

## MARKET REVIEW AND FORECAST.

Office of FARMING,

44 and 46 Richmond Street W., Toronto,

Dec. 26th, 1898.

Things are quiet in wholesale circles but retail trade is exceedingly brisk and merchants are having the biggest holiday trade they have had for years. The trade of 1898 is reported all the way from 10 to 20 per cent. better than that of 1897.

## Wheat.

Wheat shows very little change from a week ago with the exception, perhaps, that the advance reported was proven to be of a very temporary character. The Chicago market has been irregular all week, though a firmer feeling prevailed at Ontario points towards the end. The fall wheat crop for 1899 is now being figured on by dealers, and reports show that the area sown was large and that the crop has entered the winter with the best of prospects of coming out well in the spring. This, together with the fact that only about one-third of the 1898 crop has gone into consumption and that the bulk of it is yet to be marketed, makes the prospects for any marked increase in prices very doubtful. Of course, should the rumblings in certain European quarters develop into a big war, prices would advance with a rush. But it is not safe to place any great dependence upon such contingencies, and it is much better to be governed in the marketing of grain or any other farm product by the law of supply and demand.

A special London cable to the *Trade Bulletin* of December 22nd reads: "Notwithstanding the advance at the close of last week, prices on the whole are lower than when I last cabled (Dec. 15th) but at the decline there is a steadier feeling." Prices at Montreal are purely nominal. Ontario millers and shippers complain of the scarcity of deliveries of winter wheat since the advance of last week. At G.T.R. and C.P.R. points east of Montreal 67c. has been the ruling figure, while a lot of No. 1 hard Manitoba is reported sold at 69c. affiat, Fort William, May delivery. The market here is firmer, and quotations are from 68 to 69c. for red and white west. Manitoba is quoted at 81c. for No. 1 hard for grinding and 75c. Midland. On the local market red and white is quoted at 68 to 68½c., goose at 67c., and spring at 67½c.

## Oats and Barley.

Canadian oats are in good demand in London, and an advance of 3d. per quarter is reported. Owing to the bad state of the roads, deliveries have not been heavy, though sales of oats have been made east of Toronto at 28½ to 29c. An improved demand has sprung up at Montreal and quotations are 30½ to 31½c. Oats are firm here at 27½ to 28c. for white, west. On the local market they bring from 30½ to 31c. per bushel.

The Montreal barley market is firm at 54 to 55c. for No. 1, but it is claimed that really choice quality cannot be had at these figures. Barley here is somewhat easier at 46 to 47½c. west. It brings 48 to 49c. on the local market.

## Peas and Corn.

The Montreal market for peas is quiet and quotations are 70½ to 73c. laid down there. The market here is firm at 64 to 65c. west.

No. 2 Chicago mixed corn is firm at Montreal at 44 to 45c. The market is firmer here at 36 to 36½c. for Canadian yellow west, and 45c. for American, Toronto freights.

## Bran and Shorts.

Ontario winter wheat bran is quoted at \$13.50 at Montreal, shorts at \$14.25 to \$14.75, and middlings at \$16. Millfeeds are reported scarce here at \$14 to \$16 for shorts, \$12 to \$12.50 for bran west. Toronto millers are charging \$13 for bran.

The same thing over and over again. Read what the AMERICAN has done this time.

## WILL PAY ITSELF IN 4 MONTHS

BLYTHESWOOD, ONT., JUNE 8TH, 1898.

MESSRS. RICHARDSON & WEBSTER,  
St. Mary's, Ont.

DEAR SIRS,—Enclosed find settlement for the Separator and oil received from you on May 28th. I placed the Separator on trial with Mr. S. D. Wilkinson, Leamington, and after 4 days he bought it. He is perfectly satisfied. I have tested the skim milk several times for him and it has never shown more than a trace of butter fat. I consider it a perfect machine in every respect and would like to act as your agent in this part of the county. Mr. Wilkinson is one of the most prominent dairymen around here. He says he will save enough in butter to pay for the Separator in 4 months. Yours truly, (Signed) F. A. LEAK.

Write RICHARDSON & WEBSTER, St. Mary's, Ont., for Catalogue and Prices. It will pay you to have a Separator as well as others.

W. G. GLENN, Agent for Owen Sound and vicinity

RICHARDSON &amp; WEBSTER.

ST. MARY'S, ONT

## Clover and Timothy Seed.

A short crop of red clover seed is reported in the United States, and it is expected that prices will be high. \$4 per bushel has been paid west of Toronto. Quotations at Montreal are \$5.40 to \$5.50. Timothy seed, on the other hand, is reported plentiful and about as low in price as it has ever been and is quoted at \$1.25 to \$1.75 per bushel at Montreal. Red clover is quoted here at \$3.50 to \$4; white clover, \$6 to \$9; alsike, \$4 to \$5; and timothy at \$1.25 to \$1.35.

