

ominous hints at a material change in prices being likely soon to take place, but as to whether they mean another break or an advance they are very uncertain.

## GROCERIES.

This branch of business is not in a rushing state, but during the past week a steady flow of business has been doing. Both city and country retailers are making steady demands, and matters move with a very even flow. The demands for the holiday season have not yet set in, and the trade of the week has been of the most ordinary nature. Collections in the country are reported fair to good, and perfect confidence is general. Prices of staple goods have undergone scarcely any change. Sugars have stiffened a little, and are quoted, bright yellows, 10c to 10½c; granulated, 11½c; Paris lumps, 12½c. Green coffees are quoted: Rio, 15c to 16c; Government Java, 22½c to 25c; Mocha, 36c.

## HARDWARE.

There has been increased activity during the past week in some branches of this trade, especially in stoves. The demand for these has increased so rapidly that numerous orders remain yet unfilled. The cold weather has also caused quite a noticeable decrease in the demand for material used for building purposes. Trade has not been quite so rushed as during the latter part of October, but it is still in a prosperous state, and promises to hold steady for weeks to come.

## LUMBER.

From this branch comes the report of an undiminished demand, and as the season for running the mills draws near a close it becomes more apparent that heavy importations will be necessary to fill the orders now on hand, and yet to be expected before the close of the year.

Prices remain the same as last week. Sheet-iron, \$28; common dimension, \$30 to \$32; fencing, \$28 to \$34; stock, \$33 to \$40; flooring, \$35 to \$45; partition, \$45 to \$50; graded clear, \$50 to \$70; shingles, \$4.50 to \$6; lath, \$5.

## STATIONERY AND PAPER.

There has been no change in the state of this branch of trade during the past week. Preparations are now being made in the fancy departments for the holiday trade, and a general livening up is expected soon.

## WINES AND SPIRITS.

Wholesale dealers in this line report a very fair trade, and matters moving in a steady and satisfactory way.

## THE MARKETS.

## WINNIPEG.

## GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

Very little change has taken place in the grain market of the city during the past week, and the prices of grain of every description has had an upward tendency, while oats have made an advance of several cents during the past few days. The receipts of wheat still continue to be meagre, and in the streets they have been very limited. Millers have a good demand in shipping orders, which they have not been able to fill completely owing to the fact that receipts of grain are very little above what is required for the local demand. Consignments of flour for the Eastern market have only amounted to

some four cars, exclusive of one of 1,500 bags which was shipped *via* Thunder Bay, and was for the use of contractors. Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Emerson, West Lynne, and other towns have contributed to the wheat receipts by rail, and upon these the millers have been almost entirely dependent for their supply. Oats have been arriving at the rate of five to six cars a day, but the supply is still insufficient for the demand, and a firmness in prices prevails. Some of our dealers have been doing a good commission business in car lots, which have been billed direct from one point to another without any transfer at Winnipeg.

## WHEAT

holds steady at 90c for prime hard Fife, while inferior lots have ranged between 84c and 87c. Millers prefer paying for the finer lots, and the inferior are not much in demand even at the reduced prices.

## OATS

have sold from 48c to 55c, the latter figure being paid in but few instances, and during the closing days of the week, and for prime lots only.

## BARLEY

is still scarce, and is wanted at 67c for best quality and 60c for medium. The receipts during the week have been very limited indeed, and there is little prospect of any increase.

## BUCKWHEAT

is wanted at 90c a bushel, but only a few loads have been received during the week.

## FLOUR

has made no change in prices during the week, the demand being steady, and the millers not feeling warranted in making any reductions until wheat becomes more plentiful. Quotations are, patents, \$3.60; bakers, or 4 x, \$2.80; dealers or 2 x, \$2 per half barrel.

## BRAN

is still quoted at \$10 a ton in car lots, but the increasing demand warrants an advance, and higher prices will probably be asked during the present week.

## SHORTS

have made no change in price; \$12 a ton is still asked, and there is now a steady fair demand.

