

**MONTREAL GROCERY MARKET.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24th.  
 The grocery trade is quiet and steady this week, and without any changes in prices.  
 Quotations are: Granulated sugar, 4 1-4c in lots of over 250 barrels, and 4 3-8c for 100 bbl. lots, at the refineries; yellows, 3 1-4 to 3 7-8c. Molasses, 26 to 28c. Syrups, 1 3-4 to 2 1-2c as to quality. Valencia raisins from 4 3-4 to 5 1-2c. Valencia layers 6 1-2c. Currants, 5 1-8 to 6 1-2c, as to brand. Coffee, Rio, 8 1-2 to 11c Mocha and Java 20 to 24c.  
 Canned Goods—Tomatoes, 85 to 90c; corn, 85 to 70c; peas, 80.

**MONTREAL HARDWARE MARKET.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24th.  
 No changes reported in prices this week of staple lines.  
 White lead, government standard, \$5.37 1-2c; No. 1, \$5; dry white lead in kegs, 5c; red lead in kegs, 4 3-4c; linseed oil, raw, 43c, hotted 46c; turpentine, 48 to 49c; bar iron, \$1.35 to \$1.45; tin plates, cokes, \$2.75 to \$2.90; I. C. charcoal, \$3.25 to \$3.75; Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.15; tern plates, \$5.95 to \$6.25; galvanized iron, 4 1-4 to 4 3-4c; lead, \$3.75 to \$4; iron pipe, \$3.00 to \$4; putty in bulk, \$1.50; in bladders, \$1.65c; ingot tin, 15 1-2 to 16c.

**WESTERN BUSINESS ITEMS.**

A sale of three carloads of Manitoba flour, for the South American trade, was reported from Montreal on Monday last.  
 Archie McCallum, associated with his son John, and Frederick McQueen, will open business in Kaslo, B. C., under the name of the Kaslo Produce & Provision Co.  
 Malcolm McLean has sold out his grocery business at Pipestone, Man., to McNicol & Pitt. He is moving to Pilot Mound.  
 Robt. Gray, Jr. is opening an implement agency at Pipestone, Man., for the Sylvester Co.  
 E. P. Gardner, lately of Wapella, has opened business as watchmaker and jeweler, at Indian Head, Assn.

**Movements of Business Men**

W. W. Ogilvie, of Montreal, arrived in the city early last week, accompanied by his son, A. E. Ogilvie, on his annual visit of inspection to his extensive interests here. Later in the week Mr. Ogilvie returned east.  
 Mr. G. V. Hastings has returned from a trip to Rainy River, where he visited the lumber camp of the Lake of the Woods Milling company. A number of men are employed there getting out timber for the company's barrel factory.  
 J. A. McKeown, representing Wm. Grey & Son, carriage makers, of Chatham, Ont., was in Winnipeg last week on his return from a western trip. A. C. McRae handles the goods manufactured by this firm, in Winnipeg.  
 R. A. Rogers, manager of the Parson's Printing company, Winnipeg left the end of the week to spend the holiday season in the east.

**WINNIPEG CLEARING HOUSE.**

Week ending Dec. 23rd., clearings, \$2,141,510; balances, \$100,366. Corresponding week 1896, clearings, \$1,602,124; balances, \$245,670. Corresponding week, 1895, clearings, \$1,194,060; balances, 215,003.

**MINNEAPOLIS MARKETS.**

Flour is quoted 10 to 15c higher. Corn 1-2 to 3-4c higher; oats 1-4c higher; max seed 1 to 2c higher; butter 1 to 2c lower; poultry higher for turkeys and geese.  
 Flour—Prices in barrels First patents, \$5.10 to \$5.25, second patents, \$5 to \$5.10.  
 Millfeed—Shorts in bulk, \$7.75 to \$8; bran in bulk, \$7.50 to \$7.75; corn feed, \$17.00 to \$11.00 per ton.  
 Corn—Quoted at 2 1-2 to 2 3-4c for No. 4, 2 3-4 to 2 5c for No. 3, and 2 1-4 for No. 3 yellow per bushel of 56 pounds.  
 Oats—Held at 22 1-4c for No. 3 white and 22c for No. 3 per bushel of 32 pounds.  
 Barley—Feed quoted at 23 to 23 1-2c.  
 Flax seed—\$1.16 to \$1.18 per bushel.  
 Eggs—10 to 17c for strictly fresh, the latter including cases; cold storage 10 to 14c.  
 Cheese—Choice to fancy, 9 to 10c; fair to good, 7 1-2 to 8c.  
 Butter—Creamery 19 to 20 1-2, seconds, 16 to 17c; dairy, 12 to 18c.  
 Dressed meats—Mutton, 4 to 6 1-2c; lambs, 5 to 8c; hogs, 3 1-4 to 3 1-2c for heavy and 4c for medium and light.  
 Potatoes—Car lots, mixed, 38 to 40c; choice, named varieties, 43 to 50c.  
 Poultry—Chickens, 6 to 7c, old fowl, 4 to 5c, turkeys, 9 to 11 1-2c; ducks, 7 to 8c, geese, 6 1-2 to 7 1-2c.

