

PEAS.

Unchanged at 59 to 60c.

POTATOES.

Offerings have been abundant and prices weak. Early rose sold on track at 40c and white varieties at 35c.

APPLES.

Nothing doing in car lots. Small lots have sold at from \$1.50 to \$2.00.

P.O.S.

Consignments have been taken steadily at 11 to 11½c. Though receipts are large, prices have been firm, packers having commenced operations.

BUTTER.

Receipts of large rolls have been on the increase, and fully equal to the demand for local consumption. Prices show a decline as compared with last week. Rolls have sold at from 15 to 16c, the latter price for extra choice only. Choice tubs have brought about the same but poor qualities would only bring 12c. Old was offered at 7c without buyers.

CHEESE.

New cheese has been in fair supply and in small lots brought 10 to 10½c, with sales of 50 boxes and upward at 9½c. Old is nearly out of the market.

PORK.

Dull and steady at \$13.50 for small lots.

BACON.

Has held steady in price and the demand limited. Prices were as follows:—Long-clear in tons and cases fairly active at 7½ to 7½c; Cumberland inactive at 6½ to 7c, and sweet pickled at 7½ to 8c. Short rolls in good demand at 8½ to 9c; bellies at 10 to 11c, and boneless at 11c, with some old offered at 7½ to 8c. Large lots could have been obtained at a shade under quotations.

HAMS.

Hams have been scarce and in good demand. Smoked sold in lots of 50 to 100 at 10½ to 11c. Smaller lots brought ½c more.

LARD.

Large pails have sole at 8½c and small pails at 9 to 9½, according to quantity.

HOGS.

Have been readily taken at \$6.50 to \$7 for all offered.

General Notes.

The Dominion Government has promised to bring in a bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine.

There is now in store in Montreal 1,367,364 bushels of grain, against 431,496 bushels a year ago, showing the large increase of 936,370 bushels.

The annual statement of the Bank of Montreal shows a surplus of over half a million dollars to be carried over, after paying a dividend of ten per cent and a bonus of one per cent.

Six dollars is about all that is offered for fair six to the 1,000 logs at Minneapolis. Where the profit comes in to the logger who cuts \$3 stumpage is hard to find out, yet it must be so or they would quit doing it.

The representatives of the starch manufacturers of the West and Buffalo met in Chicago Thursday, and organized a pool to govern production in certain lines of goods. A slight advance on ruling prices was ordered.

The report of the minister of railways for last year shows 10,150 miles of railway in operation. Money invested amounts to \$625,754,500; earnings for year, \$32,227,169; work-

ing expenses, \$24,015,351; net earnings, \$8,212,118; passenger carried, 9,692,599; people killed 157; injured 684.

The *Chicago Journal of Commerce* is authority for the following statement: This country is actually exporting more oleomargarine than butter. In 3 years the records show 100,000,000 of oleo to 54,000,000 pounds of butter.

Advices from Montreal state that during the past few days about 300 boxes of new cheese have been received, sales of which have been made to the local trade at 10½c to 10¾ per lb, but these prices are no criterion whatever for export trade, as shippers would not pay over 9c and perhaps not even as much.

An offer of 76c. on the dollar has been made by James Brown & Son, of Montreal. The firm has carried on a wholesale dry goods business since '80, and their liabilities do not exceed \$50,000, all of which is to Montreal firms. They will require the compromise to be spread over twelve months, the two last payments to be secured.

The Ontario Mutual Life Assurance Co. did new business for the year to the extent of \$1,867,950. The premiums for the year were \$237,665.32 and the surplus on the reduced standard \$38,892.69. The lapses seem to have been considerable during the year, which would indicate that money has been scarce, and that people have found it difficult to pay premiums. Other companies have had a similar experience.

The total value of goods entered for consumption at the Port Arthur Custom House for the month of April, 1886, was \$25,290. The revenue collected by Mr. Nicholson for April amounts to the handsome sum of \$6,896.16, which is extraordinarily large for a winter month. The increase is principally due to the large importations of machinery for the new silver mills at the Rabbit Mountain and Beaver Mountain mines.

A meeting of the creditors of the Lenham Elevator Co. was held at Duluth, April 28. W. C. White, attorney for the concern, made a statement of its affairs. From this it appears that the liabilities of the company amount to \$350,000 in round numbers, and the assets to \$270,000. The company owes farmers in Dakota for 20,000 or 30,000 bushels of wheat. The elevators in Dakota have passed into the hands of the Van Dusen Co.

Selections.

It is now recommended to boil shingles intended for a roof in a solution of lime and salt. It is claimed that it adds a good many years to the usefulness of the shingle—by preventing them from decaying.

It would seem that the next field for the dust collector to fill is to be found in coal mines, as recent investigations in Germany indicate that many of the explosions heretofore attributed to fire-damp were really due to ignition of clouds of fine coal dust in the air. The matter is one worthy of thorough investigation.

Green wood cannot be properly seasoned or dried in five days, any more than green cheese can be ripened in that time, yet each of the nine lumber-drying kilns at the Pullman Car

Works, has capacity to turn out 300,000 feet, supposed to be fit for car building, in the above time. It is pretty generally acknowledged that kiln dried lumber must be injured in fiber, and so roasted on the outside as to be brittle and unfit for many purposes. At least this is what a Chicago carriage journal thinks.

The *Budget* says:—Suicide may be said to be no longer a defence in the matter of payment of death claims. The Mutual Life Insurance Company some time ago abandoned the suicide clause in its policies, relying upon a knowledge of the applicant, his habits, financial affairs, etc., for protection. This is a wise course, and we have no doubt that the experience of the old companies will go to prove that the claims from suicide, which could have been successfully resisted, have been very few. Why then keep the obnoxious clause in the policies. The contracts of many of the companies can be improved very much in the direction of liberality.

Duluth Flour Receipts.

A Duluth railroad man is thus quoted: Six years ago, the St. Paul & Duluth road handled 225,000 bbls of flour, all from Minneapolis, and it was considered a big business. When it got up to 500,000 bbls a season we considered the amount something wonderful. Last year it was nearly 1,200,000 bbls and if the company had had the rolling stock it would have been 1,500,000 bbls. Duluth now gets a large quantity of flour outside of that which comes from Minneapolis, and in a few years the traffic would be immense, even if Minneapolis did not send us a barrel. The road will be in better shape this season than ever before to handle its flour business. The company will have an addition of 500 box cars to its rolling stock over last year, and the new flour houses will make the same number of cars do twice the amount of hauling. Cars will suffer no such delay this year as they did last. A train of box cars arriving in the morning will be unloaded during the forenoon and started back in the afternoon.—*Northwestern Miller*.

Wildcat Competition.

We see it announced in the *Review* that "the Fidelity and Accident Company of the United States in order to meet the blatant promises of and groundless pretensions of the assessment accident companies, has decided to create a new hazard"—that's what they call it—in addition, to present "preferred," to be designated as class "A," etc., the object, apparently, being to show that although the pretensions of the aforesaid assessment companies are groundless, the company will offer insurance about as cheaply as the assessment companies. In other words, "the assessment companies are deceiving the public, by professing to give insurance at rates which are ridiculously low, but we can give insurance just as cheaply as they promise to give it, notwithstanding that their pretensions are groundless." There is altogether too much of this kind of thing. A company which does not issue tontine policies will publish cartloads of circulars to prove that it is impossible to realize the estimates made in connection with tontines, but strangely enough