

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

WHEAT

In provincial markets there has been very little doing in the way of deliveries, and in fact the season may be considered about over for any considerable marketing of grain. Of course a few loads are being brought into most markets, but there is not expected to be any heavier movement than is at present going on. Up to the time that spring farming operations will commence. Later in the summer, after the spring work has been concluded, there may be quite a quantity of wheat marketed at some points. So far this month shipments eastward have been heavier than all last month combined, but this has been mostly wheat taken from store, and has been going through to Lake Superior ports and also through to the East by all rail in about equal quantities. Receipts here and passing through now amount to about 12 cars per day. Prices remain fixed, with car lots quoted at about 57c at outside points, for hard wheat. At the mills in the city, 82c is paid for hard wheat and No. 1 northern, all around, about all delivered coming up to the standard.

FLOUR.

There has been no change in quotations for city delivery or broken lots. The mills, which were closed down for a short time, resumed grinding again last week, owing to the demand for mill-stuffs. In flour stocks are large, and with the present condition of the markets, millers would prefer not to grind. There has been a considerable accumulation of patents, the local demand which heretofore was principally for that grade, having become changed from some unaccountable reason to bakers grades. This is not a pleasing change for the millers, as there is always a better shipping market for bakers', and they have trusted to local consumption to dispose of patents. In low grades the movement is fair. Quotations for lots delivered in the city are unchanged. Three cars of Manitoba strong bakers' sold at Montreal, on Tuesday at \$1.30; six cars of medium sold at \$1.20; and one car of super-fine at \$1.60.

MILLS-STUFFS

There is a good demand for both bran and shorts, and stocks were about used up last week. Prices have been advanced \$2 per ton, and now stand at \$14 for bran, and \$16 for shorts.

BARLEY.

No sales reported in this grain.

OATS

Very little offered or wanted, with an occasional car taken at 44 to 45c.

OATMEAL

Prices hold steady at \$2.65 for standard and \$2.75 for granulated, in trade lots.

EGGS.

The market continues to rule easier, and last week case lots were going at 2c for Minnesota imported fresh. One dealer alone has already this season paid out about \$1,500 for Minnesota eggs. Very few Manitoba fresh have been in the market yet, but country dealers were sending in their orders for cases freely last week, which betokens an early movement from the country.

BUTTER

The butter market continues to be in an unsatisfactory condition. Some dealers declare they can sell anything but butter, but they cannot get rid of it. One dealer said he would sell every pound in his storehouse at a considerable cut on ruling prices, if he could get an offer for a large amount. About the only demand is from

the city trade for small quantities. Occasionally a small lot of extra choice goes for 20c or over, but such sales cannot be taken as a guide to the market, and good average butter, such as is usually received in this market, can be had in any quantity at 18c, which is about the ruling price. There is no doubt but that a considerable quantity of butter has been shipped through from Toronto or other eastern places to western Territorial points, which is the cause for the lack of outside orders here. This apparent fact, together with the belief that large stocks are held in the country, judging from the free offerings, would have the effect of causing some dealers to shade prices on large orders.

CURED MEATS

Hold firm at the late advance as follows: Long-clear, in lots of under 500 pounds, 10c; over 500 pounds 9c; breakfast bacon, clear, 12c; breakfast bacon, unclear, 11c; spiced rolls, 11c; hams, 13c; mess pork, \$18 per barrel.

LARD

Firm at the late advance, as follows: \$2.25 per per pail of 20 pounds. Three-pound pails, 43c; five-pound pails, 65c each.

DRESSED MEATS.

One car of hogs which would average nearly 200 pounds per hog, arrived and was taken at 6c on track. A number of other rail lots brought the same figure. This can therefore be considered as the established price for all good hogs. We did not hear of any going over 6c, though perhaps an odd hog might sell in a retail way for a fraction over that price. It is not thought that there will be any more car lots in, but small rail lots are expected to arrive for the next month. Receipts of frozen beef were large last week, and prices were a shade easier, ranging all the way from 4c for poor; 4½c for common; 5 to 5½c for good; and 5½c for choice. Prices for sides. An odd side may have sold at a fraction over 5½c for extra choice, but it could not be considered a regular quotation. Best pork sausage, 8c.

