

Commercial.

FARMER'S ADVOCATE OFFICE,
London, April 28, 1879.

The early part of this month found the roads in an almost impassable state, and since they have settled down the fine weather has put the land in a state for cultivation, and farmers have been busy with seeding. Trade in general has been quiet, and as is usual with this season of the year, little doing.

WHEAT.

Prices have given way somewhat the past ten days, and this coupled with the very low freights now offering, has enabled shippers to fill some orders at the limits they have been able to get, which have been low. The movement of grain from the west since the 1st of January has been very large, amounting to some 19,400,000 bushels. The stocks in the west are still large, and there is a good deal still in farmers' hands.

Keene and his co-operators have arranged to carry their wheat into June. This has the effect of keeping prices steady for the time, and prevents legitimate business being done. Should the crop reports and crop prospects continue favorable up to that time, we imagine their feelings and situation will not be at all enviable. Stocks in this country are not very heavy, holders having learned a lesson last spring they will not very soon forget. We are of the opinion there is still a good deal in the hands of farmers, and would not be surprised to see some free deliveries after they are well through with their seeding. Should everything look as favorable as it does now, we think they will do well to clean out their granaries.

PEAS.

Are about done for this season, and what few remain are so scattered and such small lots that they are troublesome to get together.

BUTTER.

The wind-up of the butter trade this year has been bad, and not at all pleasant for the owners. Butter that cost from 12c. to 15c. on this side has been sold in Liverpool at from 22s. to 50s. per cwt. This is most disastrous, and will show that if farmers have been getting low prices it has not been at their expense, as very many of them think.

We note the advent of a goodly number of butter factories the coming season, and we hope their success will demonstrate clearly to the mind of every butter-maker in the land the importance of falling in with this system. Our farmers and dairymen must cultivate the habit of seeking the market, and not wait for the market to seek them. Another thing they must do, and that is make their goods to suit the tastes and markets.

CHEESE.

The bottom seems completely gone out of the cheese market. We have never in our recollection seen cheese as low at this season of the year. The stocks of old cheese are very heavy, some 100,000 boxes more than this time last year, and it is estimated there is still enough to come forward to meet all the requirements of the trade.

The same remarks on butter will apply to cheese, and the wind-up will be quite as calamitous. We know of some large lots from this section that have lately gone forward, and, which had they been sold in their proper time, would have brought 7c to 8c, but we don't believe they will now net the owners more than 4c. Prices are certainly going to stand low, and we hope that this being the case it will give the trade a steadiness and tone which it has not had for some time.

The early make will be a long way short of last year. The season is much later, and all who can

are keeping back and by so doing will do something towards helping matters by having as little hay cheese as possible. Factorymen cannot be too particular about the class of goods they make, and we think the fact of making choice goods and marketing them quickly has been pretty clearly demonstrated both by observation and experience to most of salesmen and factorymen throughout the country, and we hope they will act on this principle the coming season.

Little Falls Cheese and Butter Market.

Reported for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE by PROF. X. A. WILLARD.

LITTLE FALLS, N. Y., April 26, 1879.

Canadian dairymen, I believe, have generally kept clear of skim-cheese manufacture, and those who have done so *this year* have been fortunate, as the goods when they arrive in market will scarcely sell for enough to pay freight and commission. "Skims" have been reported in New York at from 1c to 2c per pound. At this market during April new skims have been difficult to sell at any price; and they have for the most part been sent forward on commission, and when sold the producer received but little above the cost of making and boxing. During the past month all old cheese that was back in producers' hands has been sent forward, and sold at prices ranging, for fair to good lots, from 5c to 6½c. New cheese began to come forward in small quantities during the first part of the month, but the delivery was not general until the 21st, when offerings were made from a considerable number of factories. The market all through April may be characterized as *weak*. Buyers have been present in good force at this market, but they have been cautious in their selections and have bought *sparingly*, preferring to take goods on commission. Good full milk cheese from our best factories have sold at 6c, while every day cheese—the cream taken from the night's milk only—brought from 4c to 5c. Where sales have been effected, they have, for the most part, been made to parties who bought to fill orders for the home trade. Farm dairy cheese, when *meaty and of good flavor*, has ranged from 5c to 5½c. All low grades and inferior sorts, whether of farm or factory make, have been hard to sell, and the prices bid have been so low that salesmen generally have preferred to send forward the goods on commission and take the chances as to price.

Butter has been in brisk demand during April, the range of prices the first part of the month running from 16c to 22c, but during the last half of the month prices dropped to from 14c to 16c for fair to good lots. There has been a large weekly delivery of butter from "farm dairies," and sales have been quick and the market active during the entire month.

It is too early in the season to forecast trade in the new crop; but leading buyers and those well acquainted with the markets, agree in the opinion that prices, the coming season, must rule lower than last year—except in case of drouth or other causes to cut off production. New York dairymen will sell all goods as fast as they are ready for market, as this plan, for a series of years, has proved most remunerative.

Late advices from London, England, state that English cheese is unprecedentedly slow. Dutch cheese is quiet. There is an extra demand for American cheese at the reduction of 2s to 3s per cwt. Prices are as follows: American faultless, 50s to 52s; fine, 46s to 48s; good, 36s to 42s; common grades, 20s to 30s per cwt. English Cheddar, 70s to 78s; Scotch, 44s to 56s; Cheshire medium, 46s to 56s per cwt.

BUTTER.

For all sorts of secondary butter there is no sale. Dorsets bring 160s, Jersey 90s to 112s, Danish 130s, American and Canadian 40s to 90s, and creamery 80s to 100s per cwt.

London Markets.

London, May 1, 1879.

