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The Mercantile Adjuster,

P. O. Box 609,

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wheat was held on Wednesday at 91 or 92c.; at Midland, however, it was sold as high as 93c., though on Tuesday it fell to 90c. Oats are unchanged, and remain dull. Peas are 1 to 2c. higher than last week, and are selling freely. Canadian corn remains unchanged, the price asked on Tuesday being 46½c. The barley season is now over, and there will be nothing done in it until the new crop comes in, everything having been shipped out.

GROCERIES.—There was another advance of 5c. in sugar on the 3rd, which brings granulated to a price 40c. above the market price at the beginning of May. This advance is caused by the free buying of raw sugar by American refiners, who are all behind in their orders for want of stock. The tea market is fairly quiet. In the nature of things, China teas are sure to go up; and, if the disturbances continue, there will shortly be no selections possible. In Japans there is a higher market at all the shipping ports of that Empire than here for new season's teas, especially for good medium and common, most in use here. The present outlook for Indian teas is somewhat precarious, and the supply of good liquoring sorts uncertain. Ceylons are in fair supply, with a rather more liberal choice. A new scale of charges for handling teas in Great Britain will tend to lower the prices of Indian and Ceylon sorts, re-exported. All spices are very firm, but not active at this season. Dried fruits are dull, except currants, which are active, owing to the conditions in Greece, to which we referred last week.

HIDES AND SKINS.—The market has been showing some signs of improvement, last week the English market advanced a farthing. Still, matters here are very dull, tanners appearing to wait the course of events and watching Chicago; prices of hides are meanwhile unchanged; calfskins are dull; there is the usual supply of sheepskins, which sell readily at our quotations.

LEATHER.—But little is doing; shoe manufacturers declining to buy while the price of hides is so uncertain as at present. Quotations are nominally unchanged for the most part.

PROVISIONS.—There is no change in the quotations of our Prices Current. Receipts of butter continue limited, with a steady market. Eggs are steady, but likely to be lower next week, pickling being nearly over. Cheese is quiet and unchanged. In hog products, trade is active all over the list, and is helped by the scarcity of beef. Business keeps up well and payments are good.

On Monday last, 2nd July, there was reported on the Utica Dairy Board of Trade 105 lots of cheese, equalling 9,135 boxes sold. Large cheese sold at 8½ to 8¾c.; small sold at 8¼ to 9c.; ruling price for large and small, 8¾c. Creamery butter, 22 packages, sold at 19½c., and 130 packages at 20c.

At Little Falls.—Cheese, 83 lots of 5,529 boxes offered. All sold at 8¾c., including large and small, colored and white. Dairy butter, 43 packages, sold at 18 to 20c.

WOOL.—The domestic article is offering plentifully enough, but neither Long & Bisby, of Hamilton, nor Leadlay or Hallam, here, seem disposed to buy at the prices asked. Country holders ask 17c., but dealers will not offer more than 16 to 16½c. As to foreign wools, Canadian mills are not buying at present; the London sales, which opened on the 3rd, show a decline of 10 per cent. for fine merinos, and of 5 per cent. for crossbreds, which, however, had been anticipated.

A CUNNING ANGLER.

The following parody on Isaac Walton is taken from the June number of the "Equitable News":

Venator. Well met, master! It gladdens my heart to encounter thee again after so long a separation.

Piscator. I, too, am rejoiced to meet thee, and I am eager to know how thou hast spent thy time during the winter. Thou has not, I warrant, been a-fishing since we parted company at Tottenham High Cross?

Venator. Indeed, but have I! I have now become a fisherman in earnest. I have made it my calling; I am at it day in and day out. And I am glad to have overtaken thee, for I need thy counsel.

Piscator. Thy words fill my heart with delight. But where hast thou been angling, and for what kind of fishes?

Venator. I have been a fisher of men. Piscator. What! hast taken priestly orders?

Venator. Not I. But (if I may say it without irreverence), I have become like the apostle—a fisher of men. I have taken to the pursuit of assuring men's lives.

Piscator. Then thy angling is of a kind with which I have naught to do. Nevertheless, all fishing is alike in many ways; and such advice as I can give thee I shall willingly impart.

Venator. From my heart I thank thee, kind master; and now I am impatient for thee to begin.

Piscator. Well then, in the first place, remember that it is not enough to be a fisherman—thou must be a catcherman as well.

Venator. Hah! That is shrewd counsel, good master. But what next?

Piscator. In the second place, it is one thing to hook thy fish, and quite another to land him.

Venator. True again! It is one thing to secure an application and another to deliver the policy.

Piscator. Then must thou be diligent and patient.

Venator. That, too, is well said. I have sometimes repaired the ill fortune which has stuck by me throughout the day by continuing on into the evening, or by going forth early in the morning.

Piscator. Nor must thou forget thy bait. Few fish are to be caught with the bare hook.

Venator. That surely is true likewise. One must use arguments that will attract.

Piscator. Yes, and the converse is true—the best of bait is useless unless it be fastened to the hook.

Venator. I see thy meaning; an argument to be convincing must be sound. But may I not hope for good results by distributing tracts and leaflets, and by sending out letters?

Piscator. Yea, verily. Ground bait has its uses. Distribute thy tracts and leaflets and letters; but remember that the fishes thus lured are only to be caught thereafter by means of hook and line.

Venator. That is a distinction I fear I have not duly regarded.

Piscator. Curb also thy impatience. Thou canst not land every fish with a jerk. Thou must give line to many a fish, and after playing him deftly for a season, thou canst draw him surely into thy net.

Venator. The truth of that I have learned by bitter experience.

Piscator. And remember that it is worse to lose a fish once caught than never to have got him on the hook; for if he flop back into the stream, he will not willingly be caught again. Besides, the water will be troubled and his fellows will be frightened away.