

STOCK.

Our East Buffalo Stock Letter.

Cattle.—In our crop report of January 3rd, 1895, we gave the shortage in cattle as follows:—

Ohio.....	32
Indiana.....	30
Illinois.....	35
Michigan.....	35

Receipts in the West so far average about 70,000 head less for the months of January and February, as compared with the same time last year, and prices are considerably higher. The trade is beginning to wake up, and the shortage is becoming more and more apparent every day. Prices have had a gradual up-turn and have not seen their highest point yet. Nice, handy weight cattle, weighing 1000 to 1300 lbs., are the ones which have had the biggest advance, and also cows and heifers, or anything that is good quality in the butcher line. The offerings of the really prime stuff have been comparatively light. The bulk of receipts are composed mostly of green, half-fat stuff which is not desired by the trade at present, excepting at very low prices. Heavy cattle have been in moderate supply, and for the past week have sold some higher, though the demand for them has not been as brisk as for the lighter weights. Milk cows and springers have been selling very low, prices declining about \$10 per head in two weeks.

Veal calves have been selling a little lower, with good to choice, \$6 to \$6.50; fair to good, \$5 to \$6. Prices of hogs have been rather firm the past week. The offerings have not been excessive and the market shows more strength than any time this winter. The bulk of the crop from the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan, which are tributary to this point, has been marketed, consequently we rely a good deal on the shipments from Illinois.

Prices last week:—Mediums and heavies selling \$4.50 to \$4.60; Yorkers, 100 to 180 lbs., \$4.40 to \$4.45; pigs, 100 to 120 lbs., \$1.25 to \$1.35, according to quality; rough hogs, \$3.75 to \$4.00; stags, \$3.00 to \$3.25.

Sheep and lambs have advanced somewhat in the past two weeks. Prime grades of lambs, weighing 90 to 100 lbs., selling at \$5.85 to \$6.00, with an occasional load of fancy, weighing 100 to 110 lbs., at \$6.10. It is only the prime grades that are strong and in demand. The offerings are composed largely of fairish, or what is termed here "in between," lambs that are hard sellers. Buyers do not want them only at largely reduced prices. Common and cull stuff particularly is very hard to sell, even at extremely low prices.

In the sheep line the market has not been as firm as it was during the early part of February. The demand for heavy sheep has let up somewhat, though anything prime to fancy, all wethers, will bring good prices any time, and those weighing around 125 lbs. selling \$4.85 to \$5.00. Common grades of butcher sheep are selling slow, and at low prices, and average fully 25 to 50 cents per hundred less than the high prices of the early part of last month. The general feeling in the trade is that good lambs will bring strong prices. A good many predict \$7 lambs in April, but the old adage, "A bird in the hand," etc., is applicable to present prices.

Chatty Stock Letter from the States.

Prices for live stock are more satisfactory to owners than awhile ago.

Extreme top prices now, compared with one and two years ago:—

	1893.	1894.	1895.
CATTLE.			
1500 lbs. up.....	\$6.00	\$4.90	\$6.00
1350 or 1500.....	5.85	4.80	5.85
1200 or 1350.....	5.85	4.65	5.60
1050 or 1200.....	5.75	3.90	5.25
900 or 1050.....	5.15	3.60	4.65
Stockers.....	4.60	3.65	4.60
Fat cows.....	5.15	3.65	4.25
Canners.....	2.50	2.25	2.60
Bulls.....	5.00	3.30	4.75
HOGS.			
Mixed.....	\$4.30	\$5.15	\$8.35
Heavy.....	4.15	5.10	8.55
Light.....	4.25	5.25	8.10
Pigs.....	4.05	5.10	7.50
SHEEP.			
Natives.....	\$4.60	\$4.00	\$6.00
Western.....	4.75	4.00	5.50
Texas.....	4.75	3.10	5.25
Mexican.....	4.50	3.60	5.60
Lambs.....	5.50	4.25	6.60

Horses are selling very readily and at higher prices.

