

Commercial.

FARMER'S ADVOCATE OFFICE,
London, Jan. 1, 1879.

While there is little change to note in the state of trade, still the feeling among the business community is less "blue" than for the previous weeks. Snow and good sleighing has taken the place of the mud, and, in some sections, almost impassible roads, so that the business circles throughout the country have taken fresh heart and courage. We hope to see good roads and steady weather for the next three months, as such will add very much to the volume of trade and the delivery of various kinds of produce.

WHEAT.

The very light deliveries, coupled with the low and depressed state of the markets, has resulted in very little being done in wheat. The shipments from the Western States continue heavy, and there seems to be no limit to the quantity they have to dispose of. English millers are not disposed to increase their stocks. Trade in England is very bad. The commercial atmosphere of that country is clouded by the ruinous state of trade in the manufacturing districts, and the distrust occasioned by the heavy financial failures is having a very bad effect upon the entire trade of the country. The shipments from Russia being now practically ended, and the California supplies still in the distance, the attention of the trade will be directed toward the Atlantic coast for some little time. It must be admitted, taking a general view of the situation, any marked advance in the price of wheat is difficult to foresee. Especially is this the case from the fact that there is so little unemployed capital in the English markets available for speculative purposes. The latest phase of the "Keene corner" in wheat is that the tactics to be employed by Mr. Keene are to use his influence over the management of one or two of the trunk lines connecting Chicago with the seaboard. This influence is to be used to bring about a quarrel between the roads, and a natural result would be the cutting of rates. By taking advantage of this cutting in rates, it will be easy to see how he could market his wheat either in New York or Liverpool at a handsome profit without any rise in prices and without attempting a corner. He is reported to have made engagements for 1,500 car loads of wheat to New York from Chicago for January at a discount of over 50 per cent.

PEAS.

With free deliveries the past ten days, together with free sellers and low freights, a good many have gone forward on Liverpool and Glasgow account. In the counties north of London, and on Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, the crop is good but the acreage is not large.

BUTTER.

Little change to note. We hear of small selected lots changing hands at 8c. to 11c., and some choice at 12c. This seems low when we see the price that is charged in some of our towns and cities for crock and roll butter, and we are led to wonder why our Canadian butter makers are so slow to find out the wants and requirements of the trade. Any one visiting the late International Dairy Fair held in New York city, could not have been but struck with the 101 different apparatuses for manipulating butter, for packing, for carrying, and conveying the same to the best markets. We say to every butter maker in the land get the very best tools and appliances. Study the wants and tastes of the home trade. Get up something nice, and tasty, and attractive, as well as good, and we venture to say you will have little trouble

in finding a market and getting a good price as well.

CHEESE.

Instead of improving, which it usually does at this season of the year, it is quietly settling down lower and lower, as if the bottom was completely out; but the bottom being small, and the quantity having to pass through large, the settling down process is very gradual. It is the opinion of some that we have not yet seen the worst in cheese. The quantities of early summer makes, especially July and August, are still large. The writer, when in New York a short time ago, saw a quantity of July cheese that had been stored in refrigerator cellars. There is a large quantity of this cheese still there.

CLOVER SEED.

Little or nothing has been done as yet. From what we can learn the yield will not be nearly as good as last season, although we think the sample will be about as good or perhaps better. In some sections there is not more than half the acreage and in others about the same. English advices report their crop as being very fine and abundant, and the opinion is expressed that they may not require much, if any, of our seed this season.

PORK.

keeps about the same figure. The present weather is very favorable for the marketing of dressed hogs, and we are of the opinion that farmers will be quite as well off by disposing of their hogs as soon as they are fit to kill.

Little Falls Cheese and Butter Market.

Reported for the FARMERS' ADVOCATE by PROF. X. A. WILLARD.

LITTLE FALLS, N. Y., Dec. 30, 1878.

The cheese market here for the past month has been very unsatisfactory.

Contrary to all expectations and to the usual course of the fall trade, prices declined instead of advancing, and sales generally have been slow with a close discrimination among buyers as to quality. "Farm-dairies," when well made and of meaty quality, have sold equally well in price with good factory; the demand for this sort of goods being for the home trade. Prices during the early part of the month ranged firm; 5c. to 8c. for farm-dairies, and 6½c. to 7½c. for factories. The farm-dairies bringing 8c. were very fine, and specially made for the home trade to fill certain orders for this description of goods.

The cheese offered during the month has, as a whole, fallen off in quality, but prices on all grades have grown weaker and weaker until the range for factory has run down to 6½c. for best descriptions, while skimmed and inferior sorts, both of farms and factories, have touched 4c. to 4½c. Large quantities of cheese have been sent forward weekly to be sold on commission, the views of salesmen being above those of buyers.

Our last advices from abroad are that "fancy September American" are in small compass and an advance is expected, the quotations for the second week in September being for "faultless American," 54s. to 56s. per cwt.; fine, 50s. to 52s.; good, 40s. to 46s. and low grades, 25s. to 38s. per cwt.

Butter is coming forward very freely at the Little Falls market. Prices during the early part of the month ranged from 17c. to 20c. for fair to extra lots; but rates have now declined, so that the range to-day is from 15c. to 18c.

