

## MARKET REVIEW AND FORECAST.

Office of FARMING,  
44 and 46 Richmond street W., Toronto.  
April 18th, 1898.

The warm weather of last week has stimulated trade and given it more buoyancy. Men in business circles have been discussing the effect a war between the United States and Spain would have upon Canadian trade. It is generally conceded that in the event of war Canadian shipping would show greater activity than ever before. The traffic by the St. Lawrence would greatly increase, as it would be necessary to bring in imports for the west by that route. It is also expected that a great deal of the trade from the west for Europe would go by way of Canada.

## Wheat.

The grain markets show considerably more activity during the week, owing largely to the outlook for war being more certain. There seems to be a tendency in the west for farmers to hold their wheat with the probable hope that in the event of war Leiter may be able to shove the market up to \$1.50 or \$2. There seems, however, to be little chance of his doing so. The visible wheat supply now shows an excess of 13,000,000 bushels over the same time last year. It is altogether likely that in the event of war prices may advance for a time, but will not continue to do so.

The wheat market is, however, firm, and late cable despatches show an advance of 61 per quarter with a good demand. At Toronto there has been a gradual advance in prices, and as high as 90 cents was reached towards the end of the week for red north and west. Manitoba wheat seems to be a little unsettled. It is quoted at \$1.12 North By. and at \$1.08 Midland. In Manitoba there is nothing doing at the country markets. At Winnipeg cash wheat ranged from 97c. to 98c. The stocks of wheat at lake and interior points are now estimated at 3,400,000 bushels, as compared with 6,000,000 a year ago. At Montreal not much is doing, though the market is strongly in sympathy with the rise at Chicago. Wheat for May shipment is quoted at 92c.

## Barley and Oats.

At Montreal the barley market is quiet but steady at 50c. to 52c. for No. 1 bright malting barley, and 39c. to 41c. for feed. At Toronto the market is dull and one or two cents lower than last week's quotations.

The oat market is firmer, and at Toronto oats were selling during the week for from 30c. to 31c. north and west. At Montreal the market is 3 to 3 1/2 cents higher, with prices at 34 1/2c. to 34 3/4c. on cars and 35 1/2c. to 35 3/4c. at retail. May. Cable despatches show a firmer feeling and an advance of 6d. per quarter. Canadian oats are in demand.

## Peas and Corn.

At Montreal the market for peas is quiet but firm, with an upward tendency in values. Holders are asking 66c. at retail, May, with 65c. bid and 63c. in store. At Toronto the market is firm, and prices range from 57 1/2c. to 58c. The English market is firm, with an advance of 3d. per quarter during the week.

Corn is selling for from 31 1/2c. for Canadian to 37 1/2c. for American, delivered at Toronto.

## Buckwheat.

The market is steady at about 37c. west. At Montreal the market is firmer, and higher; sales of car lots in stores are reported at 49c.

## Bran and Shorts.

There is a fair demand for mill feed. Cars of shorts are quoted at \$12.50 to \$13, and bran at \$10.50 to \$11 west. It is reported at Montreal that Ontario bran is hard to sell, owing to a poor demand, and sales of 100 cars in bulk are reported at \$13.75 and \$14 respectively. Shorts are easier at \$14.50 to \$15.

## Timothy and Clover Seed.

The demand for the home trade is not as large as in former years at this season. Prices are steady, job lots out of the stores being quoted per 100 lbs. as follows: Timothy, \$3.45 to \$4.60; red clover, \$5 to \$6; and alsike, \$5 to \$5.50. At Montreal the market is quiet and steady at the following prices: Red clover at \$3.25 to \$4; alsike, \$3.50 to \$4.25; and timothy, \$1.50 to \$2, as to quality and size of lot.

## Potatoes.

Are dull and lower. Cars on track are quoted at 45c. to 50c. Potatoes out of store

sell at 55c. to 60c. At Montreal the market is quiet for car lots at 55c., and 55c. to 65c. are quoted as to quantity. A good many potatoes are sprouting.

## Eggs and Poultry.

Eggs are steady with a fair demand at 9 1/2c. Offerings of poultry are small. There is a fair demand and the market is steady at 50c. to 75c. for chickens. At Montreal the supply of eggs continues to increase and prices are easier by 1/2c.; about 9 1/2c. seems to be the ruling price for large lots. Single cases are still selling at 10c.

## Maple Syrup.

The supply is fair, there is a good demand and the market is steady at 65c. for wine gallons and 90c. for imperial. At Montreal the market is reported quiet for syrup at 50c. for new in small tins, and 60c. in large tins. In wood 4 1/2c. to 5c. per lb. Sugar is 6c. to 7c. as to quality.

## Hay.

The market is quiet and unchanged for baled hay. Cars on the track at Toronto are quoted at \$8 to \$8.50. At Montreal No. 1 quality is scarce and sales are reported at \$11 to \$11.25 in car lots, No. 2 is \$8.50 to \$9.50, and all grades below these range all the way from \$7 down to \$4.50.

## Cheese.

The cheese situation has improved greatly during the past week. The Liverpool cable has advanced one shilling and London cable still higher. This improvement in the situation may be ascribed to two causes: the largely increased consumption of cheese in England owing to the present low values and the fact that very little fodder cheese will be made. The outlook is much brighter and the tendency is towards higher prices. At Montreal there have been sales during the week of 10,000 boxes of finest old cheese at 7 1/2c. to 8c., which is quite an improvement over last week's figure. Very few fodder cheese have been offered. Prices range from 7 1/4c. to 7 1/2c., as to quality.