GRAIN.

Per 100 lbs	Per 100 lbs
White Wheat.....\$1 60 to 1 67	Peas..... 85 to 95
Treadwell..... 1 60 to 1 67	Oats..... 1 05 to 1 15
Clawson..... 1 60 to 1 67	Rye..... 00 to 00
Red..... 1 56 to 1 62	Buckwheat..... 75 to 85
Spring..... 1 25 to 1 35	Corn..... 90 to 1 00
Barley..... 80 to 1 30	Beans..... 1 00 to 1 75

PRODUCE.

Eggs, retail..... 10 to 12	Cheese, lb..... 7 to 8
Butter..... 18 to 20	Timothy seed .. \$1 25 to 1 50
Potatoes, bag..... 1 20 to 1 30	Clover seed..... 3 40 to 3 75
Apples, per bush..... 40 to 60	Hay per ton..... 10 00
Cornmeal.....	\$1 50 to \$1 75

MEATS.

Beef, per qr..... \$3 50 to \$5 00	Mutton, lb..... 5c to 6c
Pork, per 100 lbs 5 50 to 5 75	Lamb, per lb..... 5c to 7c

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, May 1.

The market quiet, prices favoring buyers. Flour from \$4.65, the highest price for Superiors, to \$3.25; the highest price for fine pollards, \$2.60 to \$2.80; out bags, \$2.10 to \$2.16; city bags, \$2.30. Grain and provisions unchanged.

Toronto Markets.

Toronto, May 1.

Barley..... 40 to 60	Cheese..... 5 to 8½
Springwheat..... 85 to 92	Butter..... 10 to 15
R. Winter..... 90 to 95	Eggs..... 16 to 20
Treadwell..... 90 to 97	Poultry..... 50 to 60
Deihl..... 90 to 1 00	Flour..... \$3 70 to 3 95
Oats..... 36 to 38	Beef..... 4 00 to 6 55
Peas..... 60 to 66	Pork..... 5 50 to 6 00
Corn..... 40 to 42	Mutton..... 5 00 to 6 00
Potatoes, per bu. 1 00 to	Apples, per bri 1 25 to 2 00

Liverpool Markets.

Liverpool, April 28.

	s	d	s	d		s	d	s	d
Flour.....	8	6 to 10	0	0	Barley.....	5	3 to 0	0	0
Wheat, spring.	7	6 to 8	0	0	Pork.....	47	0 to 0	0	0
R. Winter.....	8	10 to 9	2	0	Lard.....	32	0 to 0	0	0
White.....	8	8 to 9	1	0	Bacon.....	26	0 to 26	0	0
Club.....	9	1 to 9	4	0	Cheese.....	41	0 to 0	0	0
Corn, cental.	4	5 to 4	5	0	Tallow.....	36	6 to 0	0	0
Oats.....	5	4 to 5	6	0	Beef.....	74	6 to 0	0	0
Peas.....	6	4 to 6	4	0					

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, May 1.

Wheat, No. 2 spring, 90c to 91c; Corn, 33½c to 34c; Oats, 25c; Rye, 48c; Barley, 64c to 65c; Pork, \$9.43 to \$9.45; Hogs, \$3.40 to \$3.65.

New York Markets.

New York, May 1.

Wheat moderately active; No. 2 Red at \$1.13; Rye, No. 2 Western, 56c; Corn, 42c to 44c; Barley dull, nominally unchanged; Oats firm, 31c to 33c; Barley, malt, \$1.30; Pork, \$10.35.

Comparative Stocks in Liverpool, 31st March, last 5 years.

BEER.	PORK.	BACON.	HAMS.	CHEESE.	BUTTER.
Tierces.	Barrels.	Boxes.	Boxes.	Boxes.	Pkgs.
1879.. 1,078 .. 1,683 .. 49,628 .. 10,892 .. 140,116 .. 18,924					
1878.. 5,230 .. 6,915 .. 49,447 .. 10,831 .. 34,727 .. 20,378					
1877.. 4,359 .. 8,906 .. 31,265 .. 7,379 .. 50,238 .. 17,911					
1876.. 11,868 .. 3,392 .. 25,410 .. 3,205 .. 47,866 .. 2,787					
1875.. 19,913 .. 8,791 .. 24,488 .. 3,084 .. 37,937 .. 9,697					

COMPARATIVE HIGHEST PRICES PER CWT., 31st MARCH, LAST 5 YEARS.

BEER.	PORK.	BACON.	HAMS.	CHEESE.	BUTTER.
Per 304 lbs.	Per 200 lbs.	Lg. clear.			
1879.. 91 3 .. 55/ .. 27 6 .. 44/ .. 44/ .. 90/					
1878.. 115/ .. 62 6 .. 28/ .. 41/ .. 66/ .. 115/					
1877.. 97 6 .. 75/ .. 39 0 .. 52 6 .. 73/ .. 120/					
1876.. 125 .. 95/ 66/ .. 63/ .. 130/					
1875.. 122 6 .. 85/ 60/ .. 74/ .. 106/					

FAIRS FOR 1879.—TIME AND PLACE WANTED.—Several announcements of fairs and premium lists have already come to hand, and we make our usual request to the secretaries, or executive officers of the various societies, to inform us of the fair as soon as its date is determined. We would suggest to societies the importance of fixing upon the date early in the season and issuing the schedule of prizes; if this is left until within a few weeks of the fair, the work is often hurriedly done, and those who would compete for those premiums that require preparations in advance, are deprived of the opportunity for doing so.

The Winnipeg Free Press says that an excursion of leading Ontario business men will be organized in Toronto to visit Manitoba during May or June.