LIVE STOCK.

Hardly anything doing, with prices nominal, at 31 to 4c, the latter for choice cattle.

HAY

Baled hay was offered as before at \$7 to \$8 per ton f.o.c., and some lots were being shipped to western points. On the market loads had advanced \$1 to \$2 per ton, owing to the disappearance of sleighing and a consequent shortage in offerings. Loads were selling at \$8 to \$8.50 per ton.

VEGETABLES

Vegetables, with the exception of potatoes, are very scarce and dear. Potatoes bring 60 to 75c per bushel. A car lot of imported vegetables sold as follows: cabbage, \$2 per dozen; parsnips, \$1.50 per bushel; carrots, \$1.50 per bushel; turnips, home grown, 80c per bush.

Insurance Briefs.

Calgary, Alberta, has purchased a new steam fire engine, built water tanks, and is now erecting a new fire hall.

The seventeenth annual meeting of the Ontario Mutual Life Insurance Co. will be held in Waterloo, on the 5th of April.

The total of new life insurance policies written in the United States during 1886 is estimated at \$400,000,000 exclusive of the various benevolent associations.

The business for 1886 of the Citizens Insurance Co., has proved more satisfactory than that of the preceding year, revenue being larger and losses, whether by fire or by death smaller. The company's surplus, over re-insurance ability in the different branches, has been increased from \$83,011 at the close of 1885 to \$4,403 at

the close of 1886. The annual report contains a strong paragraph against deerying Montreal city as a bad field for fire risks.

The Bible does not forbid insurance says the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher in reply to a question put to him by a member of another Church whose pastor had told him, among other similar things, that by insuring his life he would lose his membership in his Church. Mr Beecher returned a reply, which may be summed up in the following portions of his remarks. "Life insurance is not only not wrong, but it is a duty. No one has a right to leave those who are dependent upon his love and care to chance, and to the chances of industrial paralysis and poverty."

In a circular issued by the Ontario Mutual, we find the following: "Compound interest, like fire, is a faithful servant, but a most tyrannical master, working for or against us, it works with unremitting diligence. We may work, sleep or play, but it never relays. It regards neither night nor Sunday, fair weather nor foul, but works twenty-four hours of every day and three hundred and sixty-five days of every year. Its work is silent, steady and sure, and its strength and activity increase with its age. Woe to the unfortunate who becomes a victim in its grasp, and happy is the condition of him who early avails himself of such industrious aid. The young man who yearly husbands a portion of his income, be it ever so small a portion, and, despite all temptations to the contrary, funds it at interest, has a reasonable prospect of reaching an age of ease and retirement."

Seen in a First-Class Harness House.

In no line of business has there been a greater development and improvement than in harness and saddlery goods, or what might be properly called "horse clothing and jewelry." Since the Sickles' Saddlery Co. opened up their new department, it is well worth the while of a novice in this line to look over the novel and improved goods of this character they now carry in stock. We mention a few of the articles worthy of the attention of any one not familiar with the most improved goods of this class. Of course their show cases contain a large variety of the best style and finish of silver and gold plated harness, terretts, buckles, and all parts of harness hardware, so they need not be mentioned. Among the goods not usually carried in such stocks can be found measuring sticks gotten up like handsome walking canes, which can be immediately drawn out and used to take the height of a horse. The variety of fine whips they have are well worth looking over. Cheap whips made in a variety of woods, with ivory handles and solid gold and silver bands, worth from \$15 to \$20 each, are good enough for parlor ornaments. As for the ladies' riding whips, they are just "too too." The young man who wants to make his girl happy, ought to take her riding and present her with one of these \$7.50 or \$10 beauties, and he will be solid with her for all time. But it would take too much space to enumerate all the nice things that can be seen. The variety of soaps, oils and blackings, of horse boots, of singers and clippers, of bits, foot muffs, lap dusters, horse nets, sweat scrapers and no end of other things, is absolutely complete. There are actually more things used now in harness than in those of a lady.—*Leather Gazette.*