

locally, and owing partly to the light offerings of oats, prices are well maintained. Bran holds at \$12 to \$13 per ton, and shorts at \$14 to \$15 per ton, the higher prices for small jobbing lots.

## MEALS.

Prices are as follows: Oatmeal, standard \$2.60; granulated, \$2.70 per 100 pounds; rolled oats, \$2.70 per sack of 80 pounds; Cornmeal is held at \$1.50 per 100 lbs. Pot barley, \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

## GROUND FEED.

Feed is quoted at \$22 to \$23 per ton as to quality.

## OATS.

There is a continual scarcity in oats, due to the unfavorable weather for marketing. There is a large surplus in the country over home requirements, but the quantity marketed so far has hardly been equal to local wants. This shows more clearly than anything else the smallness of the grain movement to date. Offerings in the city by farmers last week were very light and prices were higher, ranging from 30 to 34c per bushel. On track there was nothing offering, though there was enquiry for shipping as well as local use. Prices in country markets are about 25c per bushel.

## BUTTER.

The butter market holds decidedly firm, and higher prices have again been realized. From 18 to 20c is now obtained from the local trade for good to choice dairy in small lots. Choice fresh butter in crocks has been handled at 20 to 22c per pound, but the quantity of this is of course very limited, and can hardly be given as a regular quotation. At these prices butter could be brought in from eastern Canada and undersell the home article of the same quality.

## CHEESE.

Still jobbing at 10½ to 11c. Good late makes firm, and factories holding at about 10c per pound.

## EGGS.

Fresh country eggs bring 21c per dozen, with imported selling at 20c.

## LARD.

Held at \$2.15 per 20 lb. pail.

## CURED MEATS.

Prices hold very steady and there is no further change to note. Prices here are as follows: Dry salt bacon, 10c; smoked long clear, 11c; spiced rolls, 12½ to 13c; boneless breakfast bacon canvassed, 13½ to 14c; smoked hams, 14½ to 15c. Mess pork \$18 to \$18.50 per barrel. German sausage, 9c per lb.; Bologna sausage, 8c lb.; ham, tongue and chicken sausage, 9c per ½ pound package.

## DRESSED MEATS.

Pork firm and still scarce, and bringing 9 to 9½c per pound. Beef steady at 5½ for good average quality. Mutton steady at 10 to 11c, and lamb, 11 to 12c; veal 6 to 7c.

## POULTRY AND GAME.

Turkeys are worth 12½c per pound live weight. Chickens, 50 to 60c per pair. Spring chickens, 40 to 50c per pair. Wild ducks are worth 20 to 30c per pair as to quality, and prairie chickens and partridge 50 to 60c per pair, and the latter scarce.

## POTATOES.

Potatoes have not been offered in greater supply than the local demand, on account of bad roads, and have brought usually 30c per bushel on the market. Nothing doing in shipping to speak of, though if prices continue to advance in the States before it freezes up, shipping would be active. There is some inquiry from the States for car lots.

## VEGETABLES.

Offerings have been light. There have been some shipments to western points of mixed lots, including potatoes. Cauliflower is getting scarce. Tomatoes from Ontario and some few home grown are still in the market, but very poor quality. Good would bring better prices if obtainable. Prices are: Cauliflower 40 to 75c

per dozen head for choice. Cabbage 25 to 60c per doz. Tomatoes—native ripe, 3c to 4c Ontario tomatoes, \$1 per 20 pound basket. Onions, 2 to 3c per pound. Celery, 25 to 40c per dozen heads; vegetable marrow, 40 to 75c per dozen. Citron, \$1 to \$1.50 per dozen. Turnips, 20 to 25c per bushel. Carrots, 40 to 50c per bushel; beets 35c per bushel. Parsnips, 1½ to 2c lb. Pumpkins, 1½c per lb. Hubbard squash, \$1.50 per dozen; other varieties winter squash, 60c to \$1 per dozen; horse radish, 10c per lb.

## HIDES.

Prices are again lower in Eastern Canada markets. Prices here are proportionately higher than in Toronto. About 5½c is being paid at country points for round lots, largely cows, while green cows are only worth from 5 to 7c per pound in Toronto, as to grade. Quotations here are 6c for No. 1 steers, and 5½ for No. 1 cows, 4½ for No. 2 and 3½ for No. 3; round lots country hides taken at 4 to 9c. Sheep and lambskins are now worth about the same figure, and newly killed will bring 35 to 45c each. Tallow, 2½c for rough and 4½ to 5c for rendered.

