CHICAGO MARKET.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY A HOLIDAY— NO SESSIC... OF THE BOARD OF TRADE 'AT ONE GRAIN SHIPPER SAY. JUT GRAIN AND PROVISION M...A.ET.

Chicago. Feb. 12.

Norton & Switzer, Chicago, In their weekly market letter of February 10, say: Wheat—Chicago inspected out of store this week about 200,000 bm. No. 1 Northern, which we consider a most important feature for reasons frequently noted in these letters. With the advent of the crop scare season here and abroad, speculative sentiment, will naturally, for the time being, eargely control, varying with prevailing weather conditions, and as the temperature throughout our winter wheat belt has until recently been unusually mild and the ground bare of snow, the plant is admitted to be exceptionally advanced and liable to injury, and recent variations of temperature have been so marked as to arouse grave apprehensions on that score.

Corn—Receipts for the week 4,513 cars, against 2,877 cars last week. The incr se represents purchases made during the past few weeks, but of act the offerings have been much less, the movement being interfered with somewhat by snow storms, followed by unusually mild weather and rains. Some reaction from the sharp advance this week, which is largely speculative, is not improbable, and indeed would be natural if the weather continues cold and favorable for moving corn. We do not, however, change our opinion that ultimately corn will sell higher, purely upon the supply situation in this country. The Argentine exportable surplus, now estimated at but 22,000,000 bu., reflects the reported damage there, which, if correct, would, we think, warrant even higher prices t an we have herectofore thought probable.

Outs—Have advanced in sympathy with

Oats—Have advanced in sympathy with corn, though ruling comparatively dull. Stocks in sight are small and are not inincreasing, while the export demand shows signs of improving, as it usually does in the spring. The South African domand is becoming quite large and must naturally continue so while the war lasts. We consider May oats an excellent purchase under 24c, and continue our suggestion to spreaders to buy July oats against sales of July corn notwithstanding the difference has widened. Speculation is now in corn, but will undoubtedly go into oats in time, as it always has done before.

Provisions — Receipts of hogs at the eight principal packing — mts for the week 439,100, against 316,000 the previous week and 348,900 the corresponding week last year. Provisions have sold this week at the highest prices yet recorded. Lard up about \$1.00 per hundred. Ribs \$1.10 and Pork \$2 per barrel from low point. These figures have been justified by the shortage in supplies of hogs up to date, but our information from the source which proved so reliable in predictions of the heavy shortage during the winter, now joints ta supplies of hogs continuously in excess of last year. These views are in accord with the natural inference that the prevailing large profit in feeding would encourage a very liberal production. With an increased hog supply and a poorer foreign trade it seems to us that prices are higher than circumstances warrat, and we favor selling Provisions on all bulges.

UHICAGO MARKET-Fobruary 10, 1900.

From the Bartlett Frazier Co., Chicago. H. J. Coon, Manager, 8) St. Saurament St.

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^{*} After deducting \$511:982 for reinsurance † After deducting \$702,040 for reinsurance. This List is compiled from the fortnightly circular issued by the Secretary Tormto Stock Exchange.