## Eggs and Poultry.

Canadian eggs continue to command good prices in the British markets and prices are firm. Shipments of eggs from Montreal show an increase of 41,810 cases over those of 1897. The Montreal market keeps very firm for strictly new-laid eggs, which bring from 25 to 26c. in large lots, and from 28 to 30c. in small lots. Straight candled eggs are quoted at 15½ to 16c. Eggs are in good demand here at 20 to 22c. for new laid, 17 to 18c. for held fresh, and 14 to 15c. for limed. A high as 30c. has been paid on the local market for strictly new-laid eggs.

The bad weather of the past week has had a depressing effect upon the dressed poultry trade. At Montreal good turkeys bring from 8½ to 9½c.; chickens from 6 to 7½c.; geese from 6 to 6½c. for good quality; and ducks from 7½ to 8½c. Chickens, wholesale, are quoted here at 25 to 40c. per pair; ducks at 40 to 60c.; geese at 6 to 6½c. per lb.; and turkeys at 8 to 9c.

## Potatoes.

The firmer tone of last week's markets has been maintained and sales have been made at Montreal at 55 to 57½c. per bag, and 65c. in jobbing lots. Cars on track are quoted here at 55c., and potatoes out of store sell at 65c. They bring from 55 to 65c. per bag on the local market.

## Hay and Straw.

More hay is being sold for export of late, principally in Quebec, where sales of clover have been made at \$3.50 f.o.b. or \$4.50 at Montreal. These prices are lower than the freight to Liverpool. Montreal quotations are \$6.50 to \$7.50 for No. 1; \$5 to \$5.50 for No. 2, and \$4.25 to \$5 for clover on track. Quotations here are the same as last week.

## Fruit.

Montreal quotations are \$2.50 to \$3 in carlots for apples. Advices from England of sales net shippers \$2.84 to \$3.08 in Ontario. West of Toronto sales have been made at \$2.85 for spys, \$2.50 for greenings, and \$2.75 to \$2.85 for russets, f.o.b.

## Cheese.

The cheese situation is a very healthy one, and much similar to that of two years ago, when there was a big shortage in the make. The total decrease in shipments from Canada to Dec. 17th is 238,472 boxes, a compared with the same period last year. The total decrease from Canada and the United States

for the same time has now reached 512,856 boxes. This, coupled with a shortage in the English make, makes the outlook for good prices very favorable. English dealers are beginning to wake up to this fact and orders are coming more freely. A further gain of 2s. is reported in London prices for finest stock, and Liverpool cables are also strong. The ruling figure for fine stock at Montreal is 10c. and holders are asking 10½c. for finest Westerns; finest Easterns are quoted at 9½ to 9¾c., but holders are asking 10c. for these. These are reasonable figures and the English dealer who fails to get in his supply at these prices will have to pay more after New Year's.

## Butter.

Exceptionally high prices have been the rule on the English markets for the past few weeks and the drop of 3s. to 4s. in the London market on Thursday is not surprising. There have been large arrivals of Danish and Australian butter of late which have caused an easier feeling. Whether there will a further decline will depend upon future supplies from the Anipodes. Though a quieter feeling exists at Montreal owing to cable declines, sales have been made for export at 20½c. for choice creamery in boxes. What is wanted now is mild salted, light colored creamery, which will command from 20½ to 20¾c. Factories west of Toronto are reported to have contracted December make at 19 to 19½c. Buyers in Quebec are offering 20c. for January make, so that the butter situation is not in a very unhealthy state. Though the make in the winter creameries has been large factories are sold out pretty close, so that there is not likely to be much stored in the country. There has been an advance of 1½ to 2c. in the New York market. Prices here for creamery are about the same as last week. Western dairy brings 13½ to 15c. at Montreal, Choice dairy tubs are quoted here at 13 to 15c., and lb. rolls at 14 to 15c. On the local market lb. rolls fetch from 14 to 18c., and large rolls 13 to 14c.

## Cattle.

Cattle have been a little quiet during the week, though the Chicago market has ruled fairly strong for good stock. There seems to be an extra supply of inferior stock coming forward. This is specially the case on some of the western markets where stuff is offering that should be fed three months longer. The soft weather has put a damper on the market for butcher meat.

**Export Cattle.**—The offerings have been light. Choice heavy exporters bring from \$4.25 to \$4.50, with extra fine lots fetching 10c. per cwt. more. Light exporters bring from \$3.85 to \$4.25 per cwt. Choice heavy export bulls are a little firmer and bring from \$3.65 to \$4.12½, and light ones from \$3.25 to \$3.40.

**Butchers' Cattle.**—The warm weather has seriously affected the market for these. Choice picked lots equal in quality to the best exporters and weighing from 1,000 to 1,150 lbs.