

Canadian Bacon at the Top.

We notice by a recent report from Carter, Wilkinson & Co., of Liverpool, Eng., that "Canadian singed Wiltshire, heavy to light," tops the list of quotations, at 46 to 48 shillings, being ten shillings higher than the best quotation for American bacon, Canadian hams being three shillings higher than the U. S. product.

Canadian Horses in England.

The English Live Stock Journal of May 6th contains the following encouraging note for our horse-raisers: "Canadian and United States horses have considerably advanced in price in London. At a few of the late sales by auction every animal offered was disposed of at improved rates. The advance has been equal to £10 per head for useful horses. Bus horses usually worth £30 are readily sold for £40. Probably the American-Spanish war has been the principal factor in an improved market, as in the case of wheat. The increased value of horses from the North American Continent will have its effect on the horse trade all round, and the prospects of owners of horses for sale are encouraging for the present season. It may be added that large numbers of Canadian and United States horses find their way to the Continent—to Belgian, Dutch, and German ports. They do not go direct to France, although many may go there after passing through other countries. These importations to the Continent doubtless pass as English horses—not as 'made in Germany' or in the United States and Canada."

Lincoln County, Ont.

The price of farm produce is much the same as it has been during the past five or six weeks. Hay is bringing from \$5.50 to \$6.50 per ton, and there appears to be plenty of it. The crop for the coming season, though not as heavy as last year, promises to be good, though rain is badly needed on the clay lands. Butter has been plentiful, at from 11c. to 13c. per lb. Beef, contrary to the general expectation, has kept down at the same price, 4c. to 4½c. Most of the good cattle have been cleaned out, however, and the farmers who are finishing off good stock on grass may see better prices by the end of the month. Wheat is heading out and looks like being an early and a good crop. Potatoes are scarce, good samples fetching from \$1 to \$1.25 a bag. Quite small seed potatoes have brought as high as 50 cents a bushel. The fruit crop is likely to be somewhat disappointing. Apples promise pretty well, though the Greenings and one or two other varieties are light. Pears will be a much lighter crop. Lombards, Imperial Gage, and a few other varieties, are fairly well loaded, but on the whole the crop will be a short one; and the curculio is getting in his work on the few that are set. This is the time when spraying will pay. Last season it didn't matter a rap if the curculio did fix half the crop. Peaches have been badly troubled with "curled leaf." The disease is a hard one to fight, and undoubtedly debilitates the trees. In the older orchards and with late varieties the crop will probably be very light. Early varieties have set a fair amount of fruit, but I look for a light peach crop this season. Sour cherries promise fairly well; the sweet varieties have set a lightish crop, and the black "cherry aphid" is again painfully in evidence. This is a hard insect to fight after getting well established; its profligence and the consequent curling of the affected leaves render it practically unassailable, and fruit-growers will gradually recognize the necessity of fighting it early in the season directly breeding begins. Pears look like a good crop. Berries too are in good shape, though everything in the horticultural line would be better for a good soaking rain. M. B.

Toronto Markets.

"Why, times are good!" was the remark of several drovers on the market. The great advance in the price of agricultural products, the increased export demand, the opening up of a new channel of trade to the West Indies, caused a better feeling amongst the cattle buyers, and are the principal causes of the present favorable condition. The attention of Mayor Shaw has been drawn to the overcrowded state of our market, and has caused to be issued a notice to the effect that a site for a new cattle market is required. This is not what is wanted. We have a good situation; in fact, everything that can be required in this respect—the Stanley Park, on both sides of King street. What we do want is a live, bright business manager as market superintendent, and one with some idea of what a market is meant to convey—a prominent and convenient place in the city where cattle can be exposed for sale with safety to the public and promptness to the buyers. There has been more money wasted in patching and renewing than would have made a thorough, substantial lairage and put a brick wall around the present market.

