Live Stock Losses.

The steamers from Montreal with cattle on board have all arrived at the other side, and a complete statement of what each steamer carried during the past season and how many each boat lost can now be given. There were 75 steamers employed in the cattle trade during the season. They carried 98,733 head of cattle and lost 661, or about ⅔ of 1 per cent. An interesting fact in this connection is that 484 head were lost during the months of October and November alone, only 171 being lost during the preceding five months. The record is a brilliant one, and speaks volumes for the efficiency of the Government regulations and the able manner in which Inspectors Pope and Morgan enforced the same. The boats of Reford's agency lost 220 in all, which includes a spill of 157 from the steamship Dracona and 23 from the steamship Alcides. Of the 70 lost by the Allan line 33 were swept off one steamer, the Peruvian. But for the mishaps which befall the steamship Ontario, owing to which she lost 136, the loss from the Dominion boats for the season would only have been 49 head. The total loss on Harling, Ronald & Co.'s boats was 153 of which 117 were lost at one slap from the steamship City of Lincoln. In reference to the figures from the Munderloh boats, it may be mentioned that the authorities at St. John's, Nfld., ordered six cattle, which were in very bad condition, to be landed from the steamship State of Georgia.—*Montreal Gazette.*

Toronto Grocery Market.

The feature of the week has been the advance of ⅛c in sugars, the only important change in the market in many weeks.

Teas and Coffees.—Teas are quiet and unchanged. A good demand is expected towards the end of the month. Coffees in fair demand. Stocks are light. On spot Rios sell at 19½ to 21c. Brown Javas are hard to get and Maracaibo and East India coffees are being worked in instead.

Sugars.—Granulated, 4⅜ to 4⅝; Paris lump, boxes, 5⅞c; extra ground, bbls, 5¾ to 6½c; powdered, bbls, 5 to 5¼; refined, dark to bright, 3⅜ to 4½c; Demerara, 4½c; Trinidad, 3½ to 3½c; Barbados, 3⅜ to 3⅞c. Syrups—D., 1⅞ to 2½c; M., 2½ to 2⅝c; B., 2⅜ to 2½c; V.B., 2½ to 2⅝c; E.V.B., 2⅜ to 2⅞c; ex super, 2⅞ to 2⅞c; X.X., 2⅞ to 3c; X.X.X and special, 3 to 3½c. Molasses—West Indian. bbls, 30 to 50c; New Orleans, open kettle, 45 to 55c; Centrifugals, 30 to 40c; inferior low. grades, 25 to 28.

Dried Fruits and Nuts—Blue fruit is almost entirely out of the market. London layers are now offering at $2.25; black baskets, $3.50. Valencias are quiet but firm, at 5 to 5½c for good brands off-stalk. Currants are unchanged; cases are scarce, some houses being entirely out; barrels rule 5⅞ to 6½c, and cases 7½c for Patras, and 8 to 8½c for Vostizzas. Prunes are slightly higher outside; prices here are firm at 8 to 9½c in cases Currants—Barrels, 5⅝c; half barrels, 5⅞ to 6½c; cases, 6 to 7c; Vostizza, cases. 7½ to 9½c; Patras, bbls, 6½c; cases, 6⅞ to 7½c. Raisins—Valencias, 4⅞ to 5⅞c; layers, 6½ to 7½; Sultanas, 6 to 11c; loose Muscatels, $2.25 to $2.40; London layers, $2.25; black baskets, $3.50; blue baskets, $4 50. Figs—Elemes, 10 lbs and up, 9½ to 13c; white Malaga figs, 6½ to 7c in 25 lb boxes; natural do in bags, 4½c; mats do, 4½c; 14oz, 9 to 9½c. Dates—Hallowee, 5½ to 6c Prunes—Cases, 7½ to 9½c. Nuts—Almonds Tarragona, 15½ to 17c; Ivica, 14 to 15c; do, shelled Valencia, 29 to 35c; filberts, Sicily, 9½c to 10c; walnuts, Grenoble, 14½ to 15c; Marbots, 12c.

Canned Goods—Packers are pressing stock for sale on jobbers and this has a tendency to weaken the market. A large dealer remarked to-day. "If packers would not show so much anxiety to sell I believe the market would improve; the pack has been very heavy, but the consumption will be larger than usual because prices are much lower and potatoes are scarcer and higher." Jobbing prices to-day are from 85c to $1 for equal quantities of corn, peas and tomatoes. Here and there lower prices are quoted. Fruits dull. But canned apples have been sold for export and the tone of the market is firmer. Fish—Salmon, 1's flat, $1.60 to $1.80; salmon, 1's tall, $1.45 to 1.55; lobster Clover Leaf, $2.95; lobster, other 1's, $1.75 to 2.25; mackerel, $1 to 1.25; finnan haddie, $1.40 to 1.50; sardines, French, ¼'s, 40c; sardines, French, ½'s, 17c; sardines, American, ¼'s 6 to 8c; sardines, American ½'s, 9c. Fruits and Vegetables—Tomatoes, 3's, 80c to $1; corn, 2's, 85c to $1.05; peas, 2's, 90c to $1.00; beans, 90 to 95c; pumpkins, 75 to 90c; strawberries and raspberries, 2's, $2 00; apples, gals, $1.75 to $2; 3's, 85c to $1; peaches, 2's, $2.00 to $2.75; peaches, 3's, $3.25 to $3.75; plums, 2's, $1.40 to 1.75; 3's, $2.65; pears, 2's, $1.60 to $1.75; 3's, $1.75 to $2 10.

