

MARKET REVIEW AND FORECAST.

Office of FARMING.

Nov. 15th, 1897.

The Wheat Question.

A short time ago the price of wheat was advanced on the strength of the report that Europe was in a deplorable condition as regards her wheat supply, that Russia had a shortage, and that a number of countries that usually export wheat would this year be large purchasers. The report is true only to a certain extent. The decrease in the Russian crop, as gathered from official returns, shows only a shortage of a little over three million bushels. India has begun shipping wheat again and crop prospects are good, and Australia promises to become an important factor also, and the crop prospects continue good in the Argentine.

On September 13th last the visible supply in Canada and the United States was down to 14,817,000 bushels, and the world's supply in sight to 34,737,000 bushels. Since then the visible has grown in volume to 20,002,000, and the world's supply in sight to 38,202,000 making an increase in the visible of 14,245,000 bushels within the past eight weeks, and 23,525,000 bushels in the world's supply in sight. At this rate, buyers on the other side of the Atlantic need not be alarmed concerning the resources of breadstuffs in the near future, and neither may the wheat growers here look for much advance, if any, in the price of wheat; still, it must not be forgotten that there is a real shortage in the world's wheat crop. The price of wheat has been down and up again during the past week in Chicago, but the market has continued very steady at Toronto, 82c. for middle freight, 81c. north and west. Manitoba wheat is a little lower, 98c. at Goderich and Midland.

Barley and Oats.

The barley trade continues very quiet, both for feeding and malting purposes. Prices are the same as last week, 30c. for malting and 24c. for feeding purposes. At Montreal it is quoted at 32c. to 35c. for No. 3. Last year's barley 52c. to 55c.

Oats are looking up a little. At Toronto they are now bringing 23c. for car loads north and west freight. On the farmer's market in Toronto they are worth from 26½ to 27½c. At Montreal they are quoted at 26½ to 27½c.

Peas and Corn.

The market for peas has remained remarkably steady for some weeks past, at 42c. for cars north and west.

Corn is steady at 26½c. to 27c. for Old Canada and yellow, west.

Rye and Buckwheat.

Rye is steady and unchanged at 44c., middle freight, and 43c., cars, north and west. At Montreal it is 42c. to 43½c.

Buckwheat is dull, and market unchanged at 29c., cars, north and west.

Milfeed.

Shorts have been steady all week at \$11, and bean has gone up to \$8 for car lots west.

Potatoes.

Potatoes are steady at from 52c. to 55c. a bag at Toronto in car lots, and at Montreal they are from 45c. to 52½c. per bag.

Eggs.

The market at Montreal has been fairly steady. Fresh fall eggs are reported at 15½c. to 16c. New laid eggs are scarce, and selling at 19c. to 20c. in single cases. At Toronto the market is steady at 13c. to 16c. for choice first gathered, 13c. for seconds, and 13½c. for lined.

Honey.

Choice Ontario white clover honey in comb is 14c. to 15c. per section. Extracted honey has sold at 7c. to 9c. for white, and 6c. to 6½c. for dark. Most of the Quebec comb honey is more or less tinged, and is quoted at 9½c. to 12c.

Apples.

The demand for apples continues firm. No. 1 are quoted at \$3 to \$3.50 per bbl., No. 2, \$1.50 to \$2.50 per bbl. Dried apples, 2½c. to 3½c. per lb. Evaporated, 5½c. to 6c. per lb.

Cheese.

Although the cheese trade is characterized as "dead as a door nail," yet there was considerable business done the past week at a decline in prices, and quite a lot of cheese has passed out of factorymen's hands at the lowest prices of the season. Eastern cheese has been kept sold up close from week to week,

but there is a considerable quantity of western cheese still in first hands. The great bulk of the eastern cheese and the Ontario cheese between Montreal and Toronto has passed into second hands, and thus shippers begin to know about what the stocks in Canada are. As a result prices will likely be steadier, and a more cheerful feeling seems to prevail, although old country cables have been dropping 6.1. at a time. A considerable lot of under grades have been sold at 7c. to 8c. Finest Octobers have sold at 7½c. to 7¾c., while finest western has realized 8½c. to 8¾c. The ruling prices, however, are not much above 8½c., and a considerable quantity has been sold at but little advance on 8c.

Butter.

In spite of the large quantity of fresh and stored butter on the English market Canadian butter is holding its own and establishing a good reputation. Further sales of American creamery butter, stored in bond in Montreal, have been made at 18c. and 20c. to New York and Boston. The market remains quiet. Sales are reported at 18½c. to 18¾c. for October make, and 17½c. to 18c. for earlier make. These seem to be about the ruling prices.

Cattle.

The cattle trade is slow, and a lot of inferior stuff is being offered. Export cattle continue very dull, and there is not much doing. Prices are merely nominal at 3½c. to 3¾c. per lb. Good butchers' cattle are in fair demand and sell readily. Poor stuff go slow. Prices run from 2½c. for common to 3½c. for choice. The demand still continues good for light stockers from Buffalo, at from \$2.75 to \$3.30 per cwt. Distillery men and farmers are still looking after feeders, and are paying for them from 3½c. to 3¾c. per lb. Choice veals are wanted, and the price ranges from \$2 to \$8. All kinds of milch cows are in good demand.

