

Commercial.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE OFFICE,
London, Ont., Nov. 2, 1885.

Another month of comparatively fine weather is leaving the farmers no excuse nor reason to complain that the weather has retarded the fall work. The roads are good, but the movement of grain has not been as free as it might be, nor what the merchants would like to see. Farmers are slow to take in the situation or realize the fact that the wheels of trade and commerce depend so much upon them, and that all lines of business and manufacturing depend largely upon a bountiful harvest and free marketing of the same.

WHEAT.

The market for this article has fluctuated somewhat the past month, but the range of prices are now much the same. The movement of wheat in the Western States has been pretty free, while with us it is only moderate, and the export demand does not stimulate the buyers to any exertions to buy for through shipments.

The total quantity of wheat in America is now about 85,000,000 bushels less than a year ago; the visible supply being about 15,000,000 greater than a year ago, would indicate that the invisible supply is 100,000,000 smaller than then.

The following shows the exports of wheat and corn, including wheat in flour, from all American ports and Montreal, from September 1 to October 10, for the years named:

	Wheat.	Corn.
1885.....	8,016,000	5,366,000
1884.....	16,359,000	1,970,000
1883.....	15,156,000	6,940,000
1882.....	25,157,000	875,000
1881.....	17,443,000	5,545,000
1880.....	25,629,000	12,268,000
1879.....	43,662,000	9,999,000

The fall of exchange and the low price of silver, are said to be stimulating the export of wheat from India. Enormous shipments are pending. Vessels have already been chartered for the shipment of 100,000 tons before January.

A leading Chicago dealer says: "October is the month of big receipts, and it is not reasonable to suppose the advance came to stay. Still, whether Europe takes hold or not, I believe the grain will all be wanted, especially as the south is already drawing heavily upon the northwest, their home deliveries not being equal to their demands for bread. Along in the early months of 1886 I look for a permanent improvement in values."

LIVE STOCK.

The British live stock markets have been very depressed, and prime steers have been sold at 10c. per lb. The decline in the past six weeks has been 4 cents per lb.

The Montreal Gazette reports the market as follows:

"Our cables to-day regarding the British cattle trade are the worst yet by a long way, indicating a most deplorable state of affairs for which it is difficult to account, and quoting an extremely low range of values. To sell at all at any price during the past week has been a most disheartening task, and the money dropped by holders must foot up a very large total. It is hardly too much to say that cattle are being given away, when prime Canadian steers can command only 10c. per lb. in the Liverpool market. The decline in six weeks has been four cents per pound. Receipts of cattle from Canada and the United States have continued heavy, but is more satisfactory to note that the receipts from other quarters have fallen off considerably, despite which, however, the markets have been in the last stages of demoralization, and values have declined one cent per pound during the week. At Liverpool to-day trade was extremely dull under heavy offerings and a weak, dragging demand. Sellers were forced to accept buyers' prices or hold, as the latter completely controlled the market, and bought at any figure they chose to name. Prime Canadian steers sold at 10c.

per lb., which is a phenomenally low price. Fair to choice grades were at 9½c. poor to medium at 8½c., and inferior and bulls at 5c. @ 6½c. The sheep trade has remained unchanged. Best sheep at Liverpool to-day were at 13c., secondary qualities at 11c. @ 12c., merinos at 10½c. @ 11½c., and inferior and rams at 8c. @ 9½c. All the foregoing quotations are calculated at 480 in the £.

The following were the exports of live stock from the port of Montreal for the week ended October, 24, with comparisons:

Per	To	Cattle.	Sheep.
Carthaginian.....	Glasgow.....	745
Dominion.....	Bristol.....	335	292
L. Winnipeg.....	Liverpool.....	152	252
Total.....		1,232	544

Last week.....	1,385	1,219
Corresponding week, 1884.....	2,007	2,426
Corresponding week, 1883.....	306	1,210
Corresponding week, 1882.....	508	855
Corresponding week, 1881.....	911	1,722
Corresponding week, 1880.....	422	698
Corresponding week, 1879.....	108
Corresponding week, 1878.....	43
Total to date.....	58,035	37,402
To same date, 1884.....	53,540	52,749
To same date, 1883.....	47,825	80,710
To same date, 1882.....	26,938	57,991
To same date, 1881.....	36,277	52,312
To same date, 1880.....	37,944	68,719
To same date, 1879.....	20,868	60,904
To same date, 1878.....	13,953	25,324

APPLES.

