

TORONTO MARKETS.

TORONTO, April 28th, 1881.

The stock market has been active here all week, especially in bank shares. Ontario sold on Monday at 101½ and on Wednesday at 102½ closing with sellers 1½ and buyers ¾ higher; Merchants sold yesterday at 122½; Commerce sold on Tuesday at 143 and 144 and yesterday at 145; Standard brought 107½ on Monday and 107 on Wednesday; Dominion brought 163 early in the week, declining ½ later. There were buyers of Federal at 148½ on Monday which figure fell to 147½ on Wednesday, several sales having been made in the meantime. No sales are reported of either Montreal or Toronto Bank stock although bids for the former rose 7½ per cent. say to 193½, on declaration of the dividend, Toronto rose 5.

Loan & Savings' shares have sold in limited numbers. Sales of People's were made on Monday and Tuesday at 113, but it was held higher yesterday. Farmers sold at 132 and Building & Loan at 102½ and 103; Landed Credit sold at 140; Canada Permanent sold on Wednesday at 206½; Huron & Erie was held at 163½ with 163½ offered. In Miscellaneous shares Montreal Telegraph showed a considerable decline and Dominion Tel. an improvement.

Boots & Shoes.—An advance of prices for Fall makes is not unlikely, inasmuch as the hands in various city factories have made a demand for an advance of ten per cent in wages. On Monday, representatives of the work-people met the manufacturers in Mr. W. B. Hamilton's warehouse, with a view to readjustment of wages; and if their demand be granted, the advance will be added to the price of goods. The factories are working full time, and the travellers out send in a fair number of assorting orders, and report their customers feeling in good spirits.

Dry Goods.—A steady trade is doing in this line. Advices from travellers and from country customers indicate that the fall wheat looks well, rains have fallen west of Guelph and east of Whitby, which make the farmers' prospects more favorable than immediately round the city. Open water, and the beginnings of navigation are also giving stimulus to trade. There is a scarcity of woollen goods, tweeds of Canadian make have been closely sold up by the mills; the make of blankets, too, has been well sold at prices lower than last year, and in knitted underwear, those houses which delayed ordering cannot now get their wants fully supplied. The mills are sold fully up in flannels, whether whites, reds, or greys. In cotton goods, large stocks of the new styles in prints and other fancy cottons have been disposed of. Canadian whites and greys are decidedly scarce, the mills being full of orders, some of them for months ahead. Payments are generally reported good, although country stocks are pretty full, and the travellers who are out send in but moderate orders.

Flour and Meal.—The market for flour is steadier, freights being reduced to Montreal 10c per bbl. per steamer now that navigation has opened. Some sales of extras have been made at quotations, but no heavy lots are moving. Fancy and superfine are out of market; \$4.50 is a nominal figure for the latter, and \$4.00 for fine. The stocks of flour in store here on Monday last amounted to 9,546 barrels, as compared with 12,265 on like date last year. Oatmeal is unchanged from last week. Bran remains at \$14.50 per ton.

GRAIN.—The market is quiet on grain. English advices report dullness in wheat and corn, while the west is weaker. A little more demand is apparent for Fall wheat, now that navigation is opening, and No. 2 has been in request for shipment to Montreal, our quotation being paid. Spring wheat remains quiet and steady, at last week's prices. There is no demand for barley, and quotations are nominal. Oats are unchanged at 40c., and 39c for different grades; peas and rye a little on the weak side. Corn steady. The stocks of grain in store were as under, in this city on Monday morning:

	F. Wheat	S. Wheat	Barley	Oats	Peas	Rye
	bush.	bush.	bush.	bush.	bush.	bush.
Apr. 25 '81	136,184	117,252	155,929	1,900	96,325	7,186
Apr. 26 '80	183,468	149,051	59,650	23,050	64,642	

GROCERIES.—Another dull week is to be noted, indeed the business of the whole month has been unusually small. The market for teas has been very depressed, the supply is heavy and prices have been below cost of growth occasioning ruinous losses to not a few houses in China. A New York telegram of yesterday from T. & F. Ross & Co. announces an improvement of 2c and there is a better feeling all round. The late and backward season in Japan has kept back the shrubs from sprouting. Prices of sugars have also ruled low of late, competition being excessive; prices to-day are ½c above the lowest point and a better feeling prevails. No Porto Rico is now selling under 7½c. There is some low priced Java coffee in market at 22c and say 28c is top price for this description. Fruit is scarce, and Valencia raisins firmer in price, 100 box lots cannot now be had, as lately they could, at 8½c. Wines and Liquors have been quiet, but this week some transactions have taken place in wines.

HARDWARE.—A moderate business continues to be done in builders' ware- and shelf goods; marine stores and farming tools are also meeting with fair request. In heavy goods, profits are cut fine, and prices, relatively to cost of production are certainly low. Old country advices give unfavorable accounts of the metals trade, numbers of tin workings in Wales have stopped production and the Scotch iron trade is not in satisfactory shape. The feeling in lead and tin is weak and there is not much firmness in Pig iron, although prices are not notably lower. Canada plates and cut nails are being sold by some houses at a shade under our quotations.

HIDES AND SKINS.—There are not many green hides offering, but all are taken at 8 to 8½c. Cured and inspected are in rather more active demand, 9c. being paid for cows and 9½ for steers, sales are in small parcels, mostly, because no one seems to have as much as a car to offer. Calfskins, nominal, there are not enough in yet to make a market. Sheepskins are steady, Tallow, unchanged.

LEATHER.—The market continues steady. For round lots our quotations would be shaded, in upper or splits as well, probably as in sole. Manufacturers have secured lots of upper, we are told, at 36c., but for country parcels the figures are well maintained. Cod oil we quote 55 to 60c. and Straits 50 to 55c.

PROVISIONS.—There is no new feature to report in the market for hog products. A fair jobbing trade is being done at quotations, though some dealers report orders light owing to the extremely high prices. The demand for hams is improving; Lard is unchanged at 14 to 14½c. for tubs and 14½ to 15 for pails, according to quantity. Butter is dull and hard to sell, no demand exists except for finest goods. Cheese is unchanged; new make is now offering at about 12½c. Dried Apples are quite neglected. Eggs continue steady at about 14c.; Hops are dull, brewers having about done brewing and not being disposed to buy; 18c is top price for new yearlings and two year olds bring from 5 to 10c. Mess beef is higher, there is a demand for it in some quarters to take the place of pork.

WOOL.—Prices in this market are generally unchanged, and there is not much movement in pulled, and in fleece little or none. The Boston wool market last week was slightly improved, prices being more settled, as bottom was supposed to have been reached. Manufacturers were buying with more freedom; 2,000,000 lbs. sold in the week, of which one fourth were Solid Virginia, and Pennsylvania fleeces. Michigan X sold at 37 to 39; Vermont X fleeces at 35 and N. H. at 37½c.; Pulled wools were in demand, coarse combings dull. Combing and delaine fleeces quiet.

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