## Butter.

The receipts of creamery butter are increasing very fast, with an accompanying easier turn to the market. At Montreal there has been a decline of fully 2c. per lb. since the week previous with sales at 20 to 20 1/2c., and offerings at 20c. later in the week. There is still a good local demand, but the supplies are now in excess of the demand and buyers are more cautious. Sales of several lots in boxes are reported at 19c. and in tubs at 20c. These prices, however, are fully 3c. higher than at the same time last year. Eastern township dairy is selling close up to creamery prices, and bring from 18 1/2c. to 19c.

At Toronto receipts are also getting more liberal. Creamery continues to be in good demand, and is steady at 20c. to 21c. prints and 19c. for tubs. The supply of dairy rolls is more liberal and brings from 16c. to 16 1/2c. with a good demand.

Late cable despatches report large arrivals of Danish butter. The market is easier, with no further decline in prices, but buyers are holding off. Finest Canadian is quoted at 98c. at London, and 96c. at Liverpool, with fancy 1s. to 2s. more.

## Cattle.

London cables during the week indicate an easier feeling. Prices are 2s. per stone lower. Receipts at the local market here were light early in the week but were quite liberal towards the close. A weaker feeling prevailed both at Toronto and Montreal during the week owing to large supplies.

**Export cattle.**—There were quite a few buyers on Friday's market, but the supply was large and the feeling weak. The ruling prices were from \$3.90 to \$4.40 per cwt., the latter for extra choice cattle. All shipping is being done by way of Boston.

**Butchers' cattle.**—The offerings were heavy at Friday's market and prices only fair. Drovers are reported as paying too high prices in the country. Prices have ranged during the week from 2 1/2c. to 3 1/2c. per lb.; some picked lots brought \$3.85 per cwt. At Montreal prices have ranged during the week from 2c. per lb. for common stuff to 4c. per lb. for prime steers.

**Stockers and feeders.**—This market also showed a weaker tendency during the week owing to the heavy offerings. Prices were from \$3.25 to \$3.40 for light, and \$3.60 to \$3.70 for heavy feeders. 150 head were bought for \$3.40 to \$3.47 at Friday's market for shipment to Nebraska. Feeding bulls are dull at 2 1/2c. to 2 3/4c. per lb.

**Milk cows.**—The quality has been vari-

able and prices range from \$20 to \$45 each. A few early springers are wanted.

**Calfers.**—Good veal calves are selling well from \$5 to \$8, other grades at from \$2.50 up. There are too many unsaleable "slink" calves coming in. The Montreal market is glutted.

## Sheep and Lambs

Trade was a little off during the week. Sheep sold from 3c. to 3 1/2c. for good ewes and wethers towards the end of the week, and 2 1/2c. for bucks. Yearling lambs are steady at 4 1/4c. to 5 1/2c. per lb. On Tuesday's market spring lambs brought from \$3 to \$5 each; Friday they were quiet at \$3 to \$4 each.

## Hogs.

Choice singers have been selling for from \$4.50 to \$4.75, the latter being paid for a few extra fancy. Thick fat and light bring 4 1/2c. per lb., sows 3c. to 3 1/2c., and stags 2c. to 2 1/2c. The Montreal market is reported glutted with fat hogs, and sales have been made at \$4.65 per 100 lb.

## BOOKS AND BULLETINS.

The report of the Department of Agriculture for New Brunswick has just been issued. It contains reports from the various local societies as to the nature of the soil, the crops grown, the kinds of stock kept, and the progress made in the various branches of farming carried on, and should prove of value to the farmers of that province. In addition it contains several valuable articles on practical farm work.

The journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England for the quarter ending March 31st, 1898, has just been issued. It is full of valuable information in regard to the doings of the society, and some special articles bearing upon questions of vital importance to the Canadian farmer.

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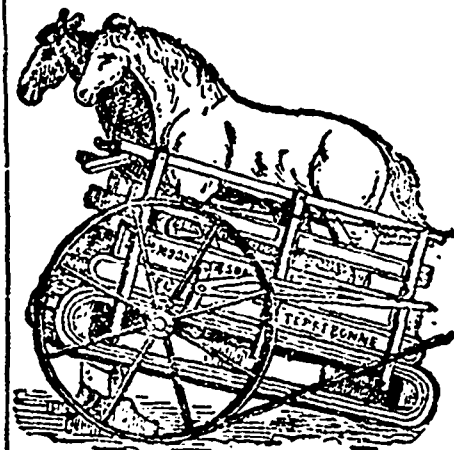
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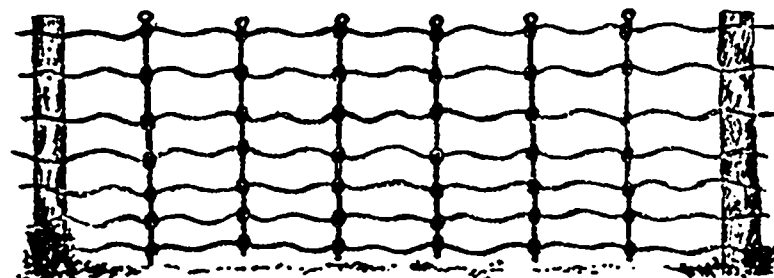
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