## HAY.

Firm and scarce on account of bad roads. Loose has sold up to \$10 per ton on the market, and pressed at \$8 to \$9 from cars.

## LIVE STOCK.

Cattle may still be quoted at the old range of 2½ to 2¾c for ordinary offerings of fair to good butchers stock, though choice steers would bring 3c per pound live weight. Hogs nominal at 6 to 7c.

## Toronto Dry Goods Trade.

Since the Toronto Industrial Exhibition closed trade has partaken more or less of a sorting up character, but we are pleased to note that this is on a much larger scale than at the same time last year, early purchases having been made with much greater caution. Money has commenced to circulate as a result of a considerable movement in barley and other produce affected by the McKinley bill. This is now beginning to reach merchants in Toronto and elsewhere, and is having the effect of materially reducing outstandings, and causing trade from all sides to be regarded much more favorably. The prospects for a good fall trade, judging by accounts from all parts of the Dominion, have seldom been better, and traders generally are in good spirits, not only from present results, but also from indications pointing to a better trade during the winter. This information we get, notwithstanding prognostications of evil, of which we have less than we did two months ago.

Stocks are still well assorted, prices well maintained, and there is less overplus to be jobbed than has had to be reported for a long time past. Payments on account, as indicated above, are improving, and there is very little cause for complaint on this score.—*The Empire*.

## British Columbia's Resources.

All countries have their staple products, some being limited to one or two principal articles that can be produced, while others are favored with a greater variety of natural resources. The great staple of Manitoba and the territories, for instance, is grain, to which might be added live stock and vegetables; the maritime provinces have coal, lumber and fish, and secondarily vegetables and fruit; the natural staples of the other eastern provinces are general farming produce, including fruit, pe-

roleum and other minerals, and, to a limited degree, lumber and fish.

British Columbia's natural resources, which have only begun to be developed, are, principally, coal, lumber and fish. All these resources, although only partially developed, are already the basis of very extensive industries, and a large export business is done in each product.

The fisheries of this province, it should be mentioned, consist of two distinct divisions or branches, the fresh water and the sea fisheries. While the former have reached a considerable stage of development, the latter have hardly been entered upon, and a little bonanza of finny wealth awaits the grasp of the hardy fisherman, backed by the capitalist, along our thousand miles or more of deeply indented and diversified sea coast; halibut fishing alone promises, in the near future, to be a great industry, while skil, smelts and herrings, and marine fur fisheries, will swell the reward of labor and capital.

In the mineral field we have mentioned coal only, but British Columbia is as notorious for its gold as it is for its coal, and its silver, and iron stores, which are known to be surpassingly rich, are on the eve of a development that shall revolutionize the mining industry of the province, and other sources of mineral wealth will indubitably be opened up, as the mountains fairly teem with mineral resources of nearly all kinds, unmistakable indications of which have been obtained by prospectors.

In addition to the great and varied natural resources of the province that have been mentioned—and we have said nothing of the fur-producing resources of the country, which are known to be the basis of a considerable industry—British Columbia has capabilities hitherto hardly credited, in the general agricultural line, and as a specialty in this department might be mentioned stock raising, including cattle, horses and sheep. The annual fall exhibitions, just about over for the season, have given some idea of what the province is capable of in the general agricultural and stock-raising line, and the promise is certainly very encouraging.

But of all the products of the soil in which it has been amply demonstrated British Columbia is bound to excel, fruit raising is the one. The recent exhibition in this city and district, as well as the horticultural exhibition held earlier in the year, have emphasized the fact, previously pretty well appreciated by many, that British Columbia is, *par excellence*, a fruit growing country, and this without any disparagement of her other large and wonderfully varied resources. Fruit is plainly destined, it must be generally agreed, to form another and very important staple product of this highly favored province. The natural conditions are all favorable, and an almost illimitable market is to be had in the great and rapidly filling plains of Manitoba and the Northwest. All that remains is for our people to realize their destiny in this respect, and this, we have every reason to believe, they are preparing to do.—*The Columbian*, Westminster, B. C.

The best authorities say California will this year pack fully 1,300,000 boxes of raisins. This is about twenty times the raisin output of twenty years ago. All raisin growers will make money this year if early rains do not trouble them. Shipments east have begun.