a large augmentation. The demand for the coarser grades of wool has been very active, and the price relatively much higher than for the finer descriptions,—so that if the crop in Canada was susceptible of improvement, there would be no encouragement in that direction. The great bulk of the wool—nearly all of that pulled in the early part of the season, finds a market in the United States, and last year very high prices were realized, in consequence of the scarcity of cotton and the great demand for coarse cloths for military purposes. The demand from this quarter has been very steady at full prices,—much more steady than in the previous year, when speculation ran the rates up to a false value. The greater part of the fleece wool was bought by our local manufacturers, who cull the best from it for their heavy tweeds, and export the coarser portions of it to Boston, where it is exchanged for a finer quality.

Prices at the early part of the season opened pretty high, the best wools being bought from farmers at 30c, an advance of 10c over the same date in the year previous. The rate kept firm with slight upward tendency, and during the early part of June, the great bulk of the crop was bought at 32c, with a few purchases toward the end of that month at 35c per lb. In July the current rate was 33c, and throughout that month this figure was freely paid. Toward the end of the season, a very great rise took place, as in the year previous, and in August prices steadily advanced till they reached 47c @ 48c per lb.,—the highest rate ever realized by farmers in the history of the trade in Canada.

The following are the principal dealers in provisions at this point:—

A. M. Smith & Co.,	Wm. Davis & Co.,
Cowan & Anderson,	Neil Johnson,
Duff & Thompson,	W. Cull,
R. Jaffray & Co.,	K. H. Ramsey.
Wm. Ramsey,	

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