Sheep.

Lamb's are in fair demand at 4c. The market in Buffalo has improved considerably for lambs. They are now quoted at \$5.50 to \$5.90 for top lambs; culls, \$5 to \$5.75. Canada lambs, \$5.60 to \$5.80. Export she are dull at 3c. to 3½c. Butchers' sheep, dull, and bring from \$2.50 to \$3.50 each, according to quality.

Hogs.

Prices have declined a little further during the week, and 4c. is the best that is being paid for choice hams, light fat, and store hogs. Thick fat hogs are worth 5c. per cwt. less. Stags are bringing 2c., and sows 3c. per lb.

Hay and Straw.

At present the prospect of the export hay trade is not very bright. England appears to be getting all she wants at lower rates, and until more favorable transportation rates can be obtained the Canadian hay trade will probably stay dull. Baled hay is dull at Toronto at \$8 to \$9 for cars on the track. Baled straw is quoted at \$5 on the tracks.

Stock Notes.

H. J. DAVIS, Woodstock, Ont. I have been breeding Yorkshire and English Berkshires for the last ten years. I have on hand now about fifty five head all told, and the litters this fall are second to none.

W. H. STANLEY, Mordach, Ont. I have a good herd of Berkshires in good healthy condition. I have on hand at present some twenty-one nice young sows ready for breeding, and some young boars ready for service.

NORMAN M. BLAIR, St. George, Ont. My herd of Tamworth swine was started in 1891. At present I have seven brood sows and about forty head of other stock, and find the demand for a No. 1 Tamworth increasing every day.

JAMES FRATHURTON, Streetsville, Ont. My herd consists of improved Yorkshires. I keep four stock boars and twenty sows. This herd has been established for thirty-one years. I have 20 young pigs under two months old.

T. A. TRANDALE, Concord, Ont. I have been breeding Berkshires for about twenty-five years, and have now on hand two stock boars, six brood sows, and three boars and four sows about six months old, and thirteen pigs from five to seven weeks old.

J. H. SHAW, Simcoe, Ont. My herd of Chester-White swine was started in 1892, and my herd of Berkshires one year later. I have now some thirty head, the best I have had for some time. The demand was so good I sold out very close during the summer.

R. G. MARTIN, Marysville, Ont. Has been breeding Yorkshire pigs for ten years. He was breeding Berkshires for some years before that, but quit them and started again. At present he has three Yorkshire boars, and six sows, two of them with pigs six weeks old. He has also one Berkshire boar and two sows.

C. R. DICKER, Chesterfield, Ont. My herd was established seventeen years ago. I have on hand now about 40 head, 10 brood sows, 4 boars for service two years old, and a number of young boars fit for service, boars and sows from three months up. Parties wishing to get choice stock please write for prices. All registered Berkshires.

H. GEORGE & SONS, Crampton, Ont. Our herd has been established since 1882, and at present our herd numbers 86 head of improved Chester White and Tamworth swine. We have a grand lot of sows and boars, two months old, of both breeds, not akin, ready to ship; also a grand lot of sows ready to breed. We would be pleased to have any of the subscribers of FARMING visit us and inspect our herd at any time, if they are thinking of buying or not.

TAKE BROS., Ridgeway, Ont. We made our first importation seven years ago. Since that time we have imported quite a number. Our herd now consists of two first-class imported boars, a dozen good, large, strong brood sows, about sixty young pigs under three months old and more coming, a few good young sows that we are now breeding for the winter trade, a few nice young boars, and a small herd preparing for the winter show. We have had a very successful year both in selling and in exhibiting. The Dorset Jerseys are gaining a sure foothold and have encouraging prospects before them.

JAS. CAIRNS, Camlachie, Ont., commenced breeding Chester Whites eight years ago on a small scale, and kept gradually increasing his herd as his trade expanded, but the last two years the trade has expanded beyond his capacity to fill orders. The Cheaters are general favorites with all who try them, and are fast taking a foremost place amongst the breeds. He has 45 head now of different sizes, and his herd is headed by two imported boars, John A. 751, and None Such, No. 910. He has also five imported sows in his herd. He is now looking orders for September 1898. He always endeavors to give his customers a good pig for a fair price.

THOMAS BROOKS & SON, BRANTFORD, ONT.: Our herds of Cheaters and Tamworths are doing well. Four breeding sows of each breed are kept. Two Cheaters, Lucy and Peggy, are suckling fine litters now. Amity and Abbie are to farrow before Christmas. Our Tamworths are now headed by that famous stock getter and prize-winner, Glen Sausly. At three years old and in show condition he tipped the scales at 917 pounds. All our next spring offerings will be sired by him. We want our customers to have the best. We have been established in Cheaters two years, and in Tamworths but one, 1897 being the first year we have advertised our stock, and so far have only used FARMING as our advertising medium which has brought in a fair share of patronage, and we hope by good breeding and honest dealing to merit that in the future. Our pigs now number 45 in all, quality more than numbers is what we aim at. In Tamworths we are sold out (with the exception of one boar) till spring litters arrive. Of Cheaters we have different ages from six weeks to six months, and a few sows, ready to breed sows for sale at reasonable prices.

