

**BUSINESS AT TORONTO.**

Special to The Commercial.

Toronto, Jan. 4.—Business in Ontario has been interfered with this week by soft weather. A regular thaw set in at the first of the week and the country roads are now very bad at most sections, which makes it more difficult for travellers to get about among customers. The Canadian woollen mills are very busy and are firm on many lines. Hardware is in good demand; the prospects are that the building trade the coming season will be more active here than for several years. The decision to shorten credits is generally well received by the trade and it is believed the terms will be generally adhered to. Groceries are meeting with a good demand. The feature this week was a reduction in the prices of all Canadian refined sugars of 1-3c. It is not very clear why this reduction was made. The outside markets are strong and the situation is promising. If the European countries that now pay an export bounty on sugars, adopt the proposals to abolish bounties, local dealers say that we shall see higher prices for sugars here as the change would practically make it impossible for the foreign sugars to come into Canada. The manufacturers of Canadian printed goods are somewhat exercised over the importation of United States goods into Canada at low prices. These goods seem to be meeting with a good reception and the importations are likely to increase. There has been an active demand for investment securities this week, with sharp advances in C. P. R., Toronto Railway and Montreal Street Railway stocks. The increase of 25 per cent in the dividend of the latter from 8 to 10 per cent created a big appreciation in the price of that stock.

**MONTREAL GROCERY MARKET.**

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 15.

Sugars have declined 1-3c at the refineries, owing to lower foreign advances. Other prices unchanged.

Quotations are: Granulated sugar, 4 1-4c at the refineries; yellows, 3 1-2c to 3 7-8c; imported beet granulated, 4c. Molasses 28 to 29c. Syrups 13-4 4 3-8c at the refineries; yellows, 3 5-8 to 4c Molasses 28 to 29c. Syrups 13-4 to 21-2 as to quality. Valencia raisins from 4 3-4 to 5 1-2c. Valencia layers 6 1-2c Currants, 5 1-8 to 6 1-2c as to brand. Coffee, Rio, 9c to 11c. Mocha and Java, 20 to 24c.

Canned goods.—Tomatoes, \$1.20 to \$1.25; corn, 90c to \$1; peas, 90c to \$1.

**MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.**

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 15.

The market to-day for cattle was strong and prices were 1-4c higher. Choice cattle were scarce, and in fair demand from shippers. Choice cattle brought 4 1-2c; hood 4c to 4 1-4c; fair, 3 1-4c to 3 3-4c; common, 2 1-4c to 2 3-4c and inferior 2c. Lambs advanced 1-4c to 1-2c, to 4 1-2c to 5c. Sheep firm at 3 1-4c to 3 1-2c.

Montreal, January 15.

The live stock market has been quiet and steady and without change in prices. Quotations are as follows:

Cattle—Choice, 4 1-4; fair to good, 3 to 4c.

Sheep—3 to 3 1-2c per lb.

Hogs—5 to 5 1-4c.

**MONTREAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.**

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 15.

The full advance in oats has not been maintained. Sales were made as high as 28 1-2c during the week, but to-day 27 1-2 to 28c is quoted. Millfeed is firm. Eggs have advanced, owing to small supplies. Dressed hogs easy. Butter rather easier. Hides scarce.

Oats—No. 2 white 27 1-2c to 28c.

Flour—Manitoba strong bakers, \$4.90, Manitoba patents, \$5.35 to \$5.40.

Millfeed—Bran, \$10.50 to \$11 per ton. Shorts, \$11.50 to \$12.

Oatmeal—Rolled oats, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bag.

Hides—9 to 9 1-2c for No. 1.

Eggs—Candled, 13c to 19c per dozen new laid, in small lots, 22c to 24c.

Butter—Dairy, 15 to 16c.

Butter—Creamery, 19 to 19 1-4c.

Cheese—8 5-8 to 8 3-4c.

Dressed hogs—\$6 to \$6.50 per 100 pounds.

Dressed beef—Front quarters, 8 to 4c; hinds, 5 1-2 to 7c.

Dressed mutton—Lamb, 6 1-2 to 7c, mutton, 5 to 6c.

**MONTREAL HARDWARE MARKET.**

Special to The Commercial.

Montreal, January 15.

Business is quiet and prices steady. Quotations for staple lines are as follows:

White lead, government standard, \$5.37 1-2c; No. 1, \$5; dry white lead in kegs, 5c; red lead in kegs, 4 3-4c; linseed oil, raw, 43c, boiled 46c; turpentine, 48 to 49c; bar iron, \$1.35 to \$1.45; tin plates, cokes, \$2.75 to \$2.90; I. C. charcoal, \$3.25 to \$3.75; Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.15; torn plates, \$5.95 to \$6.25; galvanized iron, 4 1-4 to 4 3-4c; lead, \$3.75 to \$4; iron pipe, \$3.90 to \$4; putty in bulk, \$1.50; in bladders, \$1.65c; ingot tin, 15 1-2 to 16c.