The crop of apples (winter) in some sections is very heavy and very fine. Buyers are paying about \$1 per barrel for export.

A London, Eng., circular, dated Oct. 17th, quotes:—

Kings @ 17s. to 19s. per bbl.
Spitz @ 18s. to 18s. 6d. per bbl.
Baldwins @ 13s. to 16s. 6d. per bbl.
Greenings @ 11s. to 13s. per bbl.
Other sorts 12s. to 15s. per bbl.

At the auction rooms, Covent Garden, some choice lots of Baldwins sold as high as 18s.

The following were the exports of apples from the port of Montreal for the week ended October 24:—

Per	To	Brls.
Concordia.....	Glasgow.....	277
Barcelona.....	Bristol.....	130
Carthaginian.....	Glasgow.....	4,897
Circassian.....	Liverpool.....	3,556
Sarnia.....	Liverpool.....	587

Total.....	9,447
Last week.....	3,462
Total to date.....	21,775

The total shipments for the week ended Oct. 24th, from Montreal, New York and Boston to British ports, was 54,000 bbls., and for this season up to date named 178,700 bbls. Same date last year, 185,759 bbls. Of this quantity 21,800 has been shipped from the port of Montreal, 128,000 from New York, and 26,500 from Boston and 2,000 from Halifax.

CHEESE.

The cheese market has ruled very quiet for the past two weeks, and the edge seems to be off again; whether it is only a sort of breathing spell or halt to consider matters well before the final rush for the season is made, remains to be seen. There don't seem to be much disposition on the part of importers to lay in any stocks, as the losses of last year are still too fresh in remembrance. By far the greater portion of the September make east of Toronto is moving, and will probably be all moved by the first of November. West of Toronto the August make is pretty well gone, with September and October cheese still in the factories, with considerable sold. Taken all through the make of fall cheese cannot be considered excessive, but it remains to be seen whether the market can take it or not. Factory men who have not sold, are holding at 10½c. and 11c. for September and October cheese; whether they will succeed in getting this figure remains to be seen.

BUTTER.

The butter market is very quiet and there is no demand for any but the very finest grades. The export demand for dairy goods is very limited, and unless producers shade their prices very materially a good deal of the supply held in the country will have to remain where it is for some time. Creamery is also held too high to admit of business. Montreal quotations are as follows:—

Creamery, choice.....	22	@	23
Creamery, fair to good.....	20	@	21½
Townships, finest.....	19	@	20
Townships, fair to good.....	15	@	18½
Morrisburg.....	14	@	19
Brockville.....	14	@	19
Western.....	12	@	15

PRICES AT FARMERS' WAGONS, TORONTO:

	Oct. 30, 1885.
Wheat, fall, per bushel.....	\$0 88 0 00
Wheat, spring, do.....	0 88 0 00
Wheat, goose, do.....	0 75 0 75
Barley, do.....	0 55 0 55
Oats, do.....	0 34 0 33
Peas, do.....	0 60 0 62
Rye, do.....	0 60 0 62
Beans, do.....	1 00 1 25
Dressed hogs, per 100 lbs.....	5 75 0 00
Beef, forequarters.....	3 25 4 25
Beef, hindquarters.....	5 50 7 00
Mutton, carcass.....	6 00 7 00
Hay, timothy.....	14 00 17 00
Hay, clover.....	11 00 13 00

PRICES AT ST. LAWRENCE MARKET, TORONTO.

