

## FARMING

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO  
FARMING AND THE FARMER'S INTERESTS.

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## MARKET REVIEW AND FORECAST.

Office of FARMING,

44 and 46 Richmond street W., Toronto,

Dec. 19th, 1898.

General trade conditions are good in the country and local merchants are experiencing the best holiday trade they have had for years. In wholesale circles the outlook is good for a big spring trade.

## Wheat.

The wheat market has taken a somewhat unexpected turn upward. This upward movement originated in Chicago early in the week, when prices advanced 3 1-8 cents per bushel. Dealers report this advance as being due to the speculative element in the wheat ring, and that it is not of a permanent character. This would probably be the case had this advance been confined to this side of the water, and had not the Liverpool market towards the end of the week advanced from 1/8d. to 3/4d. per cental. This would seem to give the advance a somewhat permanent character, but the next few days will tell. The world's wheat supply in sight is now 54,178,000 bushels as compared with 71,584,000 bushels at this time last year, a decrease of 17,406,000 bushels. Though the farmers in the Western States have been marketing their wheat pretty freely of late, it transpires that they have been marketing in small quantities and often, rather than large quantities at a time. There are large quantities of wheat in the Manitoba and Ontario farmer's hands, who still seem inclined to hold for a while longer.

Exporters claim that the prices of a week ago admitted of an export business being done, but that the recent advance will put prices too high for this trade. The Montreal market has been quiet and holders are asking 67 and 67 1/2c. The market here has been somewhat dragging till the end of the week, when there was a firmer feeling in response to the Chicago advance. Ontario red and white is quoted at 66 to 67c. north and west, goose at 65 to 66c. and No. 1 Manitoba hard 79c. at Toronto, and No. 1 Northern at 74c. On the local market 67 1/2 to 68 1/2c. are the quotations for red and white, 65 1/2 to 67c. for goose, and 67c. for spring life. Latest reports show that futures at Chicago and Liverpool have receded a couple of cents.

## Oats and Barley.

A steadier feeling prevails in the London oat market, though there have been liberal receipts of American and Canadian. Montreal quotations are 30 to 30 1/2c. for No. 2, and 29 1/2c. for No. 3. There has been an advance

of 1/2c. per bushel at Ontario points in sympathy with the wheat advance. Oats are firmer here, and quotations are 27 1/2 to 28 1/2c. west. On the local market oats bring 30 1/2c. per bushel.

The Montreal market is steady for choice malting barley, and quotations are 55 to 56c. Barley is quoted here at 46 to 47c. west, and on the local farmers' market at 47 to 50c. per bushel.

## Peas and Corn.

Peas on the London market are dull owing to light offerings and too high prices. The Montreal market is firm at 62 1/2 to 63c. high freights, and 63 to 63 1/2c. east. Peas seem to be in good demand here at 62c to 63 1/2c. west in car lots. On the local market the quotations are from 55 to 63c. per bushel.

Quotations for American corn at Montreal are about 43c. Canadian yellow is quoted here at 33 to 34c. west, and American at 42 to 43c. on track at Toronto.

## Bran and Shorts.

Owing to liberal supplies bran at Montreal is a little lower at \$13.50 to \$14; shorts are quoted at \$14.50 to \$15; and moullie at \$15.50 to \$16.50. City mills here are selling bran at \$13 and shorts at \$15 in car lots f.o.b. Toronto.

## Clover and Timothy Seeds.

On the local market here red clover brings \$3.50 to \$4 per bushel; white clover, \$6 to \$9; alsike, \$4 to \$5; and timothy \$1.25 to \$1.35.

## Eggs and Poultry.

The demand for Canadian fresh eggs and pickled stock continues good at British points. The total exports from Montreal this year amount to 218,427 cases, as compared with 176,845 packages last year, showing an increase of 41,582 cases. Receipts of new laid stock are small at Montreal, and sales are reported at 25 to 28c., with single cases selling at 29 to 30c. per dozen. New laid eggs are scarce here at 20 to 22c. Held fresh are quoted at 17 to 18c., and lined at 14 to 15c. On the local market new laid eggs bring about 20c., though there are quotations at 30c. and over.

Choice stock of dressed poultry is firmer at Montreal, and really choice dry-picked turkeys fetch 9c. per lb. The general run bring from 7 to 8 1/2c. per lb. Chickens are quoted at from 6 to 7c. ducks at from 7 to 8 1/2c., and geese at 6 to 6 1/2c. There is a good demand for dressed poultry here and quotations are 8 to 10c. per lb. for turkeys, 5 to 6 1/2c. per lb. for geese, 40 to 60c. per pair for ducks and 25c. to 40c. for chickens. Prices are a little higher than these quotations on the local markets.

## Potatoes.

Prices are firm at Montreal. Car lots bring from 53 to 55c. on track, and jobbing lots 60 to 65c. per bag. Cars on the track are quoted here at 55 to 60c. per bag, and potatoes out of store at 65c.

## Hay and Straw.

The market is quiet for baled hay at Montreal which is quoted at \$6.50 to \$7.50 for No. 1 Timothy, No. 2 at \$4.75 to \$5.50, clover at \$4.25 to \$4.50 per car lots. Baled straw is quoted there at \$3.00 to \$3.50 per ton. The demand here is slow and cars on the track are quoted at \$7.00 to \$7.50. Baled straw is quoted at \$4.50. On the local market, Timothy brings \$9.00 to \$10.00 per ton, and clover \$6.00 to \$7.50.

## Fruit.

Apples in car lots are quoted in Montreal at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per bbl. while in a jobbing way they bring from 25 to 50c. per bbl. above these figures. There is a big Christmas demand for them. Apples on the local market bring from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per bbl.

## Cheese.

The statistical position of cheese seems to be very favorable for the continuation of

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## Cummings &amp; Sellers,

Manufacturing 244 Yonge Street,  
Furriers . . . TORONTO, ONT.

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higher prices. The exports of cheese from Canada and the United States at the close of navigation this year were about 500,000 boxes less than those at the corresponding date last year, and between now and May 1st, 1899, it is estimated that there will be a further shortage of 150,000 or 200,000 boxes compared with the same period last year, thus making a total shortage of fully 700,000 boxes for the season. There is also a shortage in the Antipodean make which, coupled with a material deficit in the home production in Great Britain, must eventually force prices much higher than they are at present.

Finest Canadian is now quoted in London at 45s. 6d. to 50s., and good to fine at 46s. to 48s., which is an advance of about 2s. on our last week's quotations. There is a good demand at the advance, and a big January trade is looked for. Transactions in finest Westerns have been put through at 9 3/4 to 10c., and the market there is firm at about these prices for really fine stuff.

## Butter.

The butter situation though strong is not nearly so favorable for the continuation of present prices as that of cheese. There has been a further advance in the London market and finest Canadian creamery is quoted there at 105 to 110s.; seconds, 98 to 102s. But many consider these figures too high and are looking for a big slump in prices soon. It is to be hoped that their predictions will not come true. There is a much larger make in Australia and New Zealand and several large shipments from there are now on the way to England. In the latter place many of the cheese factories have changed to buttermaking. Then there have been larger exports of butter from the United States during the past week than at any time this season. However, except for a slightly easier feeling in one or two places the market is about as strong on this side as it was a week ago. The shipments of butter from Canada up to December 10th show an increase of 69,465 packages over last year for the same period, while those from New York for the same time show a decrease of 114,772 packages making a net decrease from this side of 45,307 packages.

It is felt at Montreal that the very cold weather of a week ago has lessened the supply of milk at the winter creameries, and shorter supplies may be looked for. Choice fresh