Spices, Rice, etc.—Rice, bags, 3⅞ to 4c; do, off grades, 3½ to 3⅝c; do, patna, 4⅞ to 5½c; do, Japan, 4½ to 5½c; sago, 4½ to 5c: tapioca, 4½ to 5c; pepper, black, 11½ to 12c; do, white 18 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 18 to 20c; cloves, 10 to 15c; allspice, 10 to 13c; nutmeg, 90c to $1.10 cream tartar, 28 to 35c.

Peels.—Jobbers are running light stocks of all kinds. Prices are firm to stronger. Lemons going at 15 to 16c; orange at 17½ to 18c, and citron, 26 to 30c.—*Empire*, Jan. 5.

Montreal Hardware Market.

In crude material and metals business is extremely quiet and there is no change or feature of importance to note. Meetings of the various associations of iron manufacturers have been held in Toronto during the week, but the changes if any, that have been decided upon are not public property yet. Summerlee, $20 50 to $21; Eglinton, $19 50; Carnbro, $19 50; Siemens' No. 1, $19.50; Langloan, $20.50 to $21; wrought scrap, No. 1, $15 to $16; bar $1 80 to $1.90.

Tin Plates—Cokes, $3.25 to $3.50; I.C. charcoal. $4 to $4.25; Canada plates, $2 50 in lots of 50 boxes or upward, $2.60 in smaller lots; terne plates, $7.25 to $7.75; Oxford copper, $13½ to 14c; ingot tin, 22½ to 23c.

In oils there have been further sales of steam refined seal oil on the basis of 40 to 41c for round lots.

An advance in linseed of 3c was also decided upon to day and now quotations on that article are 57 to 58c for raw and 59 to 60c for boiled in round lots.

Paints and lead are the same in round lots as follows. Choice brands of paints, Government standard, $5 25; do, No. 1, $4.75; do, No. 2, $4.25; do, No. 3, $3.75; dry white lead, 5c; red lead, pure, 4½c; do, No. 1. 4c.

Glass is quiet and unchanged on the basis of $1.35.—*Gazette* Jan. 6.

Unwelcome Competition.

The Secretary of the Canada Salt Association has supplied the following for publication, under date 31st December last: "The Canada Salt Association dissolved to day, although the prices charged by the Association have been exceedingly moderate, and notwithstanding the fact that the large bulk of traders are fully in sympathy with the arrangement, yet owing to the new wells that are coming into operation at Mooretown, Windsor, etc., it was felt impossible to continue. The salt manufacturers feel especially grieved that a public institution like the Canadian Pacific Railway, which owes its inception and present existence to the large sums of money that have been given to it by the taxpayers of the Dominion, should condescend to enter into a needless and wasteful competition in the manufacture of salt. The prices at which salt can now be obtained will be low enough to satisfy the most patriotic patron of industry."

Wait for A Rise.

There seems to be nothing to do now but wait for better wheat and flour markets. There are more than 80,000,000 bu of wheat in the visible to be disposed of. As it happens the men who own it have bought it at a premium above spot prices, because to pay the premium secures the ownership without large payments of cash. Such ownership does not imply possession, which is left with the sellers until the contract time for delivery. Then the new owners in turn become sellers to a new set of buyers. The banks will carry the property to employ their money. In theory the ownership changes only with maturity of the future contract. In practice the ownership is constantly changing, through the modern methods of future trading, that the Hatch-Washburn legislation would abridge. With these methods there is very little burden imposed for the ownership is too often transferred while the banks get their reward in the premiums allowed. The only thing to consider is whether public confidence can be mustered to believe that prices can be pushed above the current figure that May wheat brings. Values now are based upon stocks available against probable requirements, with the whole toned up or down by prospects of supplies from another crop. We are now near the maximum for the season, and the new prospects have been very encouraging. All that can happen now to make changes in the calculations, it is reasonable to presume, will be on the side of reduced prospects for a new crop. That oftener happens than not, in Feb. and March. Even if it be admitted that in March the Washington estimate of wheat in farmers' hands is disappointingly large, as it usually is, that is likely to be offset by consumption that will probably lower stocks, at distributing points, faster than expected, as it usually does. There is little doubt that production is larger yearly, than is usually estimated, and there is as little doubt that consumption is larger than is usually estimated. When the heavy movement is from the farm, then the excess of production has its discouraging effect. When that is gone, the excess of consumption over expectation, rounds out good prospects of prices, as the excess of production flattened them. In a month or two, the time will come to talk of damage to winter wheat. That time usually produces substantial advances.—Minneapolis *Market Record.*

Wheat, Corn and Oats.

The following table shows the total wheat crop of the United States for fourteen years.

	Bushels.		*Bushels.*
1892	515,949,000	1885	357,112,000
1891	611,780,000	1884	512,763,000
1890	399,262,000	1883	420,154 000
1889	490,560,000	1882	504,185,000
1888	414,868,000	1881	380,280,000
1887	456,329,000	1880	498,549,000
1886	457,218,000	1879	448,756,000

The corn crop of the United States for the past fourteen years has been as follows:

	Bushels.		*Bushels.*
1892	1,688,464,000	1885	1,936,176,000
1891	2,060,154,000	1884	1,795,528,000
1890	1,489,970,000	1883	1,551,067,000
1889	1,112,892,000	1882	1,617,025,000
1888	1,987,790,000	1881	1,194,916,000
1887	1,456,161,000	1880	1,717,434,000
1886	1,665,441,000	1879	1,547,901,000

The following table shows the oats crop of the United States for the past fourteen years:

	Bushels.		*Bushels.*
1892	661,035,000	1885	629,409,000
1891	738,394,000	1884	583,628,000
1890	523,621,000	1883	471,302,000
1889	751,515,000	1882	488,251,000
1888	701,735,000	1881	416,481,000
1887	659,618,000	1880	417,885,000
1886	624,134,000	1879	363,761,000