

there was the feeling that the markets must all ease off before and during the holidays, this latter influence causing many traders on the long side to get out of the market for the present. Corn was dull and lower. Oats unchanged. Pork and lard heavy and at a decline, but showed some strength on better inquiry towards the close of the session. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.85	\$0.85½
Corn .. .. .	39½	38½
Oats .. .. .	28½	28½
Pork .. .. .	9.10	9.07½
Lard .. .. .	6.02	6.07

On Tuesday the wheat market was dull, weak and lower. Cable advices were unfavorable. The visible supply showed an increase and home markets ruled lower. Local buyers were doing very little the demand from outside being light, and there were fair selling orders on eastern account. Towards the close prices improved some and "shorts" covered which assisted the advance, finally closing even. Corn at the opening ruled very quiet, the feeling being rather easier, but later on in the day became firm and closed quite strong under "shorts" covering. Oats were again slow, and in pork and lard trading was quite active with prices averaging a trifle lower. Closing quotations were as follows:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.84½	\$0.85½
Corn .. .. .	40½	38½
Oats .. .. .	28½	28½
Pork .. .. .	9.05	9.95
Lard .. .. .	6.05	6.07½

On Wednesday the wheat market opened lower, the upward tendency of yesterday's session having given away to weakness. Foreign advices were again unfavorable to holders quoting dull and weak markets with the imports into the United Kingdom showing an increase of both wheat and flour. Towards the close a steadiness was noticed, but the final closing was under the previous one. In corn trading was light and the outside prices of the day before were not sustained. Oats were quite dull and uninteresting. In pork considerable interest was manifested trading being quite active but prices suffered a farther decline. Lard also was easier. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.83½	\$0.84½
Corn .. .. .	40	38½
Oats .. .. .	28½	28½
Pork .. .. .	8.92½	9.82½
Lard .. .. .	6.00	6.13½

On Thursday a good business was transacted in the wheat market and prices ruled stronger under the influence of some free buying, "shorts" were anxious to cover, and large buying orders for May tended to sustain the market. Foreign advices were unfavorable, quoting dull and lower markets, but the stronger feeling here was fully maintained, the close being 1½c higher than yesterday's closing figures. In corn there was only a light business done, and prices, especially for the more deferred futures, ruled easier. Oats were weak. In pork a fair trade was doing, but the feeling was somewhat un-

settled and prices irregular. Lard was firmer. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.85½	\$0.85½
Corn .. .. .	40	38½
Oats .. .. .	28½	28½
Pork .. .. .	9.15	9.97½
Lard .. .. .	6.00	6.05

On Friday the wheat market opened at about yesterday's closing figures and soon went up ½c, at which advance considerable wheat came on the market and caused a decline. Later on prices ruled stronger again, making another advance on rumors of some new complications in the settlement of the Balkan question. Outside trading was light, though it was supposed there was some buying on account of the North west, and foreign advices were again generally of an unfavorable tenor. Corn trading was light and dull. Oats were weaker and prices lower. Pork and lard were moderately active. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.84½	\$0.84½
Corn .. .. .	39½	37½
Oats .. .. .	28½	28½
Pork .. .. .	9.07½	9.87½
Lard .. .. .	6.00	6.02½

On Saturday the situation of the wheat market continued to be one of heaviness, and this also would appear to be the case with every other article. Nothing seemingly escaped without a vigorous and combined pounding by the bears, who succeeded in breaking values down ½c. Corn and oats weakened on larger deliveries, and pork and lard were dull. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat .. .. .	83½	83½
Corn .. .. .	37½	36½
Oats .. .. .	27½	27½
Pork .. .. .	9.02½	9.82½
Lard .. .. .	5.92	5.97

## TORONTO.

### STOCKS.

The local stock market here does not show much change or improvement since our last report. The leading bank shares have not made any material gain this week, but these as a rule have maintained a firmness and in no case was there a decline experienced, the closing of the local board at the end of the week being quiet and steady. Miscellaneous stocks were also steady and loan and savings stocks quiet. The subjoined closing bids of Wednesday, 9th and 16th December, will serve as an index to the tone of the market.

	Dec. 9.	Dec. 16.
Montreal .. .. .	200	201½
Ontario .. .. .	105	105
Toronto .. .. .	184	184½
Merchants' .. .. .	113½	114
Commerce .. .. .	120½	—
do X D .. .. .	—	118½
Imperial .. .. .	125	128
Federal .. .. .	100	100
Dominion .. .. .	200	200
Standard .. .. .	120½	—
do X D .. .. .	—	117½
Hamilton .. .. .	125	126
Northwest Land .. .. .	57½	57½

### GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The situation of the local market here has practically remained in much the same condition this week as during the one preceding. Seemingly barley has been finished, while nothing else has opened out as yet. Besides this traders would seem to feel that as the holidays are drawing near, under present circumstances to hold off would be a very expedient policy, this being generally favorable all through, and the effect consequently has been to leave the market quiet on almost everything. In regard to wheat there appears to have been but little inclination to move displayed, while in oats, following a considerable range of quality there was a considerable range of prices. In the provision market trade during the week was generally quiet, but steady, while the business in dairy products was not of any great extent and as a rule at unchanged prices. In meats the movement was also small and there are indications that affairs in both grain and provision circles will remain inactive for a few weeks, owing to the holiday season.

### WHEAT

Towards the close of the last week there seemed to be some little inclination to move in this market. Small sales of No. 2 fall being made at 85½c; No. 2 red winter at 87c, and No. 2 fall for May delivery at 92½ to 92¾c, but this spurt soon died out. At the close No. 2 fall was offered at 86c, but could not get a better bid than 83¾c. Spring was neglected all week, with No. 2 offered at 87c without bids.

### OATS.

Prices this week show a considerable range, as it is becoming clear that there is also a considerable range in quality, but there was quite a steady demand. Sales of car lots on track were made on different days at 33, 34 and 34½c, the same being about closing figures according to quality.

### BARLEY.

The demand appears to have fallen off very much, but holders were not very anxious to press sales, and it is only in the lower grades that any considerable weakness has been noticed. No. 3 was offered at 58c, but failed to get a buyer. Car lots by sample were sold at 64c and 65c on track, the latter probably equal to extra No. 3. Choice No. 2 seemed worth 80 to 81c all through, and No. 1 brought 92¾c.

### RYE.

Nothing doing. Prices purely nominal at about 60c.

### PEAS.

There is no change in this market. Buyers have been asking for No. 2 at 60c, but have met no response and there is little doubt that another cent, or equal to 61c was obtainable here.

### POTATOES.

These were rather unsettled during the week, with sales of car lots at equal to 50c here and 47c on track.

### EGGS.

have shown scarcely any change. The receipts have been quite sufficient and prices are as before at 20c for round lots of fresh and 16c for pickled.

### BUTTER.

In this market there has only been one single buyer for shipment, but his wants only amounted to about a car load, which he readily obtained. The quality wanted was readily forthcoming at prices ranging from 10 to 12c, the latter being for dairy with white thrown out. With this exception the demand has been confined to really choice qualities or selected dairy, and all coming up to this stan-