

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Following are the current and comparative prices for the various grades of live stock:—

CATTLE.	Present Prices.	Top prices two weeks ago.	1895.	1894.
1500 lbs. up.....	\$ 4.00 to 5.90	\$ 5.25	\$ 6.50	\$ 7.00
1350 @ 1500.....	3.75 to 5.45	5.15	6.25	6.00
1200 @ 1350.....	3.60 to 5.30	5.10	6.15	5.40
1050 @ 1200.....	3.45 to 5.10	5.10	5.75	5.15
900 @ 1050.....	3.30 to 4.85	4.90	4.60	4.90
Stks. and F.....	2.50 to 4.10	4.10	3.60	3.65
Fat cows and heifers.....	3.00 to 4.50	4.50	4.15	3.60
Canning cows.....	1.00 to 2.30	2.10	2.00	2.40
Bulls.....	1.90 to 4.00	4.00	3.75	3.30
Calves.....	3.00 to 5.60	5.85	6.25	7.00
Texas steers.....	2.65 to 4.20	4.50	3.00	4.00
Texas C. & B.....	2.25 to 3.15	2.75	2.40	2.50
Western steers.....	3.25 to 3.60	4.20	.....	.....
Western cows & bulls.....	2.60 to 3.00	3.65	.....	.....
Hogs.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mixed.....	3.10 to 3.40	3.50	4.60	5.50
Heavy.....	2.95 to 3.40	3.50	4.75	5.45
Light.....	3.15 to 3.40	3.45	4.40	5.55
Pigs.....	2.50 to 3.35	3.45	4.10	5.40
Sheep.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Natives.....	1.75 to 4.50	3.50	3.65	5.00
Western.....	2.50 to 3.50	3.35	3.40	4.25
Lambs.....	3.00 to 5.25	5.10	4.35	5.00

The top price for cattle so far this year, \$5.90, was the highest since September, 1895, when \$6.00 was paid. The highest price last year was \$6.60, in March. In June, 1892, fancy heaves sold at \$9.30, the highest in over a quarter of a century. The following shows the top on Christmas cattle for nineteen years past:

December, 1896.....	\$5.90	December, 1895.....	\$6.50
December, 1895.....	5.50	December, 1894.....	6.80
December, 1894.....	6.60	December, 1893.....	8.00
December, 1893.....	6.74	December, 1892.....	8.25
December, 1892.....	7.00	December, 1891.....	7.00
December, 1891.....	7.15	December, 1890.....	7.75
December, 1890.....	6.40	December, 1889.....	7.00
December, 1889.....	6.10	December, 1888.....	5.50
December, 1888.....	7.00	December, 1887.....	5.50
December, 1887.....	6.50		

Here is an extract from the current cattle market:—
The half fat cattle sold at \$1.25, with good, ripe, fat cattle at \$1.75 to \$2.25, which latter, in connection with the abundance and cheapness of corn, makes a hard situation to understand. Rough and thin cattle were sent in and sold for beefs at \$3.25 to 3.75, while buyers who wanted anything like good feeding cattle had to pay close to four cents. There were some Christmas cattle sold during the week at \$5.25 to \$5.90, with two cars of as finely bred and well marked cattle at the latter price as anybody here ever remembers to have seen, and that is saying a good deal. There were twenty-five head of them, and they averaged 1,956 lbs., all of them choice specimens of the Polled Angus breed. A single load of 1,580-lb. Angus sold at \$5.90, but it was only because the weights were more desirable than they did not sell for less than the heavier cattle, which were far finer and better finished. Every year it becomes more evident that buyers do not care for cattle averaging, as a rule, over 1,500 lbs.

Texas fed cattle sold at \$3.75 to \$4.40, and these cattle are now expected to cut considerable figure in the trade from now on.

The country hog packing houses are mostly idle, as they cannot make anything at present prices for hogs and contract product. That throws more hogs in sight at the big points. The big packing plants are depending largely on the fresh meat market to give them their profits.

Hogs are heavy in average weight. Superintendent Burdick, of the Chicago Packing Company, says they killed 2,700 hogs one day recently which averaged over 370 lbs., which is the heaviest average weight for so large a day's "buy" that he ever remembered going through the house. The yield, he says, is not as good as it ought to be at this time of the year.

The movement of "Mexican," or, more properly, New Mexican, lambs to Northern feeding points has commenced with considerable vigor. A Topeka, Kansas, despatch says:—

"The first shipment of 15,000 sheep to be fed in Topeka this winter arrived from New Mexico. W. M. Ham, a big sheep-raiser of Albuquerque, has leased the State fair grounds and will quarter the sheep for the winter."