A lot of 1,318-lb. yearling Shorthorns sold at \$5.85. G. M. Casey, of Missouri, sold a load of extra fancy pure-bred Shorthorn long yearlings at \$6.50. They dressed 61,10 lbs. of net beef per 100.

Tom, C. Ponting & Son, of Earl Wayne, were at the yards with four cars of good Hereford cattle. Tom says his son Everett is going to make a man he will be proud of. The reason he sends him to Guelph Agricultural College is because the young man comes home without a cigar in his mouth or kid gloves on his hands, and is ready to work. Mr. Ponting marketed 61 yearling Hereford steers averaging 1,264 lbs., at \$5.10.

A bunch of 35 choice 1,208-lb. Angus yearlings sold at \$5.75.

Some 1,630-lb. Shorthorns sold at \$6.00. Prices for cattle are higher than they were. There is not anything the matter with the sheep market, and feeders are making snug profits. The big foreign demand is what counts at present. Greenbaum bought for export 732 head of 130-lb. fed Western sheep at \$1.50. Upton bought 513, averaging 136 lbs., at \$1.45.

The Potts Shorthorn cattle sold at auction at Dexter Park were very good. The cows averaged about \$85 to \$90, and the bulls close to \$100.

FARM.

Spring Grains, Corn, Potatoes, Field Roots, and Other Crops.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVE FARMERS—RESULTS OBTAINED BY THE ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL AND EXPERIMENTAL UNION.

At the recent annual gathering of Agricultural and Experimental Union the discussion on fodder corn experiments brought out the fact that Flint varieties are objectionable, because of the many suckers thrown up from the roots, which never bear grain, and become a nuisance in harvesting. The Dent sorts are, therefore, much preferred by some farmers, because of their absence of suckers and production of a good cob on every stalk. The varieties that have done best during the past year in the Northern counties are Salzer's North Dakota, Compton's Early, and Early White Flint; in Southern counties, Cloud's Early Yellow has given the best satisfaction; and in central districts, Mammoth Cuban and Wisconsin Earliest White Dent did best. This is a very important matter to observe, as a variety that will yield a large crop and mature well in the South should be used less in colder regions. Here, again, is seen the great value of this work which is being carried on by the Experimental Union, where each man can test the varieties for himself, and find which is the best for his particular circumstances, as to soil, climate, etc.

Experiments with oats have been very largely carried on during the last three or four years. The number of packages sent out from the Guelph Station has been enormous, and the demand still increases. It has been found that the Siberian oat leads throughout the Province in bushels per acre. It grows long, stiff straw, and ripens moderately early. Poland White stands next in yield; its straw is medium length and slightly weaker than the former. Joannette Black, a short-strawed, thin-hulled variety, stands next. Bavarian, Lincoln and White Schonen follow in the order named.

In the barley experiments the Mandscheuri again headed the list in yield of grain over Ontario, giving an average of 38.6 bushels per acre. This variety was imported from Russia by the Agricultural College in the spring of 1893, and has given the largest yield per acre among all the varieties grown in the Experimental Department for six years in succession, and also over Ontario, among the varieties sent out during the last three years. The Kinna Kulla gave the highest yield over Ontario among the Two-rowed varieties tested, giving an average yield of 27.7 bushels per acre. This is one of the stiffest-strawed varieties which has been tested at the Ontario Agricultural College.

There was a large demand for peas in 1894, and among the four varieties which were distributed, the Prussian Blue gave the largest yield per acre, which was followed closely by the New Canadian Beauty variety, which gave only one-half bushel per acre less than the Prussian Blue.

In the experiment with spring wheat, the Herison Bearded again headed the list in yield of grain, giving an average of 18.8 bushels per acre over Ontario in 1893. Among all the varieties tested at the Agricultural College for the last six years in succession, it has given the largest yield per acre, and also the heaviest weight per measured bushel. The Hayne's Blue Stem stood second in yield per acre in 1894. This variety was obtained at the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station, and is one of the most free from rust of all the varieties of spring wheat which have been tested at Guelph.

