EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

Wheat again got down to a lower range of prices and trading for the first three days of last week was done at about 1c under ruling prices for the previous week. On Thursday a gain of about a cent was recorded, and a somewhat better feeling prevailed during most of the balance of the week. To all appearance the situation has not materially changed from what it was one week ago, though crop reports have not been quite as favorable as for the previous week. However, nothing very authentic has been reported in regard to damages to crops, and it is evident notwithstanding the diminished area sown, the excellent condition of the growing crops promises a much larger yield than last year, unless serious damage yet results over a wide extent of country, something not at all impossible, though hardly probable after so late a time in the season. The principal bull argument is found in the larger decrease in the visible supply as last reported, and the decrease for the current week promises to be still further augmented, judging from the export movement during the week. The decrease in the visible supply for the week ending May 15th was 2,306,397 bushels, leaving the total visible supply for the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains at 39,590,501 bushels, as compared with 40,921,933 bushels on the same date last year. This showing is the most encouraging feature for the week, and should the improvement in the export movement continue, stock will be considerably reduced by the time new wheat commences to come in, which will allow of the commencement of next fall's trading at better values than can now be expected. However the opinion seems to be pretty general that values must reach even a lower basis than present ruling prices, in view of the expected increase in the crop of 1886. Corn and oats have shown few features of particular importance. Provisions have ruled quiet and easy.

Wheat opened on Monday at Saturday's closing prices, but the tone was dull and spiritless. An estimated heavy decrease in the visible supply and less favorable crop reports failed to strength en the market to any noticeable extent, and prices steadily declined from the outset. June dropped off ½c, July ⅞c and August 1c, where prices remained for a time, and then declined ⅜ to ½c all around. The last decline was brought about by a report from New York that there was no sale for the wheat that had reached there by the Erie Canal on Sunday. Just before the close of the morning session a slight rally occurred, on the report of the engagement of vessel room for 135,000 bushels of wheat. In the afternoon wheat was again weak. Corn broke ⅜ to 1c, under pressure to sell. Oats were also easier, showing a loss of ¼ to ⅜c, in sympathy with wheat. Provisions were dull and without special feature. Closing prices were:—

	May.	June.
Wheat	$0.74⅞	$0.75⅞
Corn	35¼	36
Oats	28¼	28
Pork	8.77½	8.77½
Lard	5.95	5.87½

Wheat broke 1c on Tuesday right at the opening, June going down to 74⅝c, July 76⅛c and August 77¼. There was a rush to sell and nobody to buy, and consequently the market was entirely without support. It was reported that a bucket-shop syndicate had thrown 1,000,000 bushels of wheat on the market, for the purpose of freezing out a numerous army of country speculators, who had followed their margins down to 75 to 75½c. This report was believed in by many, who see in it the reason for the steady decline in prices, in spite of the more favorable conditions developed of late in the export movement. When the pressure was taken of the market advanced, with heavy trading on the up grade. In the afternoon wheat was firm on the report of sales for export in New York. Corn opened weak, but speculative influences sent prices up ⅜ to ⅝c, with a partial decline later. Oats were steady. Provisions were firm throughout. Sales of pork were made at an advance of 12½c but the afternoon prices were lower. Closing prices were.

	May.	June.
Wheat	$0.74	$0.75¼
Corn	35⅝	36⅝
Oats	28½	28¼
Pork	8.77½	8.77½
Lard	5.95	5.95

Wheat opened weak on Wednesday and ½c. lower, but this proved to be about the bottom for the day. Prices soon advanced ½c on the report that 235,000 bushels had been taken for export. Later it turned out that the amount was much less than first reported, and prices again weakened. The market held firm for the balance of the day, on an estimated decrease in the visible of from 3 to 4 million bushels of wheat and flour for the current week. Corn was fairly strong in a speculative way. Oats steady. Provisions were weak and trading rather active. Receipts of hogs continue heavy. Closing prices were:

	May.	June.
Wheat	$0.74½	75¼
Corn	35⅝	36⅝
Oats	28¾	28¼
Pork	8.60	8.60
Lard	5.92½	5.95

On Thursday the market showed a stronger tendency and considerably activity was observed. There was a considerable range in prices and closing figures were at the top. Cash sold from 74¼ to 75½c, July closed at 76⅝c. Pork was again weak and lower, closing at the bottom. Closing prices were:—

	May.	June.
Wheat	75½	76½
Corn	36½	—
Oats	28¾	—
Pork	8.47½	8.50
Lard	5.90	5.90

Wheat was again fairly firm on Friday, during the early portion of the morning session, but later a decline set in, and the close was lower than yesterday. There was a considerable range in prices, May selling from 75½ to 76¼c. July closed at 76⅞c. In pork there was a light range in prices and the feeling was generally quiet and easier. Closing prices were:—

	May.	June.
Wheat	$0.75½	76½
Corn	—	—
Oats	—	—
Pork	8.50	8.50
Lard	5.90	5.92½

On Saturday the markets were steady as is usually the case on that day, and at the close prices were very slightly changed as follows:

	May.	June.
Wheat	$0.75½	76½
Corn	36½	—
Oats	28½	28
Pork	8.55	8.55
Lard	5.92½	5.92½

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The feature of the stock market here last week was the general decline in bank stocks, in sympathy with the decline in the Bank of Montreal stocks. The only bank not showing a decline, as compared with one week ago, was the Standard. Assurance stocks were firm and higher, British and Western each selling up 4 points. Northwest Land was held at 75. Closing bids on May 18, as compared with May 12, were as follows:

	May 19.	May 12.
Montreal	215	207½
Ontario	115½	115
Toronto	201¼	196
Merchants'	124½	122
Commerce	122½	121½
Imperial	137¼	133
Federal	112½	109¼
Dominion	209¼	209
Standard	124	124½
Hamilton	135	132
Northwest Land	72	73½
C.P.R. Bonds	103⅓	—
do Stocks	—	64¼

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The grain market has been very unsettled and irregular, in sympathy with outside markets. Local dealers were at a loss just what course to pursue, and generally concluded to await further developments. In provisions trading has been backward and prices steady.

WHEAT.

There has been very little trading in wheat during the week in the face of the unsettled condition of outside markets. Prices have held little more than nominal as follows: No. 2 fall 80 to 81c, No. 3 fall, 79c, No. 2 spring 82 to 83, No. 2 red winter, 82 to 83c.

FLOUR.

There has been practically nothing doing in flour and prices are quoted the same as last week, at $3.65 for superior extra and, $3.55 for extra. Patents $3.90 to $4.25.

OATS.

The offerings continue in excess of the demand, and prices are week. A car of light sold at 31½c on track.

BARLEY.

The market is dull, and prices purely nominal.

PEAS.

There is very little doing, and prices are nominal at 59 to 60c for No. 2.

RYE.

The market is weak, sales being reported at equal to 53c here.