The sheep market has lately been in fair shape. Sales included some choice fed Western sheep at \$3.50, and a good many were sold at \$3 to \$3.40. Lambs sold up to \$5.25 for the best; bulk at \$4.50 to \$5; culls, \$3.25 to \$3.50.

There has been great suffering among the range cattle in Montana, the Dakotas, and Wyoming for so early in the season. The heavy snow was preceded by sleet, which made it difficult for the cattle to get food. As is generally well known, horses and sheep will paw the snow and ice to get at the grass, while the cattle depend on "nosing" it away, and their noses soon become sore and raw through contact with ice and crusty snow. Many of the old-timers are looking for a very severe winter in the Western range country.

If there isn't heavy loss among the Western range herds of cattle this winter it will be a surprise to cattle-men.

The horse market continues quiet, with liberal offerings. There has been a gradual reaction in prices for the past three weeks, until the \$10 per head advance the second week in November is nearly lost. But while prices are not very much higher than reported in October, the general movement of trade is freer under the stimulus of a larger domestic and local demand. The export movement is very limited, owing to unfavorable reports from foreign markets and the absence of many export buyers on their annual vacation.

Horse dealers think it a great mistake to send forward so many thin and half-fat horses, with feed so abundant and cheap.

British Imports of American Cattle and Meat.

According to a British Government report, the importation of American cattle into England is steadily on the increase. For the first five months of the current year it was 175,000 head, as compared with 112,000 for the same period of last year. At this rate per month the year's import will be over 400,000, or much larger than the exceptional importation of 1892. The London and Liverpool markets have been so heavily supplied that the prices of American beefs have fallen as low as 9c. to 9½c. per lb., while export steers were being quoted at Chicago at 3½c. to 4c. per lb. live weight. At these rates shipments must have been at a loss. The past five months' export of chilled beef was 108,759,000 lbs., as compared with 81,841,065 lbs. for the same period last year. At this rate the year's export will be some 60,000,000 lbs. greater than in 1892. From this appears to work out more profitably to transport the live cattle. They are carried on parts of the ships that would otherwise be unoccupied. The average freight charge on the fore quarters of a steer varies from \$5 to \$6.

Toronto Markets.

The market has been very dull for the last two weeks; only two loads of cattle, from the Guelph Fat Stock Show.

Export Cattle.—A few head picked up at 3½c. per lb.; a disposition to advance to 4c. for really good choice cattle. Two carloads for shipment by the Boston route at 4½c. per lb., the best price for the day.

Butchers' Cattle.—These sold slowly; quite a few went at \$2.40 to \$2.50 per cwt. One load taken to Montreal, 1,050 lb. average, brought \$28 per head. The best sold at 3c. to 3½c. per lb. Drivers say that there are scarcely any good cattle in the country; the Montreal buyers report that good cattle are scarce in their market.

Stocks and Feeders.—Prof. Day, of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, bought 20 head of very fair steers at \$2.50, \$2.80 and \$2.90 per cwt. Not many wanted. Prices, 2½c. to 3½c. per lb.

Bulls.—Good shipping bulls fetch 2½c. to 3½c. per lb. Stock bulls are not in demand; odd ones are picked up to fill vacancies by removals in the byres; a few wanted for export; choice sorts 3½c. per lb.

Sheep.—Shipping sheep are steady at 2½c. to 3c. per lb. Butcher sheep are dull at \$2.50 per head. Export sheep sold at 3c. to 3½c. per lb. for best choice.

Lambs slightly firmer at 3½c. per lb.; in one case 3½c. per lb. was paid.

Calves.—Light offerings caused a firm market. Choice veals fetch \$7 per head. A few good calves wanted.

Milk Cows.—Not many on offer. Prices continue firm at \$20 to \$40 per head, one cow realized \$50.

Hogs.—Market steady; prices firm; a disposition to advance to 4½c. Choice selections at 3½c. to 4c. per lb. weighed off cars. Sows, 3c. per lb.; stags, 2c.; stores not wanted. The largest run for this season, 3,500.

Eggs in limited supply. Choice selection of new laid, 30c. per doz.; packed, fresh, 20c. per doz.; lined, 17c. per doz. It looks as if there would be a scarcity later on in the season. Eastern cities are asking for our eggs in large numbers from local dealers. This, along with short supplies, make the local dealers firm in prices.