Export Cattle.—The bulk of cattle on view to-day were exporters. Good fat cattle sold up to \$4.00 per cwt.; medium to choice, \$4.50 per cwt.; fair and good, \$4.12½ per cwt. Demand active. Many exporters had space to fill, and consequently all good choice cattle sold early. More could have been disposed of. Mr. L. H. Mann, of Ridgewood, Barbadoes, commissioned Mr. Maybee to purchase cattle for export via Halifax for the U. S. Army and Navy contractors. Twenty Polled Angus steers, fed by Mr. Maybee, of the Messrs. Massey-Harris & Co., at his farm on the York Town Line, were bought by Mr. Jesse Dunn at \$1.60 per cwt., averaging 1,445 lbs. each. These were a fine, even lot of choice steers. Although not so heavy as some we have seen, were well finished and handled, and reflect great credit on the feeder.

Butchers' Cattle.—Altogether there were better prices in this class of cattle; in fact, the best active market which has ruled for some time here. A great many Montreal buyers on the market to-day. Choice picked lots of butchers' cattle sold at \$1.15 to \$1.30 per cwt. Loads of butchers' and exporters' mixed, \$1.12½ per cwt. Good cattle, \$1; common cattle, \$3.65 to \$3.80 per cwt.

Stockers.—In fair demand, and selling at \$3.65 to \$3.90 per cwt. Not many on offer.

Feeders.—Farmers are still anxious buyers, but the price seems to hold high and supply scarce, \$4 to \$4.12½ per cwt.

Bulls.—Not many on offer; fair quality bulls, 1,800-lb. average each, at \$3.75 to \$4 per cwt.

Sheep.—Prices easy, at \$3 to \$3.25 for ewes. Bucks at \$2.75. Yearlings at \$3.50 to \$4.25 per cwt. Spring lambs \$3.50 to \$4 per head.

Calves.—For general run prices held firm at \$3 to \$6 per head; some extra quality veals brought \$7 to \$8 per head.

Milk Cows.—Good average quality dairy cows, \$30 to \$45 per head. A choice dairy cow sold for \$55.

Hogs.—As foreshadowed in my last, hogs fell off 10c. per cwt. But they more than made that up by an advance of 10c., and the price is now \$5.20 for choice singers off cars. Thick-

fat and light advanced 5c.; the price is now \$4.50, and will likely continue next week. Too many light hogs are still coming forward. Heavy fat hogs are still quoted at \$4.50 to \$4.90; for choice sows, \$3.35, and stags at \$2.00 per cwt. June 11th, 1898.

The Montreal Markets.

The runs of cattle on recent markets have been of a very even nature, and, consequently, no great changes have taken place from one market to another. Neither has the price of stock on this market been very materially affected by the continuous run of poor British markets. There is a light supply of cattle in the country, and it is evidenced by the light to steady receipts here, and whenever there is anything of an export enquiry made it immediately has a stimulating effect on the local trade. It remained for yesterday's trade, however (June 9th), to considerably disturb the even tenor of recent markets. Receipts were only half of the usual trade requirements, only 300 head of cattle being in. As there were export cattle wanted to finish up a few lots, and as butchers were also in want of beef, there was quite a rush made for what stock was offered. Drovers, naturally, took advantage of the situation and made hay while the sun shone, and the result was it cost a buyer 5c. per lb. for almost anything that would fill the bill. The bulk of the stock ranged from 4c. to 5c. per lb. over the scales.

Calves.—Receipts of veals just about met requirements—about 600 being in and selling from \$1 to \$5.50 each.

Sheep and Lambs.—Receipts about 500 head, for which there was a good trade at 8½c. to 9c. for shipping sheep; 4c. for good to choice yearlings, and \$2.50 to \$4 for good to choice spring lambs.

Hides and Skins.—In our last report of this market we noted a prospective advance of 1c. per lb. on green hides, owing to pressure of opposition. That we were justified in our estimate of the market has been amply verified. On the date of your issue a sharp advance of 1c. per lb. took place. It was only throwing fat into the fire, for this week two additional advances of 1c. each took place on two successive days, and green hides are now worth to the butcher 11c. for No. 1, 10c. for No. 2, and 9c. for No. 3. The cause of the break was the kicking over the traces of one of the Quebec tanners, who, not satisfied with the treatment meted out to him, placed a buyer of his own on this market, hence the speedy rise. There is, however, taking the price of hides in the States as a basis, plenty of room for butchers to get more for their hides, and still leave room for a margin on their turnovers. Calf skins, 10c. to 11c. for No. 1; 8c. to 9c. for No. 2. Lamb skins, 20c. each.

