

having given a spur to the demand, prices range from \$10 down to 5. A decided rise is noticeable in prices of sheep & lambs. No. 1 sheep bring \$5 to 5.50 per 100 lbs.; lambs bring \$5 to 5.50.

There are indications that this year will be an active one in the cattle export trade. From Ontario county and from Leeds and Grenville, shipments will be made of 2000 or 3000 head, between 1st May and 1st July. Preparations are being made at Halifax for numerous cargoes. One of our Toronto firms, Messrs. Thompson & Flanagan, have nearly 1000 head fattening in the byres, and are shipping this week to Portland and Boston. Their most important purchase has probably been the "big steer," of the Guelph Fair, a handsome animal of 3,550 lbs. weight, which has taken various first prizes. Two others, which, together weigh 5,600 lbs., raised also in Waterloo County, prize cattle, were bought by this firm for shipment abroad, or exhibition, as well as a handsome 4 year old heifer, of 2,400 lbs. weight, from Wellington County. These will be sent forward by the Dominion Line steamer "Brooklyn," from Halifax, 4th April. They are confidently called the finest cattle to be had in Canada, and show what prudent buying and careful feeding can do.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—The article which is most prominent in drug circulars this week is opium, a speculative movement in which the United States has sent the price up from \$5.25 to 6.75 duty paid for new in New York. This advance is professedly based upon reports from Smyrna, of damage to the growing crop by bad weather, in which there appears to be some truth, though not enough to justify the prices the attempted "Corner" will demand, we quote meantime \$7.00. Borax is higher, so also is Cream of Tartar. We quote quinine \$4.20; Morphine, \$3.80 to 4.00; soda bicarb, \$4.20 to 4.30.

**FLOUR AND MEAL.**—*Flour.*—Stocks in store 13,500 brls. against 13,400 brls. last week, and 27,790 bush. on like date last year. The week has been a fairly active one in Superior flour for lower ports, 7,000 or 8,000 brls. changed hands for that destination, some by G. W. R. etc., to Boston, the rest all rail. The grades principally shipped were superiors at our quotations, a better quality of flour than Nova Scotians and New Brunswickers used to buy mainly from us. There is no fancy in market and no demand. The active request for strong bakers, comes as much from Montreal as from our own bakers; This grade is temporarily as high as superior extra. *Oatmeal* is inactive at about our quotations.

**GRAIN.**—*Wheat.*—Fall.—Stocks in store 180,883 bush. against 176,197 bush. last week, and 96,245 bush. on like date last year. The market is dull and declining, no transactions on the week except an odd car load for milling; no export demand. Quotations are 1 to 2c. lower. *Wheat.*—Spring. Stocks in store 152,495 bush. against 162,444 bush. last week and 225,384 bush. on like date last year. We quote No. 1 say \$1.28 to 1.29; No. 2, \$1.26 to 1.27. *Oats.*—Stocks in store 22,350 bush. against 22,350 bush last week and 8,411 bush. on like date last year. This grain is in adequate supply and prices steady. *Barley.*—Stocks in store 124,771 bush. against 129,393 bush. last week and 88,813 bush. on like date last year. The market is somewhat easier, and a moderate demand exists. *Peas.*—Stocks in store 59,377 bush. against 57,552 bush last week and 50,499 bush. on like date last year. Prices unchanged.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—The prices for green and cured hides continue as previously reported, 9c for steers and 8½c for cows. A car sold this week of cured at 9c. For green calfskins 14½ and 12½c are paid, while 15 and in some cases 15½c are obtained for cured. The usual number of sheepskins for this season are offering, and

STATEMENT OF BANKS Acting under Charter, for the Month ending 29th Feb., 1880, according to Returns furnished by the Banks to the Auditor of Public Accounts

LIABILITIES												