

CHICAGO MARKET.

CHICAGO MARKET- April 7, 1899.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

**DULNESS PREVAILS TO-DAY—
PROVISIONS RALLY SLIGHTLY—
CABLES QUIET.**

Chicago, April 7.

The Chicago markets were unusually dull during to-day's session, quite a contrast to what we have been having for some time back. Now that the settled weather seems to have come to stay, we are more likely to have definite and reliable reports from the growing crop district.

Shipments from Australia continue to be large and above the average, offsetting any deficiency in the Russian and Danubian exports. Those for the Argentine and United States are more than sufficient for supplying of present demands. These shipments keep the aggregate considerably above the estimated requirements.

Reports from India are for a free movement later on, with a steady export up to date. Crop conditions continue to be encouraging. The present temper of the traders is divided, the bears claim that there has occurred little to change their estimate of a bumper crop, and sell confidently whenever the support is withdrawn from the market.

REVIEW FOR WEEK.

The wheat market during the past week could hardly have been more erratic, and corn shared the eccentric course of the chief cereal. There were sudden and noteworthy advances and sharp declines, both in the Chicago and other markets, and the trading yesterday was on a par with the rest of the week.

The weather throughout the West has continued backward and unseasonable, retarding developments, and although crop damage reports have been more in evidence, we doubt if estimates on that head are much more reliable than a week ago, or can be until after a week or more of mild, growing weather, to ascertain the real vitality of the plant; at the same time, when taken into consideration with the decided increase in the percentage of country buying, they must be taken as indicating positive apprehensions as to the ultimate actual results.

The market was disturbed by the Good Friday holiday (which was observed everywhere but in New York) and the civic holiday of last Tuesday, which was of local interest.

Foreign markets, on the whole, have shown a slightly better tone, although the actual amount worked out for export has fallen short of expectations. Last Wednesday a few loads of spring wheat were reported as exported from New York.

The conviction is steadily growing that the damage following the late autumn rank growth by thaws, arctic weather, and wind, is more than will be offset by the 4,000,000 extra acreage, which should have brought an increase of 52,000,000 bushels of winter wheat, or 432,000,000 bushels of that grain for 1899, against 380,000,000 bushels last year.

A bear factor was the collapse of the March deal, this side option running out so

Wheat—

	CLOSING PRICES MAR. 29 TO APR. 6.					TO-DAY'S PRICES.			
	29	30	3	5	6	Opening	Highest	Lowest	Closing
May	73 1/2	73 1/4	72	73	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2	71 1/2	71 1/2
July	73 1/2	73	72 1/2	73 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2	72 1/2
Sept	37 1/2	37 1/2	.....	37 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2
May	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2
July	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	26 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2
Sept	37 1/2	37 1/2	.....	37 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2
May	9 22	9 16	9 10	9 25	9 25	9 25	9 30	9 17	9 27-30
July	9 37	9 27	9 25	9 37	9 37	9 35	9 40	9 30	9 40
May	5 35	5 30-2	5 27	5 32	5 30	5 30	5 35	5 30	5 30
July	5 50	5 45	5 42	5 45	5 45	5 42	5 45	5 40	5 42
Sept	5 62	5 57	.....	5 60	5 57	5 55	.....	.....	5 55
May	4 82	4 75-7	4 75	4 80	4 81	4 77-80	4 80	4 75	4 77
July	4 95	4 87	4 87	4 92	5 02	4 90	4 92	4 87	4 90
Sept	5 05	5 00	.....	5 05	4 90	5 02	.....	.....	5 02

Puts and Calls for April 8 — Puts, Wheat.....70 1/2 Puts, Corn.....34 1/2
Calls, ".....72 1/2 Calls, ".....34 1/2

feebly as to operate against the other options for a one cent decline.

During the coming weeks, until the weather question is finally settled, we cannot expect anything but exceedingly nervous markets. Reports will continue to be circulated for some time yet, causing quick, sharp fluctuations, and it behoves all who are interested to make the best possible use of them.

Mild weather usually has a weakening effect, but this year we expect more crop damage reports when the growing weather develops the real vitality of the plant.

Corn—As regards the corn situation, Messrs Norton and Switzer, of Chicago, say: We see nothing new in the legitimate situation; receipts are and will doubtless continue very small; the visible Western stocks are large. There is an entire absence of export, and very small Eastern demand for shipment at the opening of lake navigation. We do not change our opinion as to higher prices for corn later in the season.

Oats—The feature this week has been liberal buying for July on country account, owing to the continued cold, backward weather delaying seeding. Oats are quite dull and neglected. We expect to see them sell higher.

NEW YORK.

RANGE FROM MAR. 30TH TO APR. 6TH INCLUSIVE.

	HIGH.	LOW.	CLOSE.
Sugar	174 1/2	161 1/2	162 1/2
Tobacco	229 1/2	222 1/2	224
Brooklyn R. Transit	139	121 1/2	122 1/2
Chicago B. & Q.	146 1/2	142 1/2	142 1/2
" Mil. & St. P.	129 1/2	127	127 1/2
" R. I. & Pac.	120 1/2	117	117 1/2
" & Northwest	161 1/2	158	158 1/2
Consolidated Gas	205 1/2	194	195 1/2
General Electric	117 1/2	114	114 1/2
Manhattan con.	133	110 1/2	120
Met. Street Ry. Co.	267	250	250
N. Y. Central	143 1/2	139 1/2	139 1/2
Northern Pacific	53 1/2	51 1/2	51 1/2
" Pfd.	80	78 1/2	78 1/2
Pacific Mail	53 1/2	49 1/2	50
Peoples Gas	129 1/2	123	123 1/2
Tenn. Coal & Iron	61 1/2	51 1/2	56 1/2
Union Pacific	49	46 1/2	46 1/2
" Pfd.	81 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2
U. S. Rubber	57	50	50
U. S. Leather Pfd.	78	72 1/2	73

TOTAL FUNDS, \$20,000,000

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