The British Markets.

Cabled advices this week were a trifle more encouraging for exporters of Canadian stock, but are as yet not sufficiently good to see much margin on shipments. Both London and Liverpool cables noted an advance of 1c. per lb. on Canadian stock to 10½c. per lb., which it will be seen is just 1c. behind your last cabled report. United States cattle, however, declined a ½c. from this day week to 10½c. to 10½c. for choice per lb. Argentines unchanged.

Later advices received from Liverpool (June 9) show a small profit on shipments, but the same loss on London.

May Live Stock Shipments.

The shipments so far this year show quite a heavy falling off in numbers from the corresponding period of last year, as will be seen in the accompanying table. Shipments so far in June only serve to accentuate the decrease.

The following table contains a list of the live stock shipments from this port for the month of May, with comparisons:

To	No. of Ships	Sheep	Cattle	Horses
Liverpool.....	13	.....	4,885	355
London.....	14	.....	4,662	1,053
Bristol.....	3	.....	868	.....
Newcastle.....	3	.....	720	.....
Glasgow.....	10	300	3,668	213
Belfast.....	1	.....	.....	18
Totals.....	46	300	15,663	1,669
May, 1897.....	38	2,736	18,073	1,530

* Including 478 United States cattle.

Included in the above totals to Liverpool are those of the SS. Scotsman, which sailed on April 30th, taking 580 cattle and 189 horses. June 10th, 1898.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

Following are the current and comparative prices for the various grades of live stock:—

CATTLE	Extreme Prices	Top prices		
		ago	1897	1898
1200 lb. up.....	\$4 20 to \$5 15	\$5 15	\$5 30	\$4 25
1000 @ 1200.....	\$4 10 to \$5 15	5 15	5 30	4 50
1200 @ 1200.....	\$4 00 to \$5 15	5 25	5 10	4 35
1000 @ 1200.....	\$3 95 to \$5 00	4 90	5 20	4 35
800 @ 1050.....	\$3 90 to \$4 75	4 80	4 75	4 15
Fed Westerns.....	\$3 90 to \$5 00	5 20	.....	.....
Stallions.....	\$4 10 to \$4 80	4 65	4 80	4 10
Stockers and feeders.....	\$3 40 to \$5 00	5 00	4 62	3 85
Fat cows and heifers.....	\$3 75 to \$4 65	4 75	4 65	4 00
Cows.....	\$3 25 to \$3 25	3 20	2 90	2 25
Bulls.....	\$2 65 to \$4 30	4 30	.....	.....
Calves.....	\$3 75 to \$4 70	4 75	6 40	5 15
Texas steers.....	\$3 60 to \$4 30	4 55	4 70	3 85
Texas C. & B.....	\$2 75 to \$3 90	4 25	3 85	2 85
Corn-fed Texas.....	\$4 30 to \$4 75	4 75	.....	.....

HOGS.

Mixed.....	\$3 95 to \$4 15	4 60	3 60	3 45
Heavy.....	\$3 90 to \$4 20	4 70	3 57½	3 40
Light.....	\$3 75 to \$4 05	4 40	3 62½	3 60
Pigs.....	\$3 55 to \$3 90	4 25	3 60	3 60

NAIVES.