**MINNEAPOLIS MARKETS.**

Flour is 5c to 10c higher; millfeed 25c per ton higher; corn 3-4c higher; oats 1-4c higher; feed barley 1c higher; flax seed, 2 1-2c higher; eggs firm; butter easy.

Flour—Prices in barrels: First patents, \$5 to \$5.10; second patents, \$4.85 to \$4.95.

Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$8.25 to \$8.50; bran in bulk, \$8.25 to \$8.50; corn feed, \$10.00 to \$11.00 per ton.

Corn—Quoted 25 3-4c for No. 4; 25 7-8c for No. 3; 26c for No. 3 yellow per bushel of 56 pounds.

Oats—Held at 22 3-4 for No. 3 white and 22 1-2 for No. 3 per bushel of 32 lbs.

Barley—Feed quoted at 25 1-2 to 25 3-4c.

Flax seed—\$1.18 1-2 for No. 1 per bushel.

Eggs—15 1-2 for strictly fresh, including cases; cold storage 11c to 12c.

Cheese—Choice to fancy, 8 1-2 to 10c; fair to good, 7 1-2 to 8c.

Butter—Creamery, 19 to 20c, seconds 15 to 16c, dairy 12 to 18c.

Dressed meats—Mutton, 4 to 6 1-2c; lambs, 5 to 8c; hogs, 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c for heavy and 4c for medium and light.

Potatoes—Car lots, mixed, 38 to 40c; choice, named varieties, 43 to 50c.

Poultry—Chickens, 5 to 9c; old fowls, 4 to 5c; turkeys, 7 to 10c; ducks, 8 to 9c; geese, 7 to 8c.

Hides—No. 1 green salted, 81-2c. No. 2 7 1-2c; green frozen hides, 6 1-2 to 7 1-2; bulls, oxen, brands, 5 to 6 1-2c; sheepskins, 40 to 60c; tallow, 2 1-2 to 3c.

**WINNIPEG CLEARING HOUSE.**

Clearings for the week ending January 13, for three years are as follows:

1898	\$1,614,321
1897	1,253,198
1896	1,311,068

**LIVERPOOL MARKETS.**

Liverpool, Jan. 14.—12.30 p.m.—Wheat

—Spot dull. No. 1 California 7s 11d to 7s 11 1-2d; No. 2 red western winter 7s 9d. Corn—Spot steady. American mixed new 3s 3d; old 3s 3 1-4d.

Wheat—Spot No. 2 red western winter firm at 7s 9d; No. 1 red northern spring firm at 7s 7 1-2d. Corn—Futures were steady. Jan. 3s 2 1-2d; Feb. 3s 1 3-4d; March 3s 1 5-8d.

**NEW YORK MONEY.**

New York, Jan. 14.—3 p. m.—Prime mercantile paper, 3 to 4 per cent. Sterling exchange heavy, with actual business in bankers bills at \$4.81 3-4 to \$4.85 for demand, and at \$4.82 1-2 to \$4.82 3-4 for sixty days. Post-od rates \$4.83 to \$4.83 1-2 and \$4.85 1-2 to \$4.86. Commercial bills \$4.82. Bar silver 58 1-8c. Mexican dollars 46 3 3c. Government bonds weak.

**MONTREAL STOCKS.**

Montreal, Jan. 14. — Commercial Cab's 182 1-2; C. P. R. London 90.

**BRITISH CATTLE TRADE.**

London, Jan. 10.—Trade in cattle was slow, but the feeling was somewhat firmer than this day week, and prices were maintained. Choice States cattle sold at 11c, choice Canadians at 10c and Argentines at 9 1-2c. The market for sheep was much stronger, and the prices for choice Canadians advanced 1c to 1 1/2c, and Argentine stock were quoted 1-2c higher at 11 1-2c.

Liverpool, Jan. 10.—A private cable received quoted choice Canadians at 10c and choice sheep at 11c.

Ontario millers are exporting large quantities of bran both to Europe and the States.

J. Ely & Co., general store, Saltcoats, have assigned to S. A. D. Bertrand, Winnipeg.

Ottawa, Jan. 14.—The government have decided on a fixed royalty of ten per cent., applicable to all mines in Yukon.

Montreal, Jan. 14.—J. H. Blumenthal & Sons, clothiers and outfitters, have failed, liabilities about \$125,000.

The Canadian Pacific Railway company have announced excursions from Winnipeg to England and around Cape Horn to Vancouver, by their Yukon boats, and then back to Winnipeg by rail, for \$300.

A bye-law granting \$62,000 for a site and bonus for a location for the Abbott Rolling mills of Montreal, at Kingston, Ontario, was carried by a large majority. The concern will employ 200 to 300 men.

The death of Stanley Patterson, of Port Hope, Ontario, has caused the assignment of the Midland Trust company, a private bank carried on by deceased and his brother. The deposits are probably \$150,000.

The feature of the flour market to-day, says the Montreal Gazette of Tuesday last, was the demand from South Africa for Manitoba flour, and the Lake of the Woods Milling company placed a few cars for early shipment.