There is considerable cheese back in the country, and some of our factories are still open—cheese being made at intervals of a few days.

The weather is now cold, with a light fall of snow.

Live Stock Markets.

Toronto, 30th Dec., '78.

BEEVES.—The sum total of receipts has been small, and the few offering have come forward in small lots only. There has been a ready sale for the few offered, and at steady prices. Export cattle have been wanted; the few in the market have been readily taken at \$4.62 to \$4.75; and really choice could have found buyers at \$5.

SHEEP.—Have been neither offered nor wanted, save for export; such lots as are suited for shipment would probably bring \$3.

There has been nothing doing in lambs, and calves have been purely nominal.

Buffalo, 30th Dec., '78.

Sales of best shippers at \$4.75 to \$5.50; medium at \$4 to \$4.20; a few common butchers' at \$2.50 to \$3; bulls, \$2 to \$2.50. Sheep moderately active for ordinary fair to good. Demand for hogs light and confined to early arrivals.

London Markets.

London, Jan. 2, 1879.

GRAIN.

Per 100 lbs		Per 100 lbs	
Deihl Wheat	\$1 40 to 1 48	Peas	75 to 80
Treadwell	1 40 to 1 48	Oats	80 to 85
Clawson	1 40 to 1 45	Rye	80 to 85
Red	1 40 to 1 44	Buckwheat	75 to 85
Spring	1 10 to 1 25	Corn	75 to 80
Barley	90 to 1 45	Beans	00 to 00

PRODUCE.

Eggs, retail	22 to 25	Tallow, rnd.	6 to 4½
" wholesale	00 to 00	" rough	4 to 4
Roll butter	18 to 19	Lard, per lb.	10 to 10
Tub butter	8 to 10	Wool	22 to 23½
Cordwood	3 50 to 4 50	Cheese, lb.	7½ to 8
Straw, load	2 00 to 4 50	Clover seed	" per bush. 3 50 to 4 00
Turnips	25 to 25	Timothy	1 35 to 1 50
Carrots	25 to 30	seed	1 35 to 1 50
Potatoes, bag	80 to 1 00	Hay	8 00 to 10 00
Onions, bu.	65 to 75		

POULTRY.

Chickens, pair	25 to 40	Ducks, pair	40 to 60
Geese	35 to 60	Turkeys	60 to 1 50

FRUIT.

Apples, bu.	40 to 70	Appes, bbl.	1 50 to 00
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FLOUR AND MILL FEED.

	Retail.	Wholesale.
Fall Wheat Flour	\$2 75	2 50
Mixed "	2 50	2 25
Spring "	2 25	2 00
Bran, per 100	60	40
Cornmeal	1 75	1 50
Fine Oatmeal	2 75	2 50
Coarse "	3 00	2 75

MEATS.

Beef, per qu	3 00 to 5 00	Dressed hogs	3 50 to 4 00
Lamb, lb.	6 to 7	Ordinary	
Mutton, lb.	5 to 6	mixed pork-	
		ers l. w. per	
		100 lbs	2 50 to 2 70

Toronto Markets.

Toronto, Jan. 2.

Barley	\$55 to 90	Hogs	3 00 to 3 50
Spring wheat	70 to 82	Flour, sup.	3 20 to 0 00
R. Winter	80 to 83	Spring, extra	3 00 to 0 00
Treadwell	80 to 85	Extra	3 90 to 0 00
Deihl	75 to 90	Superior	4 05 to 0 00
Oats	28 to 30		
Peas	55 to 60		
Wool	00 to 00		

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, Dec. 27.

Superiors, \$4.40 to \$4.45; extras, \$4.22½ to \$4.25; fancy, \$4 to \$4.10; superfine, \$3.70 to \$3.75; strong bakers', \$4.15 to \$4.20; fine, \$3.10 to \$3.15.

Liverpool Markets.

Liverpool, Dec. 30, 5.00 p.m.

s d s d		s d s d	
Flour	18 0 to 22 0	Barley	3 2 to 0 0
Wheat, spring	7 0 to 9 4	Pork	40 0 to 0 0
R. Winter	8 8 to 9 0	Lard	30 9 to 0 0
White	9 0 to 9 4	Bacon	24 3 to 24 6
Club	9 4 to 9 9	Cheese	45 0 to 0 0
Corn	22 9 to 23 9	Tallow	36 6 to 00 0
Oats	2 6 to 00 0	Beef	00 0 to 00 0
Peas	31 9 to 00 0		

New York Markets.

New York, Jan. 2.

Flour—\$3.00 to \$3.55 for superfine State and Western; \$3.50 to \$3.70 for common to choice extra State; \$3.50 to \$4 for Western. Rye flour steady, and unchanged. Wheat, dull at \$1.00½. Rye, dull, at 56c. to 58c. Corn, less firm. Oats, 29c. to 31c. Barley, nominal. Butter, 6c. to 30c. per lb. Cheese, 3c. to 9c.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, Jan. 2.

Wheat, \$2½c. to 90c. Corn, 30c. to 34c. Barley, 50c. to 95½c. Oats, 30c. to 30½c. Pork, per brl., \$7.40. Dressed hogs, per 100 lbs., \$2.93. Pork on hand in Chicago, 145,000,000; last year, 66,000,000.