Butter.—Very small supply. Choice selection of poor quality on sale, from 15c. to 20c. per lb. Choice dairy very scarce, 25c. per lb.; in good demand at firm prices and the market is still unchanged.

Poultry in fair supply. Turkeys, 7c. per lb.

Ducks scarce; good demand, 75c. per pair.

Geese in good supply, at 6c. to 7c. per lb.

GRAIN MARKETS.

The receipts of grain on the street to-day were fair. Wheat is firm at former quotations. Peas and oats are better.

Barley has dropped 4c.

Wheat firm, 800 bushels selling at 88c. per bushel; white, 87c. to 87½c.; for red, 86c.; and 65c. for goose.

Barley easy, 3,000 bushels selling at 28c. to 35c.

Oats firmer, 1,800 bushels selling at 23c. to 24c.

Hay.—Large quantity on offer. Prices eased up since last week. Twenty-five loads, at \$12 to \$14.

Straw.—Six loads, at \$9 to \$10.

Hides.—There has been a decline in the price of green hides. The market prices are lower, and another decline is expected next week. The tanners are not buying, and hides are being exported to the United States. No. 1 green, 6½c.; steer hides, 7c. per lb.

Wools are in good demand for export, and higher prices are now quoted. Practically the whole of the 1896 clip of fleece wool has been cleaned out by American buyers; fleece combings, 2½c. to 2c.

Dressed Hogs.—Demand for dressed hogs is active, at \$4.75; for choice quality, weighing from 100 to 150 lbs., \$5 to \$5.10; single carcasses, \$5.25. [Dec. 11, 1896.]

J. G. CLARK, Woodroffe Stock Farm, Ottawa, Ontario,

HAS FOR SALE

Three Clydesdale Mares

Weighing from 1,650 to 1,800 pounds, and their colts from 1 to 3 years old. Choice young Yorkshires of both sexes. Choice Young Ayrshires of both sexes. For sale cheap.

MUST BE SOLD



QUEEN. D. & O. SORBY, - GUELPH, ONT. 6-2-y-om

A few Imported Mares in foal to Grandeur. Also a promising yearling Hackney Colt. They will be sold very cheap.

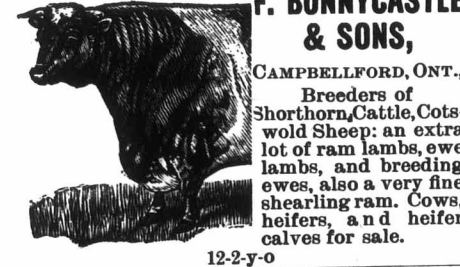
1864. HILLHURST FARM. 1894.

HACKNEY HORSES.

Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus cattle, Shropshire and Dorset-Horn sheep.

M. H. COCHRANE,

16-2-y-om HILLHURST STATION, P. Q.



12-2-y-om

F. BONNYCASTLE & SONS,

CAMPBELLFORD, ONT.,

Breeders of Shorthorn, Cattle, Cots-wold Sheep; an extra lot of ram lambs, ewe lambs, and breeding ewes, also a very fine shearing ram. Cows, heifers, and heifer calves for sale.

SHORTHORN BULLS

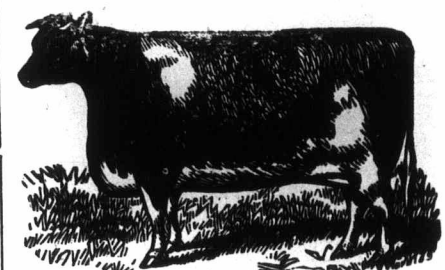
I have six young bulls, got by Aberdeen (imp.); good ones. One is a full brother to the champion heifer at Toronto and Ottawa fairs this fall; also some fine young heifers. Write for prices, or, better, come and see them.

JOHN MILLER, Markham, Ontario.

Stations—Locust Hill, C. P. R. Markham, G. T. R.

Arthur Johnston,

Greenwood P. O. and Telegraph Office,



HAS FOR SALE AT EXCEEDINGLY LOW PRICES

17 EXTRA GOOD SHORTHORN BULLS 17

fit for service; also an equally good lot of Cows and Heifers,

the best we ever offered. Send for Catalogue and prices. Enquiries answered promptly. Claremont Stn. C. P. R. or Pickering Stn. G. T. R. Our motto: "No business, no harm."

5-1-y-om

RIVER BOW STOCK FARM.

Breeders of

Shorthorn Cattle, Poland-China, Duroc-Jersey, and Chester White Swine, and Leicester Sheep. We now offer for sale five good young bulls, and also heifers of choice quality and breeding, sired by Chief Captain, a son of Indian Chief. Young pigs of both sexes & all ages at exceedingly low prices.