The Salzer's Dakota millet gave the largest average yield of green fodder per acre among the four varieties which were grown over Ontario in 1894. It will be remembered that this variety also headed the list in yield per acre over Ontario in 1893, and also in 1892. The Golden Wonder variety stood second in yield per acre during each of these years, and the common millet came third.

Six varieties of potatoes were tested over Ontario in 1894. The Empire State came first, with an average of 303 bushels per acre; Pearl of Savoy second, with an average of 271.3 bushels per acre; and Burpee's Extra Early third, with 264.8 bushels per acre. The report from the various experimenters show that the Burpee's Extra Early and Empire State were the best varieties for the table in the autumn of the year.

In roots the results were also very interesting, as five varieties of each class were tested in a large number of localities. In turnips the Jersey Navet headed the list. In mangolds the Long Red Selected, and in carrots the Improved Short White. One variety of sugar-beets was sent out along with four varieties of mangolds, and it gave an average of 7.3 tons per acre less than the Long Red Selected, and 4.3 tons per acre more than the Warden's Prize Orange Globe mangolds.

A circular is issued annually from the Agricultural College, fully describing the manner in which all these leading varieties of farm crops are distributed to farmers over Ontario. In this circular the proposed experiments for the coming season are mentioned, and any farmer in Ontario may choose whichever experiment he wishes, and upon application the material for that particular experiment will be forwarded to him. All communications should be addressed to C. A. Zavitz, Experimentalist, Agricultural College, Guelph, who is also the director of the co-operative experiments in agriculture for Ontario.

Our Enquiries.

What varieties of oats, barley, peas, spring wheat, buckwheat, and millet, did best in your vicinity last year? Also, what sorts of corn, potatoes, turnips, mangels, and carrots?

Did you try any new varieties of grain, corn, potatoes, or roots, last year? If so, what were their names, and the results?

Have rape and English horse-beans been tried in your locality, and with what results?

What crops have been most helpful for extra summer and early fall feeding of dairy cows?

LAMBTON.

ELLIS F. AUGUSTINE.

Oats.—Joannette most productive of any on rich soil. Straw short, stools thickly, requires high culture. Prize Cluster, Banner, Flying Scotchman.

Barley.—Six-rowed Mensury.

Peas.—Crown, Golden Vine.

Spring Wheat.—Red Fyfe—very little grown.

Buckwheat.—Japanese.

Millet.—German or Golden.

Corn.—Hybrid Dent, Red Cob Ensilage, One Hundred Day or Angel of Midnight. Much of the latter was planted after wet spell in latter end of May; and though put in late, did remarkably well.

Potatoes.—White Elephant, Beauty of Hebron, Early Ohio, White Star, Early Morning Star (very early), Northern Spy (large, but very few in hill).

Turnips.—Scarcely any grown.

Mangels.—Mammoth Long Red.

One farmer is testing a small plot of fall oats. At present writing they have stood the winter better than wheat. Will report success next season.

No English horse-beans have been grown. One farmer sowed field of rape last fall, but on account of seeding too late did not do well.

Mammoth Southern sweet corn sown at intervals for soiling.

ESSEX.

W. G. BALDWIN.

We are not in a good oat section just here, but we grow oats for feed and some for sale. I think the White Russian did best here as a white variety. My neighbor had over 1,000 bushels off 15 acres, which is counted good for this locality, black varieties giving about 30 bushels to the acre. I sowed one bag of the Scotch Sandgo oat, and got 40 bushels in return—a good plump oat, which would weigh 40 lbs. to the bushel.

Barley is very little sown here since the McKinley bill knocked us out of U. S. market. The crop is not paying these last four dry seasons, what is sown being used for feed.

Spring wheat not grown.

Buckwheat a light yield, on account of dryness the latter part of season.

