

Commercial.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE OFFICE,
London, Ont., Oct. 1st, 1883.

September has been an extremely dry month, so much so that very many farmers have been unable to plow for fall wheat. The result of this is that the acreage sown this fall in Ontario is much smaller than for many years.

The frost has done its share of mischief this month. The damage in some sections is really serious. Corn, beans, clover, and some fruits have been seriously injured in many sections.

WHEAT.

It is now pretty generally admitted that the wheat crop in the principal countries producing that cereal will this year yield in the neighborhood of 250,000,000 bushels less grain in the aggregate than was gathered in the preceding year. Of this shortage, the United States may be debited with 100,000,000 bushels; France, 80,000,000; England, 12,000,000, and Germany, Italy, Austro-Hungary and other portions of Southeastern Europe, together with Australasia, may fairly be charged with the remaining 58,000,000 bushels required to make up the deficit of 250,000,000 bushels estimated. In view of this immense shortage, a great many have readily jumped to the conclusion that prices would speedily advance, and have, therefore, bought freely for distant future delivery. But instead of prices advancing, they have receded, much to the confusion of these representatives of what, for the want of a better term, may be called surface opinion. Keeping in sight the deficiency of this year's harvest only, they overlook what will, no doubt, prove the chief price factor in the markets for the next few months, namely, the very heavy accumulation of supplies in the United Kingdom during the past twelve months. Their imports during that period have been upward of 20,000,000 quarters net, which, with a crop of 10,000,000 quarters raised at home in 1882, gave them a total supply of foreign and native wheat in 1882-83 of over 30,000,000 quarters. Allowing 1,000,000 quarters for seed and tail grain in that year, it will readily be seen that if the consumption of their population of 35,000,000 souls is only 5½ bushels per capita per annum, or 24,000,000 quarters, there must have been added to their reserves during the past cereal year some 5,000,000 quarters, or 40,000,000 bushels of wheat. In France 100,000,000 hectolitres, or about 275,000,000 bushels, have in former years been considered a fair average crop, and with an average she then exported as much as she imported. Last year the French crop was returned by the government at 122,000,000 hectolitres, or say 60,000,000 bushels above an average, and as the net imports for 1882-83 have been some 40,000,000 bushels, the question is very naturally suggested, what has become of this apparent excess of crop and imports, amounting together to 100,000,000 bushels? Although the increase of population in France is slower than in any other European country, the consumption of wheat there is not only undoubtedly considerable greater in quantity than five or ten years ago, but also per capita, and it is not at all likely that any such quantity as 100,000,000 bushels has been added to her reserves during the past year. But, assuming that it is only 50,000,000 bushels, even this quantity, with the 40,000,000 bushels of extra stock accumulated by the United Kingdom, would give these two chief importing countries 90,000,000 bushels of wheat with which to engage in the battle of price at the opening of the present campaign, and it is a weapon which those countries will not fail to use to restrain and depress the markets in all countries until reduced imports wrest that weapon from their hands. The crop in Ontario is a long way short of last year, and in our opinion there is not wheat enough for home consumption, and the Province trade and our millers will have to either import from the States, or ship from Manitoba. The result of this will be that our farmers will get the benefit of the duty over western wheat growers. Spring wheat all through Ontario has done remarkably well, and the sample is extremely fine. Those who have good samples and pure will do well to hold them for seed.

is rather dull and little doing. The change in the U. S. tariff has crippled the malsters, who are idle and likely to be so, as the duty as it now stands is about prohibitory.

BARLEY

This crop has been very much damaged with the frost. The summer being so cool, kept the corn back, and being some two or three weeks later than usual, the result has been serious. The crop has not suffered to any serious extent in the States.

CORN.

have suffered in like manner as the corn, and all that were not ripe were completely spoiled, and are useless.

BEANS

POTATOES

are coming out of the ground much better than any one expected. There were some very fine loads on the London market Saturday last, and prices are much easier.

HOGS.