## BUTTER.

Heavy receipts have been received in the city from the East during the week, and the quantity now on sight here is very considerable. The demand from all points is steadily good, and prices have declined scarcely any. The glut of the market which was dreaded two weeks ago has not yet taken place, nor is it likely to, with a free demand like the present. Choice Ontario lots sold at from 24c to 26c, with but few sales at the latter figure. Lower grades are quoted from 20c to 23c, but the demand for these is very small. Fresh butter from local dairies does not reach the wholesale market, but sells in small lots at fancy prices.

## EGGS

are still to be had in comparative plenty, considering the season. Prices have varied very little from the previous week, and good lots sell freely as high as 35c. The principal supply still comes from Iowa in barrels.

## HAMS.

The demand in this line is steady and in no way falling off. The stock in the city is comparatively limited at present, and prices during the week have remained firm. Sales are reported from 18½c to 19½c.

## BACON.

The supply of this in the city is also limited, and prices have held firm during the week, as a good demand has existed. Canadian is quoted at 18c to 18½c, and American 19½c to 20c.

## MESS PORK.

The unsettled state of this market at the great packing centers has caused dealers here to run for some time on very light stocks, and quite a few have run out entirely during the

past week. This scarcity holds prices comparatively firm, and notwithstanding the break in prices which occurred in Chicago during the week, no material decline has taken place here. The extreme prices of ten days ago are not looked for, and no sales reported are over \$30, while several are reported at \$29.50, and should the present downward tendency in Chicago continue a material decline will in all probability take place here during the present week. It is just as likely, however, that an advance will take place there, and prices here will remain firm.

## CORNED BEEF.

There is but little life in this product, and prices have made no change during the week. Quotations are still \$19.50, with little prospect of any fluctuation.

## CHICAGO.

On Tuesday bears were once more triumphant and a general decline took place. Wheat showed decided weakness, and went down slowly under heavy offerings. Corn was in sympathy, and took a similar turn, while oats were very slow, although steady. Pork had another crash, and bears made a big point for settling day. The excitement ran high in this circle, and the day's trading will long be remembered as an eventful one.

WHEAT opened at 92½c, declined to 92½, and closed weak at that figure.

CORN was lifeless and closed weak at 67c.

OATS opened at 34c, held steady for a time, eased off, and closed at 33½c.

PORK opened at \$21.25, declined rapidly to \$20.50, recovered slightly, and closed at \$20.75.

LARD was neglected and weak, and closed at \$11.50.

A strong effort was made on Wednesday to hold up prices of both wheat and corn, but it was powerless to stop the downward tendency, and both suffered a decline. Oats alone made a show of steadiness, owing to the demand for immediate use. Pork made another heavy break and did not bring up until prices had reached \$1.25 below the closing quotations of the previous day.

WHEAT opened at 93c, advanced to 93½c, declined to 92½c, recovered again, and closed at 92½.

CORN opened at 66½c, advanced to 66½c, declined to 66½c, and closed weak at that figure.

OATS opened at 33½c, fluctuated more or less during the day, with an upward tendency, and closed reasonably firm at 33½c.

PORK opened at \$19.10, and almost no trading was done. Closing figure was \$19.07½.

LARD opened at \$11.28, advanced to \$11.37½, declined to \$11.22½, advanced again to \$11.32½ and closed at that.

## CHICAGO.—THURSDAY.

WHEAT.			
Opened at	Nov. \$31	Dec. \$	91½
Highest point	" 93½	"	95½
Lowest point	" 93	"	94½
Closed at	" 93½	"	95½
CORN.			
Opened	Nov. \$67½	Dec. \$	62½
Highest point	" 68	"	63
Lowest point	" 67	"	62½
Closed	" 68	"	63
OATS.			
Opened at	Nov. \$34	Dec. \$	34
Highest point	" 34½	"	34
Lowest point	" 34	"	34
Closed at	" 34½	"	34
PORK.			
Opened	Nov. \$19.25	Jan. \$	\$13.67½
Highest point	" 19.25	"	18.72½
Lowest point	" 19.25	"	18.67½
Closed at	" 19.25	"	18.72½
LARD.			
Opened	Nov. \$11.45	Dec. \$	\$11.12½
Highest point	" 11.47½	"	11.17½
Lowest point	" 11.45	"	11.12½
Closed at	" 11.47½	"	11.15