

TORONTO MARKETS.

TORONTO, Sept. 22nd, 1887.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—The situation in this department is much the same as a week ago. There continues to be a steady demand for superiors and extras, sales of these descriptions having been made at our outside figures. Only a jobbing trade is passing in oatmeal and cornmeal at unchanged prices. The enquiry for bran has continued good all through the week and \$13.50 to 13.75 are approximate quotations.

GRAIN.—Our price list shows that prices of wheat have fallen off a couple of points since last issue. As we write the feeling is dull with a tendency to still lower figures. There is some wheat selling to local mills but none on export account, nor could this be done at 5 cents less than current values. Only street lots of barley have been moving so far and our quotations remain almost nominal and unchanged. Peas have changed hands at outside points at equal to our quotations; the feeling is firm. Oats are dull with a lowering tendency; there have been a few transactions at 33 to 34c. Rye owing to the appearance of a buyer in this market—about the first in six months—has advanced to 55 to 56c. Corn is nominal. The visible supply of grain Sept. 15, as reported by the Secretary of the Chicago Board of Trade, is as follows: Wheat, 31,071,487 bushels; corn, 7,599,804 bushels; oats, 5,348,412 bushels; rye, 313,576 bushels; barley, 680,379 bushels. Compared with a week previous, wheat shows 159,309 bushels decrease; corn, 474,952 bushels increase; oats, 370,450 bushels increase; rye, 32,042 bushels decrease; barley, 266,298 bushels decrease.

GROCERIES.—Some houses are more than usually busy just now in shipping to the northern portions of the province before the close of navigation sets in. Trade on the whole is regarded as satisfactory with a tendency to an improvement in prices of most articles. Sugars continue firm at the recent advance and there is nothing to be had in raws under 5½c. Teas are moving steadily. Syrups are still scarce and dear. Coffees are also very scarce and high. The first new Valencia raisins of the season have come to hand and are said to be of very fair quality. The price is 8 to 8½c. New currants are expected in a few days. The New York Commercial Bulletin says: "Speculators in Spain are doing their utmost at the present time to convey the impression to importers on this side that rain has done serious damage in the raisin districts, but reliable information from unbiased sources is forwarded by cable stating that the damage is unimportant. The price has been successfully worked, particularly upon Valencia, until now a considerable advance has been established upon stock near by, distant arrival and forward shipment. It is doubtful if any important advance can be sustained for any length of time, as crop prospects are favorable for a liberal yield. Malaga merchants have also shown some reserve in offering new crop raisins for shipment, though the values cabled have fluctuated considerably; the market there is yet a little disturbed."

HARDWARE.—Except in zinc there is no change to note in the price of metals. The cable reports an advance in zinc of £1 to 1.10 per ton and a corresponding increase has taken place here. Canada plates are still hard to get and imports are coming to hand very slowly. Should the weather demand an immediate supply to the consumer higher figures must, it is said, necessarily rule, although for November delivery orders can be booked at our quotations. The principal makers in England will not undertake to make large shipments before that month, so it will really be December before supplies are to hand. Rope still remains high with a prospect of a continuance during winter months. Trade during the exhibition week is regarded as satisfactory, although the individual orders were not large. Payments are not the subject of much complaint.

HAY AND STRAW.—Ample receipts on farmers' market have had the effect of easing off quotations a point or so. We now quote new timothy at \$13.00 to 15.00. Bundled oat straw \$10.00 to 12.00, and loose \$6.00 to 8.00. Other kinds as before.

HIDES AND SKINS.—A fair demand for hides is reported. They are coming forward freely, with, however, no lowering of prices, stocks being light. We quote steers 7c.; green cows 7c.;

cured and inspected 8 to 8½c. There is nothing doing in calf skins and our prices may be taken as nominal. We note another advance of 5c. in sheepskins and now quote 65c. with the usual supply. Tallow continues dull and unchanged.

LEATHER.—September opened fairly well. Trade done during exhibition days was fully up to the average. Probably a larger number of buyers were brought into the market than for the past few years at the same season. Stocks are full and well assorted without there being an overplus in any one department. Prices are well maintained, although it is thought that purchasers might be able to shade a little on our list. Domestic calf is uncalled for; veal kips, 5 to 6 pounds, are slow of sale, and in other lines, such as heavy harness, good upper, good slaughter kips, French calf and kips, etc., there has been a very fair movement. No doubt a change of weather will do more to bring about a sharp demand than almost anything else, for there is nothing like wet roads and stormy weather to find the holes, and as a result, an interview with the shoemaker. On the whole payments are not bad and hopes are entertained that when the crops begin to move there will be fewer demands for renewals and better payments. The outlook is regarded as encouraging.

PROVISIONS.—The butter market is steady and the demand for choice still continues at our figures. Round lots are neglected, as shippers are not doing anything at present. Cheese is quiet and steady. There is a fair trade being done in hog products, stocks are very light, indeed almost exhausted, so it is said. New long clear is jobbing at 8½ to 9c.; hams easy at 11½ to 12c.; lard in good demand at 9½ to 9¾c. Eggs are firmer say 16 to 16½c. Cranberries are now in market, and sell to wholesale trade at \$9 per barrel. The quality is, so far, very good and the crop fairly large. There is nothing new to note in fish except the large demand for nets brought about, doubtless, by the high prices which our fish is bringing in the American market.

WOOL.—In fleece there is little or nothing doing. Pulled is meeting with a fair demand from the factories and prices for all kinds are steady. Sales are small, but in the aggregate foot up to a considerable amount. We quote ordinary combing fleece 22 to 23c.; ditto South-down, 25 to 26c. Pulled combing, 19 to 20c.; super, 24 to 25c.; extra, 27 to 28c.

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Sealed tenders, addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Oxford and New Glasgow Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on Monday, the 10th day of October, 1887, for certain works of construction.

Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the Office of the Chief Engineer of Government Railways at Ottawa, and also at the Office of the Oxford and New Glasgow Railway, at River John, Pictou Co., Nova Scotia, on and after the 1st day of October, 1887, when the general specification and form of tender may be obtained upon application.

No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms and all the conditions are complied with.

By order,

A. P. BRADLEY,

Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 9th September, 1887.

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