Several fields about here were sown to millet, both common and German, and neither could claim a precedence, as no rain fell from sowing to reaping.

As to varieties of corn, their names are legion. High Mix is the lead.

As to potatoes and turnips, they are little grown, only for domestic use.

Long Red mangels, French sugar-beet, are best in their line; and as to carrots, Steele's Short White is the best and largest cropper ever grown in this section, regardless of the dry season. I had them last season 9 to 10 lbs., and had the credit from one of Waterloo's stockmen that I had the finest S. F. beets and Steele's S. W. carrots that he had ever seen, and must say that I am best pleased with them as croppers.

Corn has given best results for extra summer feed, and for fall feed the sweet varieties.

Peas.—Very little grown, but Golden Vine are preferred.

ELGIN.

CHAS. C. FORD.

Oats in our locality last year were, on an average, as good a crop as could be expected, notwithstanding the extreme dry weather prevalent in our section. Yield from 28 to 45 bushels per acre. Varieties in order of merit: Black Tartarian, Maine and American Banner.

Barley is a crop quite extensively grown in our locality, and gives generally as good returns as any grain sown. Six-rowed is by far the best variety in cultivation.

Spring Wheat.—Very little, if any, grown.

Buckwheat.—Quite extensively grown in some parts, and gives fairly good returns. Varieties in order of merit: Silver Hull and Common Gray.

Peas.—On account of the destructive pea bug, peas are almost a grain of the past. Daniel O'Rourke, Centennial, and Blue pea are in order of merit.

Millet is not very popular or largely grown here; other grains and grasses are ahead of it for feed.

Corn is a crop very extensively grown here, and its yields, as a general rule, are very large both in ear and stalk. Smut-nose or Red Blazed gives universal satisfaction; it is a heavy yielder, yielding from 75 to 150 bushels per acre. Then comes Twelve-rowed, Yellow King Philip and Yellow Dent. Any of said varieties have proven good and given general satisfaction.

Potatoes.—White Elephant, Beauty of Hebron, Belle, Early Ohio, and Rural New Yorker are in order of merit and give splendid returns, yielding from 100 to 175 bushels per acre. The first two named varieties are free from rot and blight, ripen early, and of a large size.

Turnips are extensively grown in this district, and prove as good a crop in the root line as can be raised. Varieties—Purple-top Swede and Jumbo Monarch Swede are the only varieties we have tried that will keep firm and free from rot all winter. Yield from 450 to 850 bushels per acre.

Mangels are quite largely grown here and give good results. Yield from 400 to 900 bushels per acre. Varieties: Long Red and Yellow Globe.

Carrots are largely grown, and are still growing in favor among intelligent farmers; yield from 800 to 1,000 bushels per acre. About the only kind sown is Mammoth White Intermediate horse carrot; other varieties are simply in the shade along with it.

We tried a new variety of turnip, called Jumbo Monarch Swede. It gave splendid results, and I can recommend it to any person wanting a first class root.

The only fodder corn used is Mammoth Southern Sweet and common hill or field corn mixed, thereby giving better results in its feeding qualities.

Rape has been tried in our locality, and has given good results for the fall and early winter feeding of lambs.

Corn is about the only crop tried here for the fall and early winter feeding of dairy cows.

BOTHWELL.

A. J. C. SHAW.

Barley.—Six-rowed.

Peas.—Prince Albert and Russian Blue peas were the best average. Pea weevil very bad in all.

Spring Wheat.—None grown in this locality.

Very little millet sown, and the dry season cut the crop short.

Corn.—The Compton and Eight-rowed Yellow were about the best corn in this section. White Western, fair crop, but ears short and small.

Roots very poor crop, especially turnips. Mangels, medium.

Carrots not much grown.

Corn for ensilage.—Red Cob, Thoroughbred, and the Large or Long Yellow Compton have been used with about equal results. Red clover and Mammoth sweet corn for soiling.