

PORK, &c.

The Pork Market opened, in 1863, with a heavy stock; returns on 1st December, 1862, showed that there were 17,000 barrels of Mess on hand,—much of which was said to be held by speculators. Receipts of Pork and Beef by Grand Trunk Railway in 1863 were 25,495 barrels; by Lachine Canal 24,832 barrels; by other channels 439 barrels,—total 50,766 barrels. Shipments by the St. Lawrence (in river trade) 11,315 barrels; by Grand Trunk Railway, (Pork and Beef,) 11,466 barrels; by Champlain Railroad 2,014 barrels; by Lachine Canal, 7,679 barrels; in sea-going vessels (including Portland in winter) 1,414 barrels,—total 33,888 barrels. It may be stated thus:

The stock of Pork and Beef on hand at the close of 1862, amounted to.. 17,000 brls.
And the receipts by Railway and Canal in 1863 were..... 50,766 "

Making a total of..... 67,766 "
From which deduct stock on hand in Dec., 1863..... 5,600 brls.
And quantity reported shipped in 1863..... 33,888 "
39,488 brls.

Leaving unaccounted for..... 28,278 "

There are no definite records of the disposal of that large balance. The regions to which much or all of it may have gone are the Saguenay and the St. Maurice; besides a large district including Berthier, Sorel, Eastern Townships, Richelieu River, Nicolet, Batiscan, &c. Then there is the consumption of the Island and City of Montreal, besides a considerable quantity taken away as ships' stores, and of which entry outward is not required.

Prices of Pork in past Two years.

MONTH.	1863		1862	MONTH.	1863		1862
	Mess.	Prime.	Mess.		Mess.	Prime.	Mess.
January	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	August {	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
April {	10.00		14.00	11.75	11.00		
May {	12.00	9.50	13.00	12.00			
June {	10.75	10.00	12.50	12.25	12.00		
July {	11.00		12.00	12.50			
	10.75			12.00			
	10.50	10.50	12.00	12.50	12.00	10.75	
	10.00			12.00			
	10.00			12.75	12.00	10.50	
	10.50	10.50		13.00			
	11.00			13.75	10.50		
	11.25			14.00			

These prices were for strictly wholesale lots. After opening at \$10 for Mess, in January, 1863, the ruling prices were \$10.50 @ \$11.50 until April, when \$12 was paid. But heavy receipts again depressed the market, and prices fell in May and June, sales being made in the latter month with difficulty at \$10 and a fraction under. The market rallied in July, gradually hardening towards the end of the year,—closing with a stock of about 5,600 barrels. Of that quantity little more than 3,000 barrels were inspected Mess; the remainder consisting of other grades, with unbrandable, &c. In the month of July there were sales of English Prime Mess at \$11.25. After the month of June, Prime was very scarce, small lots bringing exceptional prices.

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June

July

August

September ..