

MINNEAPOLIS.

It has been a rather dull week on 'change. Receipts were light, shipments heavy, and the heavy receivers were compelled to look else where for buyers, so that the tide of wheat, particularly from the southern sections of the Minneapolis belt, has been turned towards Milwaukee and Chicago. The railroad side tracks here have been full of wheat laden cars all the week, and relief from this condition will be slight for some time, if present indications are to be relied upon. It is believed in well posted circles that the rush from the country is pretty well over. Duluth will get rather heavy shipments for a time, but the country elevators are now inclined to fill up and earn storage rather than ship as fast as they buy. Some lines have been doing this for the past fortnight, but freer marketing has hidden the fact from the general view. There has been an increase of about 50 per cent in the number of elevators, this year as compared with last year, and this affords an enormous storage capacity. The elevator owners believe that the bulk of the wheat now in farmers' hands will be held for higher prices, and that they must fill their houses as soon as possible to be sure of winter storage charges. The cream of the crop in the southern section has been brought here. What now goes elsewhere will be mainly of the lower grades, and even if this were not so, there is an ample supply of choice wheat for the use of the mills the rest of the crop year.

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'change during the week ending to day, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

				Nov. 26.
Wheat.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	1884
No. 1 hard	90	87	87	70 3/4
" 1 northern	85 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2	65
" 2	80	77	77	60

Futures have been weaker since Thursday, with 1 hard, December, selling down from 90 1/2 to 87 1/2c, and May from 98 3/4 to 97c; December 1 northern from 85 1/2c to 83c, and January from 88 to 83 1/2c. Coarse grains were dull, corn closing at 42 to 43c, oats at 28 to 29c, barley, by sample at 45 to 77c, and rye at 49 to 51c.

MILLSTUFF. — Has been in very good demand, with many heavy shippers skirmishing actively for supplies at the close of the week, a scarcity being reported because of the shutting down of mills. Bulk bran closing at \$7.25 to \$7.50 and shorts at \$8 to \$9 per ton.

FLOUR.—The cause of the very general closing down of the mills being the dullness of the flour market, and the very low range of values it is unnecessary to state the condition thereof. Foreign offers by cable and mail range fully 5c below the prices ruling when wheat was selling in Chicago at 80c. hence no business can be done abroad. Domestic markets are well stocked, and the country is buying only to meet consumptive wants. There has been no margin in sight for some weeks and the fact that the absolute loss on every barrel sold has grown to a figure which exceeds the loss entailed by idleness, compels a stoppage of pro

duction. It is doubtful if any general resumption will take place before the holidays, under present conditions abroad and at home, although there may be spasmodic running to fill pressing orders which will yield the cost of production, or to keep up stocks in certain grades.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.85 to \$5.05 straights \$4.50 to 4.75; first bakers', \$3.85 to 4.00; second bakers', \$3.25 to 3.30; best low grades, \$2.10 to \$2.25, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.60 in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 3c per bbl for 280 and 110 lb jute bags, 20c for 93lb cotton sacks, 15c for 49lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24lb cotton sacks, and 20c for 49lb paper sacks.

The much discussed question as to whether the mills would shut down has finally been answered in the affirmative, and in a most emphatic manner. The advance in eastern freights went into effect Monday, and was the last straw that the mills could stand. Several mills did not start up at all Monday, and by Wednesday half the milling capacity of the city was idle, while the remainder was preparing to close down before Thursday morning. Thus Thanksgiving passed without a single mill in operation. Friday and Saturday there will be in operation four mills with a combined capacity of 2,725 bbls, but 2,000 bbls or more of this will probably be cut off next week. This will come the nearest to complete idleness for the mills that has ever occurred since Minneapolis assumed any importance as milling center. This state of affairs has not been brought about by concerted action, as some designing parties would make it appear, but by score of circumstances, Monday's advance in freights leaving the miller no other alternative than to stop grinding. The duration of the embargo on operations here is a matter upon which few millers are willing to hazard a definite opinion. They feel that it depends altogether upon how soon the situation changes so as to permit milling without a loss. The flour production last week was 142,651 bbls—averaging 23,775 bbls daily—against, 141,650 bbls the preceding week and 126,740 bbls for the corresponding time in 1884. The output for the current week will be about 76,000 bbls. There is practically no flour market, though there are some offers at prices entailing a loss to the mills of 10 to 20c per bbl. Those best qualified to speak state there will be no general resumption of grinding until after New Year's, unless prices of flour improve or freight rates are reduced.

The following were the receipts at and shipments from Minneapolis for the weeks ending on the dates given:

	RECEIPTS.		
	Nov. 24.	Nov. 17.	Nov. 10.
Wheat, bus	935,760	1,000,720	1,213,520
Flour, bbls	875	380	500
Millstuff, tons	150	174	57

	SHIPMENTS.		
	Nov. 24.	Nov. 17.	Nov. 10.
Wheat, bus	185,920	94,080	145,600
Flour, bbls	158,237	122,470	143,443
Millstuff, tons	3,574	4,395	4,168

The wheat in store in Minneapolis elevators, as well as the stock at St. Paul and Duluth, is shown in the appended table:

MINNEAPOLIS.

	Nov. 23.	Nov. 16.
No. 1 hard	2,162,634	2,006,333
No. 2 hard	7,078	7,078
No. 1	51,934	51,934
No. 1 Northern	1,636,138	1,492,459
No. 2	7,435	7,436
No. 2 Northern	789,759	676,386
No. 3	10,603	57,487
Rejected	87,438	126,276
Special bins	1,083,330	1,047,967
Total	5,845,349	5,473,346

ST. PAUL.

	Nov. 25	Nov. 18.	Nov. 11.
in elevators,			
bush	1,025,000	892,000	852,000

DULUTH.

	Nov. 23	Nov. 16.	Nov. 9.
In store, bush	2,146,680	2,003,908	2,011,260

—Northwestern Miller.

CHICAGO.

The opening of the wheat market this week was weak and prices were lower, the weakness being largely due to fears of larger receipts and increased movement in the Northwest, while there was some rather free selling, considerable "long" wheat having been sold off. Foreign advices were less encouraging to holders, quoting a quiet feeling. There was also a probability of a peaceful settlement of the foreign difficulties, this being particularly noticed in the rise of securities in different European countries. Another weakening factor being the weakness of the market at New York with increased stocks at that place. During almost each day of the week the business transacted was large, but at times at a material decline in prices, the influences being all more or less of a character to cause weakness there being apparently a general unloading of wheat. At one time the advance made in both corn and provisions assisted to strengthen wheat, but this did not last long. Corn though firm at times was on the whole rather quiet and suffered a decline in sympathy with wheat. Oats were easy, and pork and lard were anything but firm. Considerable interest was centered in this market, trading being quite active but prices as a rule were at a decline each day.

On Monday the wheat market opened lower, became weak and declined, owing to the fears of large receipts and increased movement in the Northwest, which influenced rather free selling and bringing out considerable "long" wheat. Foreign advices were also less encouraging to holders, foreign securities being higher, and a possibility of a peaceful settlement being arrived at. Corn opened steady, but broke off rapidly under free offerings, influenced by large receipts and the depression in wheat. Oats were dull. In pork a fair trade was reported, and under the influence of a good demand price were steady. Lard was moderate and steady. Closing quotations were:

	Nov.	Dec.
Wheat	\$0.87 3/4	\$0.87 1/2
Corn	42 1/2	41
Oats	28	28 1/2
Pork	8.95	8.95
Lard	6.15	6.15