

THE PRODUCE MARKET.

FLOUR and Breadstuffs generally seem to have reached the highest attainable point, and to be on the eve of a reaction, which, however, many think will be merely temporary. Provisions hold their own, and indeed seem to be still tending upwards, at these high prices great caution is needed.

FLOUR.—We have to note somewhat improved receipts, while the active enquiry previously reported has in a measure abated, causing some decline in most grades. The extravagant rates demanded for the higher grades, no longer affording a margin to the shipper, has led to their being comparatively neglected, and holders are now willing to reduce their accumulations at figures formerly refused, but with a declining tendency in the leading American markets, proposing shippers decline transactions, except at such a reduction from recent rates, as sellers are yet unwilling to concede, and few parcels are for the time changing hands. Quotations are not materially changed, but considerably lower prices will likely be submitted to before many days. Supers, though a turn lower, are not materially affected; ordinary Canada and brands from Western wheat have maintained their rates, but strong being in better supply, the very extreme rates hitherto paid, are no longer obtainable, except for broken lots of the more favourite brands. No. 2 and lower grades have been sparingly offered, and have met a fair enquiry at unchanged rates.

BAO FLOUR has been in full supply, and to affect sales towards the close somewhat lower prices have been taken; only the very best samples commanding outside quotations. The indications are that prices have reached the highest both here and in the States. Both wheat and flour in the West are reported lower, with strong downward tendency, and as the recent rains will greatly increase the milling capacity, the already improving receipts are likely to be augmented, and a decline more or less serious seems imminent.

OAT MEAL has met a fair demand, and recently \$5 to \$5.10 has been paid for fair to choice.

WHEAT.—But few arrivals or transactions in U. C. Spring, the rates last quoted are still obtainable on the spot; some few cargoes of Western have sold at \$1.25 to \$1.25. Still no transactions in White Winter. **WHEAT.**—The offerings, which have been fair, have met a moderately good demand at former rates, say 87½ to 90 per 60 lbs.; transactions in good mostly at outside figures. The leading American markets seem overstocked, and prices have declined to a point relatively below our own, so that with only the British market as an outlet, and fears of a decline there being entertained, there are grounds to expect a lower range of prices ere long.

OATS.—We have to note transactions to a limited extent at 33 to 35c per 32 lbs.

BARLEY.—Few arrivals, and transactions unimportant.

PORK.—Continues steadily to advance; Mess is now held at \$26 to \$27. Of the other grades there is none in stock.

BUTTER.—Arrivals have for sometime been very light, the bulk of the make having been diverted from this market by the high prices ruling in the States. All desirable parcels continue to meet ready sale almost on arrival, and up to the present time there has been no accumulation, all that has come forward, even of inferior quality, having been placed at its proportionate value. With every article of Provisions at famine prices, even in the midst of plenty, it is vain to speculate on what will be the future. If any article, all apparently depending on the power of the States for absorbing all surplus, consequent upon the opening of the South. One thing is certain, that all holders are wise in selling while handsome profits are to be made, rather than in holding for higher rates, which are at least highly problematical.

LARD.—No wholesale transactions. A retail sale or two has been made at 20c.

TALLOW.—Is readily sold on arrival at 12c. to 12½c., according to quality, quantity, &c.

ASHTS.—Remain about as last quoted, fluctuating merely with arrivals and extent of orders at hand for shipment. Holders are very firm.

Stocks.

There has been but a limited amount of business in Stocks this week; there is a better demand for the favourite Stocks at an improvement on our last quotations. Sales of Bank of Montreal have been made at 113, which is now freely paid. City Bank at 93, and La Banque du Peuple at 101. A limited amount of Government six per cents have been placed at 101. There is no business doing in Harbour or Corporation Bonds. The Montreal quotation for stocks of Banks whose head quarters are in Canada, seldom give a just idea of their true value. Take for instance the Gore Bank which stock was quoted at the Brokers' Board last week at 90, while sales were actually made in Hamilton at 97½, at which rate we believe further sales are possible. Bank of Toronto stock, too, is seldom properly quoted here, it being saleable in Toronto at from one to three per cent over the Montreal quotations.

RESUME OF THE ENGLISH MARKETS.

THE general report for September.—The fine weather during the past month has been of immense service to the farmers in the North of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and such rapid progress has been made in harvesting that the fields are almost cleared. Owing to the continued dry weather, the pastures have suffered, but not severely; on the other hand the root crops are very fine. There is a noted improvement in the samples of wheat brought forward during the month, and it is evident that the heavy rains did less damage than was generally anticipated. The general idea is that the crop will almost reach an average one. It would seem that there is a fair quantity of old wheat in stocks, but the anticipated falling off in the imports from America, has had the effect of enhancing prices, not only in London and Liverpool, but also in all the leading agricultural markets. **Barley** has been nearly though not quite an average crop, and samples generally do not come up to those of last year. Prices are likely to rule high; this will not affect us as our market is in the States. A large business has been done in **Oats**, and prices have ranged high. Imports from the continent have been extensive, but the quality generally poor. **Peas** have generally been dull, and the tendency of prices is downwards. Latest advices state, "Trade merely retail, but rates maintained."

Generally speaking the English markets are not such as to encourage any shipments from this side. Unless some unexpected change takes place, the bulk of our crop of cereals will be required for local consumption, and the prospects are that we will have but little to spare, so that England will chiefly have to depend on her own and continental resources.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE CATTLE MARKET.

THE supply of Cattle during the week has been good, but chiefly of inferior grades. **Beeves** we quote extra quality at \$7.50 to \$8, and very scarce; 1st quality from \$6 to \$7, 2nd do., \$5 to \$6, 3rd do., \$4 to \$5. **Reticals**, consisting of cows, bulls, &c., \$3.50 to \$4.50. **Milch Cows** very scarce, and at high prices; very good cows worth \$40, \$50 to \$60, ordinary, \$25 to \$35. **Working Oxen** \$20 to \$30. **Yearlings** \$8 to \$10; 2 year old, \$20 to 25. **Sheep**—Good qualities are very scarce, and 1st quality \$6 to \$7.50; 2nd do., \$3.50 to \$5. **Stags and Lambs**, by the lot, \$3 to \$4.25. **Hogs** very scarce; live weight \$7.50 to \$8; dressed range from \$10 to \$11, according to weight and quality. **Tallow**, 8c per lb., with an upward tendency. **Lard** active at 17c. to 18c. per lb. **Barrelled Beef**—Prime Mess \$14 to \$15, and higher prices are held for Prime, none offering. **Therces** \$26 to \$28, and scarce.

Business in New York.

The general condition of business in New York is thus epitomized by the *Shipping List* of Wednesday: "The volume of business since our last has been small, the extreme tightness of the Money market having materially restricted operations in nearly all departments of trade. The demand for merchandise for the Western markets, which has prevailed a long time back, has fallen off, while the speculative feeling heretofore noticed has abated, and, as a general thing, present necessities have constituted the limit of mercantile adventures, within the three days under review. Commercial values are higher, which fact, with the high rates for money and the uncertainty as to the future of gold, render speculative transactions, at this time extra hazardous, and such transactions, whenever they occur, are the exceptions, rather than the rule. The weather has become decidedly winterish and admonishes us that the close of inland navigation is not very remote, and the season is rapidly approaching when its sudden termination is liable. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the receipts of wheat at this port continue very light—yet, in the absence of any export demand, prices of this cereal have further declined. Corn, on the contrary, comes forward very freely, though mostly in poor condition. There has occurred a break in the Pork market, and prices are decidedly lower."

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