

declined, closing steady but lower. Lard in good demand but lower owing to the weak feeling in pork.

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.71½	\$0.71½
Corn	37½	36
Oats	24	24½
Pork	10.90	10.77½
Lard	6.65	6.71½

On Saturday there was a fair demand for wheat. Receipts still continue large and in consequence the market opened easier ruling weak, lower and heavy, caused by a good deal of Long wheat in the market. The greatest weakness was shown in May. The market closed 1½ under yesterday. There was but little demand for corn and the market closed dull and weak. There was a fair speculative business done in oats, but the market ruled dull and weaker than yesterday. In pork the market opened at yesterday's closing figures, but soon showed signs of weakness and declined towards the close from 20 to 25c, closing easy. Lard was in full demand but lower, eased by the dull feeling in pork.

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.71	\$0.71½
Corn	37½	35½
Oats	24	24
Pork	10.85	10.57½
Lard	6.47½	6.50

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

Last week's stock market has failed to hold the advances in stock generally, which were made during the opening week of December, and there has been an easing-off in quite a number of leading stocks. The decline in any case has not been very marked, and in the case of Federal, Standard and Hamilton the figures of a week ago have been maintained. There is no particular reason that can be assigned for the weaker feeling, only that a slight reaction has followed the sharp advance of the two previous weeks. The subjoined table of closing bids on Wednesday, Dec. 3rd and 10th, indicates the tendency of the market.

	Dec. 3.	Dec. 10.
Montreal	189	187½
Ontario	107	105
Molson
Toronto	175	173½
Merchants	110½	109
Commerce	121	120
Imperial	129	129
Federal	49½	48½
Dominion	186	185
Standard	112	114½
Hamilton	117	117½
Northwest Land	43	41½

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

In grain affairs matters have been very slow during the past week, and the movement has been exceedingly light. This is attributable in some measure to closed navigation, but is due more to the fact that buyers know there is plenty of supply behind and no fear of any material advance in prices, so that they need not assume the burden of carrying any stock for future use. Prices have held up to about our last quotations, and are so low that further decline seems impossible. There is a disposition on the part of farmers, who are able to hold for better prices, and that of itself helps to keep prices from reaching even a lower depth than they are now in. Provisions have also shown great weakness, and even dairy products, which usually advance as winter pro-

gresses, have eased-off in price a little, and are very slow in sale. Meats seem not to be wanted at any price, and nearly all transactions during the week were sales of small lots. Altogether grain and provision markets have been in a discouraging state.

WHEAT.

No larger lots have changed hands, and the small lots that have changed hands have sold as follows: No. 2 Fall, 74c; No. 3, 71c; No. 1 Spring, 74c; No. 2, 71c; Goose, 57c.

OATS.

The demand has been light but prices have held steady all week. Mixed cars have sold at 31 to 32c, and white at 32½c.

BARLEY.

The movement has not been heavy during the week, but sales of small lots were numerous enough to keep matters a little lively. Prices have eased-off a little. No. 1 sold at 66c; No. 2, 62c; No. 3 extra, 54 to 55c; No. 3, 50c.

RYE.

No demand, and prices lower. Car lots are quoted at 56c.

PEAS.

Prices are weaker and the demand is slow. No. 2 lots have been quoted at 59c.

POTATOES.

There have been no sales of any consequence during the week, and quotations have been nominal at 40 to 45c.

BUTTER.

There has been a liberal supply of all grades offered, and the demand has been very slow indeed. Prime dairy has been slow sale at 18 to 19c, and rolls have been offered in abundance at 15 to 16c. Inferior grades were scarcely called for.

EGGS.

The offerings have been sufficient for all demands during the week. Round lots of fresh have sold at 20 to 21c, and pickled at 18 to 19c.

PORK.

There has been very little business done in this product during the week, and sales have all been of small lots. Prices have ranged from \$15.50 to \$16.

LARD.

There has been an increasing demand during the week, and new pails have sold at 11c.

BACON.

Affairs have been rather quiet during the week, and prices have been easy. Long clear has sold in small lots at 8½c, and Cumberland in round lots at 7 to 7½c. Rolls were quoted at 10c.

HAMS.

No sales of any magnitude to report, and prices have been steady although a little easy. Round lots were offered at 10½c, and small lots sold at 11½c.

POULTRY.

Box lots of dressed turkeys have sold up to 10c per lb, and geese from 5 to 6c. Ducks sold at 40 to 60c per pair, and fowl in boxes at 25 to 40c.

APPLES.

No sales of car lots reported, and small lots have sold at \$1 to \$1.50 for inferior, and \$2 for choice. Prime winter were offered at \$2.25.

The State of Trade.

Reports from many places all over Canada are in the main in the same tenor, namely, that business is quiet, at some points (and especially in the Maritime Provinces) dull, manufacturing slack, shipping lifeless and unremunerative; the farmers disposed to hold on to their grain, prices ruling so low.

The month of November was nearly everywhere a dull one. From St. Catharines, for example, we hear that the dullness in shipping has been extreme. Both Norris and Needles have a number of their floating craft tied up to the wharves all summer for lack of freight to carry. Manufacturing dull at that point, too, but proprietors hopeful.

About London, the Fawcett private bank failure and the troubles of the Federal Bank proved a serious check to various manufacturing concerns; besides which the failure of two wholesale houses have created a sense of uneasiness that is fatal to briskness of trade.

At Brockville and thereabout, a correspondent writes, "not a pound of grain moved during October," and but little this month, where from Napanee comes the same story of dullness in grain transport in October but November showed an improvement. A banker, writing thence, says:—

"Trade in this section is fairly good. Barley, which is the chief grain, is being shipped rapidly to Oswego; about one half of the crop is gone, and, at a respectable figure, average 52c. per bush. Farmers got fair prices for all they had to sell, and most of them are in good circumstances. Merchants keep well to the cash sale rule, which farmers are finding the best. The outlook is favorable."

From the rear of Hastings County, Banerjee P.O., we are favored with the following, dated 24th Nov.:

"Business in this section of the province is rather dull, the continued fine weather seriously retarding the sale of almost all winter goods. Farmers are unwilling to leave their work, and their purchases are being limited to immediate wants. White crops are fair but prices are low."

"Trade is very quiet throughout New Brunswick," writes Messrs. Manchester, Robinson & Allison, wholesale dry goods dealers in St. John. "There is every prospect of a very dull winter."

The experience of Messrs. H. Shorey & Co., manufacturers of clothing in Montreal, is summed up in the following words, concerning last month, "Business, almost none doing, but payments good."

We are favored by Messrs. G. P. Mitchell & Co., West India merchants of Halifax, with the following comprehensive statement of the situation:

"Respecting business during the past season we may say that in the West India trade it has been most unprofitable. Our exports of fish, lumber, &c., have, with few exceptions, resulted very poorly, owing to the continued heavy receipts and consequent low prices in the various West India markets; add to this the heavy losses on return cargoes of sugar, &c., caused by the constant depreciation in value, and it can well be imagined that this important branch of trade has been in a most depressed condition. We are sorry to say the outlook for the future is gloomy, as with the prospect of any improvement in the price of sugar, a very serious state of affairs all over the West Indies seems unavoidable." —*the Times*.