	Oct. 30, 1885.
Chickens, per pair.....	\$0 45 0 55
Ducks, do.....	0 50 0 75
Butter, pound rolls.....	0 19 0 20
Butter, large rolls.....	0 14 0 16
Butter, inferior.....	10 12
Lard.....	10 00
Bacon.....	9 12
Turkeys.....	0 75 1 50
Geese.....	0 70 0 90
Cheese.....	0 10 0 12
Eggs, fresh, per dozen.....	0 23 0 24
Potatoes, per bag (new).....	0 75 0 80
Cabbages, per dozen.....	0 25 0 30
Apples, per bbl.....	0 20 0 30
Turnips, per bag.....	0 20 0 30
Carrots, per bag.....	0 30 0 35
Beets, per doz. bunches.....	0 35 0 40
Parsnips, per peck.....	0 15 0 20
Onions, per bag.....	1 00 1 20
Cauliflower, per doz.....	40 75

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Buffalo, Oct. 27, 1885:

CATTLE.

Receipts 9,449, against 8,440 the previous week. The offerings of cattle on Monday numbered 250 loads. Trade opened slow and at a sharp decline. Some choice steers sold at \$5 40 @ 5 65; good, \$5 10 @ 5 30; fair to medium at \$4 25 @ 4 85; good butchers' \$3 65 @ 4; mixed butchers at stock, \$3 @ 3 75, with stockers at \$3 @ 3 40, and feeders at \$3 50 @ 3 75. Prices were lower on Tuesday, and closed at \$3 50 @ 3 75. Of Michigan cattle 20 steers av. 940 lbs., sold at \$3 40; 20 do. av. 892 lbs. at \$3; 20 do. av. 823 lbs. at \$3; 18 do. av. 694 lbs. at \$2 85; 24 do. av. 688 lbs. at \$2 75; 23 do. av. 924 lbs. at \$3 20; 15 do. av. 874 lbs. at \$3 15; 33 do. av. 756 lbs. at \$3; 13 feeders av. 992 lbs. at \$3 90; 10 do. av. 1,010 lbs. at \$3 90; 19 do. av. 940 lbs. at \$3 50; 18 mixed butchers' av. 943 lbs. at \$3 45.

QUOTATIONS:

Extra Beeves—Graded steers weighing 1,450 lbs. and upwards.....	\$5 10	@	\$5 50
Choice Beeves—Fine, fat, well-formed steers, weighing 1,300 to 1,400 lbs.....	4 75	@	5 00
Good Beeves—Well-fattened steers weighing 1,200 to 1,350 lbs.....	4 25	@	4 65
Medium grades—Steers in fine flesh, weighing 1,050 to 1,250 lbs.....	3 75	@	4 15
Oxen—Coarse rough to extra.....	3 25	@	4 00
Good Butchers' Beeves—Light, fat steers, weighing 900 to 1,000 lbs.....	3 40	@	3 65
Heifers—Fair to choice.....	3 00	@	3 50
Cows and Heifers—Good to choice.....	2 75	@	3 50
Texas and Cherokees, corn fed.....	3 25	@	3 50
Do do grassy.....	3 00	@	3 25
Mixed Butchers' Stock—Common steers, stags, old cows, light heifers, etc.....	2 50	@	3 00
Stockers—Good to choice western, weighing from 950 to 1,000.....	3 00	@	3 40
Canadian feeders.....	3 50	@	3 90
Stock bulls.....	1 90	@	2 25
Butchers' do., fair to good.....	2 15	@	2 50
Veals—Fair to prime of 160 to 210 lbs. average.....	5 75	@	6 25

HOGS.

Receipts, 53,850, against 47,665 the previous week. The hog market opened up slow on Monday, but later improved, and sales were made at the closing prices of the previous week. The supply was light on Tuesday, and the feeling was stronger, and on Wednesday prices were advanced, closing with good to choice Yorkers selling at \$4 10 @ 4 15; fair do, \$4 00 @ 4 05; medium grades fair to choice, \$4 10 @ 4 15; good to extra heavy, \$4 @ 4 10; pigs, common to choice \$4 @ 4 10; skips and culls, \$3 @ 3 20.