The Pittsburgh Stockman says: "The hog market continues to fluctuate more or less as the season advances, but, as has frequently been intimated in these columns, its course is steadily downward. No great change is expected within the next sixty days, but at the end of that time, when the winter packing season opens, a further shrinkage is likely to take place. Both dealers and producers may as well look the probabilities in the face, and govern themselves accordingly. The causes bearing on the hog market have often been enumerated in these columns, and in stating the probability of lower prices in November than in September, we are only repeating what observation has shown to be true of the average season. It is foreshadowed that a larger total of hogs will be marketed this winter than for several years past."

APPLES

are more plentiful than was at one time supposed, and there will, we think, be plenty for home use. The export trade will be light, and shipments will have to be carefully selected.

CHEESE

keeps very quiet, and buyers and sellers are apart in their views. The shipments from Montreal have been a long way in excess of any previous year, being some 180,000 boxes more than same date last year.

BUTTER.

Choice lots are picked up at good prices, but we fancy there is a lot of butter lying about the country in hands of farmers and dealers. What will be the price for such, time will tell.

FARMERS' MARKET.

LONDON, ONT., Oct. 6, 1883.

Per 100 lbs			
Red wheat...	\$1 70 to \$1 85	Eggs, small lots	20 to 21
Deihl.....	1 60 to 1 75	Potatoes, bag	0 85 to 1 00
Treadwell...	1 70 to 1 80	Apples.....	0 50 to 0 80
Clawson.....	1 50 to 1 60	Roll butter....	18 to 22
Corn.....	1 15 to 1 30	Tub ".....	15 to 16
Oats.....	1 00 to 1 05	Crook ".....	17 to 20
Barley.....	1 00 to 1 12	Cheese, lb.....	10 to 11
Peas.....	1 10 to 1 20	Onions, bag....	0 70 to 1 00
Poultry (Dressed).....	0 35 to 0 50	Tallow, clear..	7 to 8
Chickens, pair	0 40 to 0 60	Lard, per lb....	13 to 14
Ducks, pair..	0 75 to 1 25	Wool.....	17 to 20
Turkeys, each	0 75 to 1 25	Clover seed....	0 00 to 0 00
Poultry (Undressed).....	0 30 to 0 50	Timothy seed..	0 00 to 0 00
Live Stock.....		Hay, per ton	9 00 to 11 00
Milch cows....	40 00 to 60 00	Beans per bush	1 25 to 1 50

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

TORONTO, Ont., Oct. 6, 1883.

Wheat, fall No. 1	\$1 10 to \$1 14	Chickens, pair.	0 45 to 0 60
Wheat, spring	1 05 to 1 14	Fowls, pair....	0 60 to 0 80
Barley.....	0 58 to 0 68	Ducks, brace..	0 50 to 0 70
Oats.....	0 38 to 0 42	Geese.....	0 00 to 0 00
Peas.....	0 75 to 0 80	Turkeys.....	1 00 to 2 00
Flour.....	5 00 to 5 25	Butter, roll....	0 20 to 0 22
Rye.....	0 00 to 0 00	Butter, dairy..	0 17 to 0 18
Potatoes, bag..	0 75 to 0 90	Eggs, fresh....	0 22 to 0 24
Apples, brl....	2 00 to 2 50	Wool, per lb....	0 17 to 0 20
Tomatoes, pk..	0 20 to 0 25	Hay.....	7 00 to 9 00
Beans, bu.....	1 25 to 1 50	Straw.....	0 00 to 0 00
Onions, peck..	0 00 to 0 00	Hogs.....	8 00 to 8 00

MONTREAL, Oct. 4.

Ont Oatmeal...	5 25 to 5 35	Butter.....	
Cornmeal.....	3 25 to 3 50	East'n Tp's..	18 to 21
Butter.....		Morrisburg..	17 to 20
Butter.....		Brookville..	17 to 20
Butter.....		Western.....	13 to 15
Butter.....		Mess pork....	14 50 to 15 00
Butter.....		Lard.....	11 10 to 13
Butter.....		Hams.....	14 to 17
Butter.....		Bacon.....	13 to 00
Butter.....		Cheese.....	10 to 11 1/2

LIVE-STOCK MARKETS

BRITISH MARKETS, PER CABLE.
Liverpool, Oct. 1, 1883.

CATTLE.

The cattle market during the week has been rather sluggish and weak at the decline of last week.

