

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Continued from Page 270.

badly decomposed state when thawed out. Cases of this nature were not infrequent in regard to fish, and in some cases poultry was sold on the market in a frozen state, which proved to be practically rotten when thawed out. Now that the health department is doing more active work, it is to be hoped that the city market will be looked sharply after this winter by some experienced person, to prevent the sale of such obnoxious stuff.

The dearth of poultry in the Winnipeg market this season has been a surprise to local dealers. It was expected that the quantity of poultry marketed here would be greater than in any previous year, and some local dealers made sales in advance for shipment to western points, expecting that they would be able to fill the orders with manitoba poultry. Instead of this, there has hardly been a sufficient supply to meet the demands of the local market, and Winnipeg dealers have been obliged to bring car lots from Eastern Canada to fill their orders. This is a great loss to Manitoba farmers. It is generally believed that poultry is about the most profitable thing which can be produced on the farm. Poultry at from 6 to 12 cents per pound, as to quality and variety, should certainly be very profitable to Manitoba farmers, yet it seems to be a source of profit which is almost entirely neglected here. The late Wm. Weld, of London, Ontario, a practical farmer as well as a writer on agricultural topics, claimed that there was nothing like poultry to make money for the farmer. It is a crop which need never fail, requires very little outlay and is always readily convertible into cash. Manitoba farmers evidently require a little prompting on this matter.

Dakota Wheat Farming.

A North Dakota congressman is quoted as saying: "The present year has been the most profitable since I went to North Dakota, thirteen years ago. Laboring men have had a long season at good wages, and the crop unlike that of 1891, was all saved. A third of the crop of 1891 was lost because sufficient help could not be had. Wheat can be raised in North Dakota for 30c a bushel. The figures accurately made from my own farm were per acre: Plowing \$1.25; seeding 50c; dragging 25c; seed 75c; cutting and binding 75c; twine 25c; shocking 50c; total \$1.25. Threshing on three sample fields averaged 9c a bushel. This, with taxes and interest, carried the cost per acre up to \$3.49. The average yield per acre was 36 bushels, for which I got 39c a bushel, or \$14.04, a profit of \$5.55. On another sample field, the net profit was \$3.55, and on another \$9 per acre."

Argentina Crops.

The Buenos Ayres Standard, of Oct 22 says: The flax seed crop will be gathered at the end of this month in fifteen colonies. Never has this crop begun so early. The invasion of locusts, in Santa Fe was of the most alarming proportions—the damage, so far, is small, where the crops have been eaten the plant is sprouting again. The general aspects of the wheat and flax seed crops are most promising, and all that is wanted is a period of cool weather. The area under flax seed is fully double that sown last year, and that under wheat somewhere about 20 per cent more. The great fear among colonists is

that there may be too great a rainfall this month, which would do a lot of harm to crops, especially to Flax Seed. From all colonies we hear that these crops are splendid and could not be better, in fact, none have known such a fine year as this for flax seed.

As good dry corn is scarce, very few transactions in the exporting line are noticed, the damp and inferior article commands no interest. Farmers will have to pay more attention to the condition of their crops and the class of wheat they grow. The predominant idea in the Republic is to produce quantity not quality; efforts are being made by several influential persons to introduce the system of paying more attention to results, and not to concentrate all efforts in producing large quantities. As the country is thinly populated at present little heed is paid to this subject.

Restrictions on Exported Sheep.

According to the latest reports American sheep shipped to England after January 1 will be subject to the same restrictions as apply to cattle. They will have to be slaughtered at the port of entry within the prescribed ten days. The fact is this will not make a great difference with the American exporter, for as the matter stands now the rigid inspection that American sheep undergo, permits only a small percentage to pass through that are available for distribution among farmers. However, this little hurts, and as the agrarian interests are the strongest in parliament it is easy to see that this measure was passed not to protect the British farmers from disease but from a competition in a fair and open market. They have become alarmed at the extent of our export business and have determined to head it off if possible. They have lost no means of handicapping salesmen of American stock either at Liverpool or London and have injured our cattle business not a little by forcing them to be sold within ten days, a piece of foolishness next to exclusion. To put sheep in the same category will not stop them coming as long as there is any profit for the shipper.—United States Drover's Journal.