**MONTREAL GRAIN AND PRODUCE.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24.  
 Bran and shorts are nominal in the absence of business in Manitoba millfeed, as millers find a good market in the west. Hides are higher, owing to local competition. Butter is about 1-2c higher. Dressed hogs in good demand at firm prices.  
 Oats—No. 2 white in car lots on local account 27c.  
 Flour—Manitoba strong bakers, \$4.90 to \$5.00; Manitoba patents, \$5.40.  
 Millfeed—Manitoba bran, including sacks, \$11.50 per ton. Shorts, \$12.50.  
 Oatmeal—Rolled oats, \$1.65 to \$1.70 per bag.  
 Hides—9 to 9 1-2c for No. 1.  
 Eggs—Candled, 16 to 18c.; new laid, 21 to 22c.  
 Butter—Dairy, 15 to 16c.  
 Butter—Creamery, 18 1-2 to 19 1-2c.  
 Cheese—8 1-4 to 8 3-4c.  
 Dressed hogs—\$5.75 to \$6 per 100 pounds.  
 Dressed beef—Front quarters, 3 to 4c; hinds, 5 1-2 to 7c.  
 Dressed mutton—Lamb, 6 1-2 to 7c, mutton, 5 to 6c.

**DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.**

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:  
 Monday—Dec. 96c, May 92 3-4c.  
 Tuesday—Dec. 94 1-2c, May 91 1-4c.  
 Wednesday—Dec. 93 1-2c, May 91 1-8c.  
 Thursday—Dec. 93 1-2c, May 91 7-8c.  
 Friday—Dec. 94c, May 92 1-2c.  
 Saturday—Holiday.  
 Cash No. 1 hard closed on Saturday at 93 1-2c, and cash No. 1 Northern at 93 1-2c.  
 Last week December option closed at 93c.  
 A year ago May option closed at 81 1-2c, and two years ago at 56 3-4c, three years ago May option closed at 62c, and four years ago at 63 7-8c.

**MONTREAL STOCKS.**

Montreal, Dec. 23.—C. P. R. London, 83 7-8; Commercial Cable, 17.

**MONTREAL LIVE STOCK PRICES.**

Special to The Commercial.  
 Montreal, Dec. 24.  
 The only change in live stock is a further advance on hogs, choice averaging touched 5c this week. The offerings of choice cattle for the Christmas market were fairly liberal.  
 Cattle—Choice 4 1-2 to 4 3-4c, fair to good 3 to 4c.  
 Sheep—3 to 3 3-4c per lb.  
 Hogs—4 1-2 to 5c.

**LIVE STOCK MARKETS.**

At the East End Abattoir market, Montreal, on December 20, the supply of cattle was ample and the quality generally good. A few sales of really prime stall fed heaves were made at 5c to 5 1-4c; extra choice, 4 1-2c to 4 3-4c; choice, 4c to 4 1-4c; good, 3 1-2 to 3 3-4c; fair, 3c to 3 1-4c, and common, 2 1-2c to 2 3-4c per lb. The supply of sheep and lambs was small and the prices were firm. Lambs sold at 4c to 4 8-4c, and sheep at 3c to 3 3-4c per lb.  
 Cables from Glasgow on Dec. 16 say there was a strong feeling in the market for cattle and private cables received report an advance of fully 21 per head, which was due to smaller supplies and an improved demand. Prices for Canadian stock showed a fair profit.

Toronto dealers in live hogs complain that too many light hogs are coming forward. The farmers are not feeding them enough. This was the only class of hogs that showed a downward tendency.

London, Dec. 20.—Notwithstanding the fact that this is Christmas week trade in cattle was very bad and supplies were in excess of requirements, although no Canadian stock was on the market. The feeling was weak and prices declined 1-4c to 1-2c, choice States selling at 11 1-2c, and Argentine at 10c. Canadian sheep sold 1-2c lower at 10 1-2c and Argentine were steady at 10 1-2c.

**TORONTO MARKETS.**

Wheat—Sales of red winter at 83 and 83 1-2c; Manitoba hard quoted at \$1.04 Sarnia and Midland.  
 Flour—Steady at \$3.90 to \$4 for straight roller west.  
 Millfeed—Shorts, \$10 to \$11; bran, \$7.50 to \$8 west.  
 Barley—Nominal at 25 to 26c for feed.  
 Oats—Sales of white at 23 1-2 and 24c.  
 Butter—Good demand for large roll butter at 15c. Choice dairy tubs scarce and select lots would probably bring 16 to 17c. Medium butter, 12 1-2 to 14c.  
 Eggs—Market firm at 16 to 17c. Held fresh, 14c, hined, 13c.  
 Poultry—Prices are higher at 9 to 9 1-2c for turkeys, 6 to 6 1-2c for geese 40 to 75c for ducks and 35c to 50c per pair for chickens.

**NEW YORK MONEY.**

New York, Dec. 23.—3 p.m. Money on call firm at 3 to 4 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 3 1-2 to 4 per cent, sterling exchange weak with actual business in bankers' bills at \$4.84 1-4 to 3-8 for demand, and at \$4.81 3-8 to 1-2 for sixty days. Posted rates \$4.82 1-2 to \$4.83 and \$4.85 1-2 to \$4.86. Commercial bills at \$4.80 1-2 to \$4.81. Bar silver 57 3-8, Mexican dollars 45 5-8. Government bonds weak. Stocks closed strong at the best.