	Cents @ lb
Choice steers.....	15
Good steers.....	14 1/2
Medium steers.....	13 1/2
Inferior and bulls.....	10 to 12

SHEEP.

Prices during the week have not changed. The market is slow at the recent decline.

	Cents @ lb
Best long woolled.....	@ 16
Seconds.....	14 @ 15 1/2
Merinos.....	13 @ 15
Inferior and rams.....	11 @ 12

[These prices are for estimated dead weight; offal is not reckoned.]

East Buffalo, N. Y., Oct. 6.

Beeves—Receipts to-day, 1,400 head; consigned through, 250 cars: market fairly active and prices a shade higher; fair to good shippers, \$5.25 to \$5.55; choice, \$5.95. Sheep and lambs—Receipts to-day, 1,400 head; nothing done except sale of one load of mixed sheep and lambs at \$5.55; feeling stronger.

Montreal, Oct. 1.—At Acer & Kenned's yards the receipts of shipping cattle were fair and met a moderate demand at steady prices, viz: 5c. to 5½c. per lb, live weight. Sheep were quiet and steady at 3½c. to 5c. per lb, live weight. At Viger market the receipts were about 80 head of butchers' cattle, all of a good quality, no inferior being offered, and met a good demand, the entire receipts being disposed of at \$38 to \$55 per head. There were about 400 heads of sheep and lambs, prices ranging at \$4 to \$8 per head for sheep, and \$3 to \$4 for lambs, as to quality.

CHEESE MARKET.

Liverpool, 1st Oct. (per cable)—Cheese 56s. 6d.
Utica, N. Y., Oct. 1, 1883.

We have had a booming market to-day, every one being anxious to secure a portion of the early September make. Transactions for the day are as follows: Six lots, 700 boxes, at 11½c.; 60 boxes at 11½c.; 56 lots, 5,350 boxes, at 11½c.; 4 lots, 830 boxes, half small cheese, at 11½c.; 22 lots, 2,650 boxes, at 12c.; 4 lots 392 boxes, at 12½c.; 98 boxes, at 12½c.; 116 small cheese, at 12½c.; and 3 lots, 1,096 boxes, two lots being small at private terms. Sales 11,321 boxes; commissions 778; total 12,099 boxes. Ruling price 11½c.

Little Falls, Oct. 1, 1883.

Trade in cheese has been very active to-day, and prices show a gain of nearly one cent per pound above last week's figures. This is very encouraging to dairymen, who had been fearing from the recent slack markets that cheese was not going out for the balance of the season as well as had been expected. Very few of the factories have any of the August make now on hand. Following are the transactions:

Lots	Boxes	Price.
14.....	913	11 1/2
84.....	8,018	11 1/2
2.....	100	12 1/2
3.....	292	12 1/2
11.....	1,111	12 1/2
114	10,434	12 1/2

Special Notices.

The Ontario Veterinary College, Prof. A. Smith, Principal, opens at Toronto on the 24th Oct., and as usual will attract a large attendance.

H. S. Anderson, Cayuga Lake nurseries, Union Springs, N. Y. Price list of small fruits. The Tyler raspberry was introduced, and has added to the good name of these nurseries.

B. K. Bliss & Sons, New York, autumn catalogue of bulbs, small fruits and garden requisites. A handsome book, quite up to the firm's usual standard.

J. E. Shenill, of Danville, Ind., sends us "The Future by the Past," being a review of one-half a century, containing also considerable reading and information for farmers and others.

J. A. Simmers, Toronto, Ont., has issued a very neat descriptive catalogue of hardy Dutch flowering bulbs, florist supplies, &c. This house is well known for their choice seeds, and your custom is desired. Dried natural flowers and grasses are a specialty with them.

The 15th annual circular of Messrs. Robinson & Johnson, proprietors of the Ontario Business College, at Belleville, Ont., shows the great advantages of a business course at their college, and from the great number of students who have passed, the great extent of country from which they have been drawn—from the West Indies, from Newfoundland, Minnesota and Manitoba, besides our own neighbouring provinces, and the very flattering accounts sent back by these pupils, prove that this college is doing a good, useful work, and deserves more than the present large patronage it receives.