Grain and Milling Notes.

W. W. Ogilvie arrived in Winnipeg Tuesday last and will remain about two weeks looking into his extensive business interests here. He will make a trip through Manitoba while here, accompanied by Mr. Thompson, local manager of the big Ogilvie milling business here.

The exports of wheat, says the Minneapolis Market Record, from Aug. 1 to Dec. 1 this year were about 43,000,000 bushels, against 55,000,000 bushels last year, which leaves 11,000,000 for interior distribution in this country, against 16,000,000 distributed last year, which shows that nearly three times as much grain has been distributed in this country from the amount that has gone into the visible supply and commercial channels as went into such channels for distribution last year. By making comparison with 1893, the difference shows still greater in favor of the large amount taken from such channels this season, or that 11,000,000 bushels approximately have been used for such purposes this season against 16,000,000 bushels the previous season, and about 12,000,000 bushels from the crop of 1893.

The Liverpool Corn Trade News of November 26, quotes sales of parcels of Manitoba No. 1 hard wheat at 25c 4/3d for December-January delivery, and at 25s 7/3d for January-February delivery. Duluth wheat sold at exactly the same price for the same delivery.

Stocks of wheat at Duluth are approximately 5,000,000 bushels, or more than 1,000,000 bushels less than the same week last year.

Stocks at Minneapolis are 10,751,000 bushels an increase of over 1,000,000 for the week.

Parrish & Lindsay, of Brandon, have been awarded the contract for supplying oats at Prince Albert for the mounted police.

The stock company organizing to build a flour mill at Melita, Man., is said to be meeting with good success. Over \$3,000 is now subscribed and the company expect to be in good shape to build the proposed mill in the spring.


The Commercial has received a very handsome lithographic picture from Litch Bros., the enterprising millers of Oak Lake, Man. The picture is a representation of the three graces.

R. Muir & Co., proprietors of the mill at Gladstone, Man., have decided to put up flour in barrels for the maritime province trade, and for this purpose they have brought in a quantity of barrel material from the East. They have received several letters from the East lately expressing satisfaction with their flour.

Total crop shipped from Pilot Mound, Man., to date is as follows, says the Sentinel: "Wheat 48,000 bushels, oats 70,000 bushels, barley 7,000; oatmeal 1,000 barrels. As farmers generally were busy threshing or assisting there was little opportunity until lately to haul grain and the above is a good showing so early in the season before there is sufficient snow to make sleighing. Besides there are three other grain elevators close by, one at La Riviere and two at Crystal City, and it is understood that there are large quantities of grain now in the elevators. The shipment of 4,000 barrels of oatmeal is an advantage that very few towns in Manitoba can boast of having."

The total receipts of wheat at the four principal United States winter wheat points, Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City, from July 1st to Dec. 9, are 19,628,020 bushels against 27,875,470 bushels in 1891 and 33,391,902 bushels in 1893. The total receipts at the four principal spring wheat points since Aug. 1st, the beginning of the crop year, foot up: Minneapolis 41,853,910 bushels; Duluth 38,477,531 bushels; Chicago 15,195,316 bushels; and Milwaukee 4,812,701 bushels, making a total of 95,339,461 bushels against 73,581,239 bushels during the same time last year and 63,693,456 bushels in 1893.

A project is on foot for the establishment of a gin distillery in Canada. The promoters have had an interview with Controller Wallace to urge that the gin produced in Canada should be exempt from the regulation respecting the sale of whiskey, namely, that it be kept in bond for two years before being placed on the market. Only by a concession of this kind could Canadian made gin expect to compete with the product of Holland and other countries where no such requirement of law exists.

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