The first annual sale of the Kent or Koonsey Marsh Sheep Breeders' Association came off at Ashford, Kent, on October 1st, 1897, and it is undoubtedly a successful attempt to make a central place at which these rams can be bought, and where buyers can attend with every certainty of finding a selection from many of the principal flocks of the breed. The yearly, and indeed we might say abundantly, increasing foreign demand for these sheep points to the near future of a very capital trade. At present the buyers hail in a great measure from the Argentine, though a few come from New Zealand, Africa, Australia, Falkland Islands, Patagonia, etc., but none from Canada, and because they have yet to learn that there is a breed of English sheep which would, I feel convinced once taken in hand, be a most profitable venture to those who were the plucky ones who first undertook it. A breed that is of such value that upwards of 150 rams are selected for export therefrom by such known buyers of export stock as the Anglo Argentine Live Stock and Produce Company, by Messrs. John Thornton & Co., and W. W. Chapman, of London, is surely one which is worthy of notice by the Canadian as well as the South American buyers. Depend upon it once these sheep are tried it will be found that they have which was secured by Mr. W. Millen of Sydney. The next come to notice. The highest price paid was £166., highest price was £109., which was twice got. The highest average sale was made by Mr. W. Millen, who sold 40 head, the average price being £15. 10s. 6d. The next highest average was £14. 2s. 6d., made by 15 rams sold by Mr. G. Farmer, Maidstone. Mr. J. H. Perkins' lot of 20 brought an average of £11. 8s. 4d. There were 520 sold in all, making an average of £7. 14s. 10d.

Publishers' Desk.

Alberts' Thomas Phosphate Powder
Messrs. Wallace & Fraser made a very tastefully arranged display of the crops grown by the aid of their fertilizers, the famous Alberts' Thomas phosphate powder, at the St. John Exhibition, and would have done the same at Halifax had there not been a misunderstanding regarding space, which unfortunately prevented them carrying out their arrangements. The legumes, which are the most valuable crops to grow, due to their power of absorbing nitrogen from the atmosphere, thrive especially well upon the phosphate powder, and the extensive use of this fertilizer is opening up a new era in the economical growth of crops.

Of Interest to Horsemen.—Do you turn your horses out for the winter? If so we want to call your attention to a very important matter. Horses that have been used steadily, either on the farm or for road work, quite

probably have some strains whereby lameness or enlargements have been caused, or perhaps new life is needed to be infused into their legs. Gombault's Caustic Balsam applied as per directions, just as you are turning the horse out, will be of great benefit, and this is the time when it can be used very successfully. One great advantage in using this remedy is that after it is applied it needs no care or attention, is absolutely a safe remedy for anyone to use, and does its work well, and at a time when the horse is having a rest. Of course it can be used with equal success while horses are in the stable, but many people in turning their horses out would use Caustic Balsam if they were reminded of it, and this article is given as a reminder.

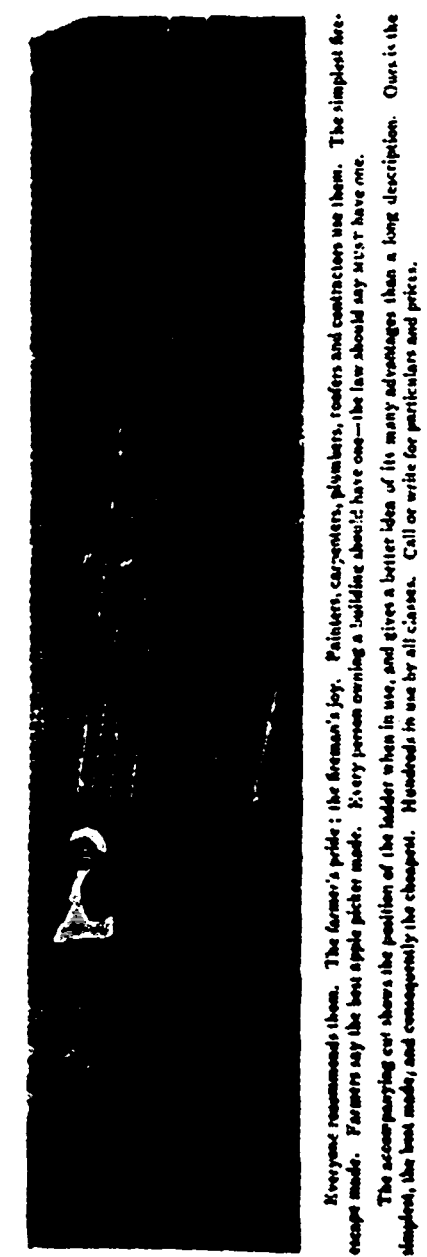
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