11-y-om

THOS. ALLIN & BROS.

LAKE VIEW FARM, OSHAWA, ONT.,

Breeders of CLYDESDALES, SHORTHORNS, and SHROPSHIRE. Have 1 yearling bull and 1 two-year-old bull (sired by Duke of Lavender). Will go cheap.

4-2-y-om

HAWTHORN HERD

OF DEEP MILKING SHORTHORNS.

FOR SALE—Four young bulls, three reds and one roan; also heifers, all got by Golden Nugget—1748, and from AI dairy cows. WILLIAM GRAINGER & SON, Ltd., London, Ont.

13-y-om

THE GRAND VALLEY STOCK FARM

G. & W. GIER, Props., Grand Valley, Ont.,

Breeders of Short-horns and Imp. Yorkshires. We offer for sale young bulls, cows and heifers of choice breeding and good quality at very low prices; also choice young Yorkshires of both sex.

13-y-om

Shorthorn Bulls

Two Yearlings, Six Calves.

First-class Color. First-class Form. First-class Pedigree. THIRD-class Price.

Full particulars cheerfully given.

Address: JOHN DRYDEN, BROOKLIN, ONT.

19-b-om

CARGILL HERD OF SHORTHORNS.

Six young Bulls, and as many heifers as you want, all bred in the purple. Come and see them or write.

N. CARGILL & SON, Cargill Stn. & P. O. Station on the farm.

11-y-om

FOR SALE 10 SHORTHORN BULLS

and a few heifers, nearly all from imported cows and got by an imported bull.

22-2-f-om

JOHN ISAAC, Kinellar Lodge, - Markham, Ont.

H. K. Fairbairn, Thedford, Ont.,

Breeder of pure-bred Shorthorns. I now have for sale two good young bulls, 11 and 13 months old, of choice breeding. Will sell cheap, considering quality.

22-2-y-om

A. J. WATSON, CASTLEDERG, ONT.,

(ASHTON FRONTVIEW FARM), breeder of choice SCOTCH SHORTHORNS. Young stock of either sex, and choicest breeding, for sale at reasonable prices. Correspondence solicited.

Bolton Station, C. P. R. 22-2-y-om

For Sale—SCOTCH SHORTHORNS

of both sexes; also a few BERKSHIRE Sows six months old. Prices right. Correspondence solicited.

F. A. GARDNER, Britannia, Ont. 22-2-y-om

FOUR SHORTHORN BULLS from 4 to 16 months,

and COWS AND HEIFERS of various ages.

Large English Berkshire Pigs ready to ship. A grand lot of Black Minorca Cookerels at \$1 each.

Correspondence solicited; inspection invited.

MAC. CAMPBELL, Northwood, Ont. 24-2-y-om

W. G. PETTIT, FREEMAN, ONTARIO,

BREEDER OF

Shorthorns, Shropshires, and Berkshires

Offers for sale a choice lot, consisting of eight young bulls, 40 one, two and three-year-old ewes, sixteen yearling rams, and twenty ram lambs, and a choice lot of Berkshires. Big bargains will be given for the next thirty days, as I want to reduce stock before winter. 15-y-om

THE GLEN STOCK FARM

Our stock comprises Clydesdales, Ayrshires, and Shropshires. High-class Ayrshires a specialty. We are making a special offering of ten very promising young bulls, and a number of very choice cows and heifers of the heaviest and richest milking strains, any of which will be sold at very moderate prices. We also have Rough-coated Scotch Collies for sale, eligible for registry.

7-y-om WHITESIDE BROS., INNERKIP, ONT.

Thos. Drysdale,

Allan's Corners P. O., Quebec,

Breeder of high-class Ayrshires, headed by Lord Sterling, winner at Montreal '95. Extra choice young bulls and heifers for sale. Farm 1½ miles from Bryson's St., G. T. R. 4-2-y-om

AYRSHIRES FOR SALE.

Several good yearling bulls by Earl of Percy and Prince Leopold, also cows and heifers. My spring calves will be by the noted bulls White Prince, Sir Colin, and Earl of Percy. Prices right.

4-2-y-om Wellman's Corners, Hord's St.

James Cottingham,

RIVERSIDE FARM, Ormstown, Que.,

Breeder of Ayrshire cattle. Herd is headed by the prize-winning bull, White Prince of St. Anne's—6408—Choice bred stock for sale at all times, including some very choice

4-2-y-om

young bulls and heifers.