

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

Wheat opened dull on Monday and continued so during the day, prices receding gradually. May opened at 81½c and June at 81c. The slight decrease of 1,100,000 bushels in the visible supply was a source of weakness. Corn held firm. Oats were neglected, and pork likewise. Closing prices were :

	Mar.	May.
Wheat	75½	81
Corn	33½	39
Oats	23½	28½
Pork	20.10	20.50
Lard	7.30	7.40
Short Ribs	7.77½	7.87½

The markets were stagnant on Tuesday, with prices tending downward. Provisions with the exception of pork, were the most active on the list. Ribs advanced 15 to 20c, and lard 7½ to 10c per 100 pounds. May trades in pork were frequently squared, on a basis of \$21. Closing prices were :

	Mar.	May.
Wheat	75½	81½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24	29½
Pork	20.60	21.00
Lard	7.37½	7.47½
Short Ribs	7.95	8.07½

The dilapidated state of the market continued on Wednesday, consequently there was little change in prices. - Export clearances were good, and there is abundance evidence that prices are on an export basis, but there seemed to be a general disposition to let things alone. May opened at 81½c, reached 81½c, sold down to 81c and closed ¾c better. June closed at 80½c, and July at 80c. Provisions dull. Closing prices were :

	Mar.	May.
Wheat	75½	81½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24	29½
Pork	20.60	21.00
Lard	7.30	7.37½
Short Ribs	7.75	7.87½

Dulness continued to rule in the wheat market on Thursday. May opened at 80½c, and only reached ¾c above that figure and ¾c below the opening. Foreign markets were dull, and exporters advised that prices would go lower. The clique supposed to be operating the May deal, kept well in the background, only occasionally adding a little to their pile. Provisions were dull in a speculative way, and pork entirely neglected. Closing prices were :

	Mar.	May.
Wheat	75½	80½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24	29½
Pork	20.60	21.00
Lard	7.30	7.37½
Short Ribs	7.85	7.95

Wheat remained dull and featureless on Friday, with but a narrow range in values. May opened at 80½c, reached 80½c upward, and 80½c downward. June opened at 80 and closed at 79½c. July closed at 79½c. Sept., at 79½c, Dec., at 82½c. Exports were moving steadily, shippers buying on breaks to a liberal extent. All other speculative commodities were dull. Closing prices were :

	Mar.	May.
Wheat	75	80½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	23½	28½
Pork	20.60	21.00
Lard	7.27½	7.35
Short Ribs	7.82½	7.95

Wheat took a move upward on Saturday. May opened ¼c above Friday's close, which proved to be the lowest price of the day. The top reached was 81½c, June closed at 80½c, July at 80c. Provisions were dull generally, and pork without a single change. Closing prices were :

	Mar.	May.
Wheat	70½	81½
Corn	—	39½
Oats	—	28½
Pork	20.60	21.00
Lard	—	7.40
Short Ribs	—	—

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

Duluth opened strong on Monday, with little property for sale. It seemed the general opinion that prices here would gain on Chicago. Stocks showed an increase of 21,291 bushels, with 40 cars on track. A large amount of flour is also being stored here for the opening of navigation, and it is said combined stocks of grain and flour here will be sufficient to supply about half the available fleet during the coming season. The total of wheat in store is placed at 10,362,577 bushels, including 141,000 bushels afloat. The features of the market during the week were dulness and narrowness in the range of values. Closing prices for No. 1 hard on each day were :

	Cash	May.	June
Monday	—	79½	—
Tuesday	—	79½	—
Wednesday	—	79½	80½
Thursday	—	78½	79½
Friday	—	78½	79½
Saturday	—	79½	80½

TORONTO.

WHEAT

The market opened dull on Monday, with lower prices than had been ruling at the close of the previous week. On Monday No. 2 fall sold at 81½c. On Thursday No. 2 fall was held at 81 to 82c, and No. 2 spring at the same.

FLOUR.

Small sales of superior at \$3.55, and extra at \$3.45.

OATMEAL.

Cars sold at \$3.60 to \$3.65, with small lots held at \$3.75 to \$4.25, the latter for granulated.

OATS

Have sold at a considerable range in value. Light usually brought about 32c, and choice 32½ to 33c.

POTATOES.

Cars on track brought 75c, with 80 to 90c per bag paid on market.

APPLES.

No sales of car lots reported. On the market prices ranged from \$2.50 to \$3.25 for good to choice fruit.

BUTTER

Choice dairy has gone off at 20 to 21c. One lot of 50 tubs medium sold at 17c. Rolls in large supply, at from 15 to 17c, with poor at 12c.

EGGS

Case lots held at 15 to 16c.

CURED MEATS.

Hams, 11½ to 12½c, according to quantity taken, with some holding small lots at 12½c. Long clear bacon in tons, 8½c; cases, 8½ to 9c; Cumberland, 8½; rolls, 8½c for short and 9½c for long; bellies, 10 to 11c, the latter price for smoked. Pork, \$16 for small lots.

LARD

A car of mixed tubs and tinnets sold at 9½c, and a car small pails at 10c. Small lots, 10 to 10½c for pails.

DRESSED HOGS

Only offered on the market, where \$6.50 to \$6.75 is paid.

DRIED APPLES

Very scarce; trade lots sell at 6c; evaporated almost out of the market, and held at 13½ to 14c.

HIDES AND SKIN

Following are quotations: Hides, No. 1 in speckled steers, \$7.00; No. 1 inspected cows \$7.00; No. 2 inspected, \$6.00; No. 3 inspected \$5.00; calfskins, green, 7 to 9c; calfskins, cured 11 to 12c; sheepskins, green, 75c to \$1.35 wool, super, 22 to 34c; extra super, 28c; wool pickings, 9 to 10c; tallow, rough, 2c; rendered 4 to 4½c.

LIVE STOCK

Trade in butchers' cattle has ruled rather slow this week; the demand has been good and the run light, but sellers have been holding at prices above buyers' views. Transactions were made on a firmer basis of prices than prevailed last week; yesterday offerings were pretty well cleared out by the evening; two loads went to Buffalo and several to Montreal; picked lots sold at 3½c per pound, with the general run of good cattle at 3 to 3½c, and common at 2 to 2½c.

Annexation—Reciprocity.

"The reaction produced by the ill-timed agitation of the fishery question in its most offensive form at Washington has been as fatal to the cause of the separatists of Nova Scotia as to the tariff reformers of the rest of the Dominion. While it is not our business to pat Canadian secessionists on their backs, we certainly have no reason to rejoice at the defeat of that faction in any part of Canada which sustains the policy of withdrawal from confederation. Secession from the Dominion, for any reason whatever, might prove the precursor of annexation to the United States by those natural and peaceful methods which alone could render a union of the two countries desirable. This happy consummation is now all the longer deferred by that result of the Dominion elections to which American politicians have so stupidly and wantonly contributed."—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

Cotton Seed Lard.

The intimate relations existing between cotton-seed oil and lard are getting to be as close as the relations between lard and butterine. It is found that commercial lard cannot be profitably manufactured when an enemy controls the cotton-seed oil supply. It is rumored that a prominent Chicago man is not only obtaining possession of all the lard there, but that his agents are quietly buying up all that can be found at the smaller points in Canada, with some in the United States. While he is obtaining control of the lard market another man is getting the advantage in the cotton-seed oil market and is said to be able to dictate prices to the Chicago dealer on the large quantities of oil that he must use in his business. On the other hand the oil controller will have to buy a great deal of lard and it is needless to predict that he will have to pay roundly therefor. It is probably that some of the smaller dealers will suffer by the conflict.—*Ex.*