Native.....	\$2 40 to \$4 85	4 60	4 85	4 60
Western.....	\$3 75 to \$4 60	4 40	4 50	3 75
Texas.....	\$3 65 to \$4 60	4 60	4 25	3 60
Lambs.....	\$4 00 to \$6 35	6 10	6 00	6 35

Chicago receipts of cattle, hogs, and sheep for May, 1898, and the first five months of 1898:

Receipts	Cattle	Hogs	Sheep
May, 1898.....	210,903	800,870	284,791
April, 1898.....	170,852	679,311	291,827
May, 1897.....	200,467	729,748	268,780
May, 1896.....	205,030	660,313	301,924
May, 1895.....	187,293	674,864	261,710
May, 1894.....	238,413	573,187	259,103
May, 1893.....	248,813	463,897	292,847
May, 1892.....	264,849	737,239	194,292
Five months, 1898.....	1,012,246	3,558,813	1,533,598
Same period, 1897.....	871,302	3,322,085	1,367,105
Same period, 1896.....	1,025,968	3,134,471	1,445,413
Same period, 1895.....	922,379	3,540,577	1,311,074
Same period, 1894.....	1,187,068	3,108,037	1,268,757
Same period, 1893.....	1,243,911	2,194,646	1,181,617
Same period, 1892.....	1,335,247	3,580,666	882,999

Shippers of live stock to this market from all points of the compass agree almost without exception that fat cattle are very scarce and young stock cattle still scarcer. Some 130-lb. steer calves recently sold here to go to Iowa. Feeders at \$4.25 per 100 pounds.

W. A. Christie, of Eureka, Kas., has just finished marketing 160 head of heifers fed on his farm at Outlook, Iowa. The average price for the entire shipment was \$4.45; average weight about 900 lbs. Mr. Christie returns to Eureka, where he is grading 500 head of steers. Pillsbury & Westlund, of Lynn, Ill., had on the market to-day two loads of Galloway cattle of their own raising and feeding, good enough to bring \$5. These cattle averaged 1,200 lbs. The Standard Cattle Co., of Nebraska, sold 144 head of 1,441-lb. Western steers at \$4.70, and 40 heifers averaging 1,333 lbs. at \$4.80.

All Montana correspondents unite in stating that the ranges and grass fields are in the best condition for years, and that the outlook for grains of all kinds and for field and garden crops is exceedingly promising. While some low lands have been flooded and are too wet for best growth, for the most part the rains are of inestimable value to the farmers of the State.

The marketing of cattle at present shows that if the Western range cattle were eliminated from the situation the supply would be small indeed.

In about 30 days the fed Westerners will have been marketed, but it will then be time for the grass ranges to come. The wire edge seems to be off the cattle boom in the southwest. A Texas authority says: There are those who think that some of our big cattle owners missed it by not "turning loose" when their stuff was riding on the crest of the high wave, but indications are that they are safe as long as they have the grass and water to hold them on and will not be compelled to sacrifice on account of lack of these essentials. Even at the worst it will likely only be a question of how much less their profits will be in such event.

John Clay, Jr., who is just back from a trip to Colorado, says: "The only meat product affected by the war in pork and canned beef. Canned beef is made from the common and poor cattle, and this class is in good demand, but there are plenty of them and the demand for that grade of cattle does not affect the fat cattle, and it is the fat cattle that govern the market. A strong advance in these would give new life, and we all hope that it will come soon."

H. I. Long, Brunswick, Neb., was in to-day with one car of young branded cattle of his own feeding; twenty head averaged 1,070 lbs. and sold at \$4.30. Mr. Long reports but very few cattle on feed in his country just at present, and about the usual number of hogs, but an abundance of spring pigs coming on. The farmers in his vicinity are going into corn extensively, although the recent advance in wheat has encouraged some to sow wheat, the acreage of which will be heavier than last year.

The 131,675 hogs received here last week averaged 233 lbs., the heaviest average since last January. Average the previous week, 230 lbs.; the second week of last month, 217 lbs.; a month ago, 223 lbs.; a year ago, 233 lbs., and two years ago, 246 lbs.

The average weight of hogs at Chicago for months mentioned was as follows:

	'98	'97	'96	'95	'94	'93	'92	'91	'90	'89
Jan.....	233	247	236	223	251	217	235	243	241	244
Feb.....	227	238	239	220	234	214	219	208	232	247
March.....	239	230	246	222	232	220	215	209	227	239
April.....	223	235	243	226	226	225	216	204	223	234
May.....	225	237	243	227	227	225	212	206	231	235
June.....	240	249	225	233	233	214	214	235	242	242
July.....	233	249	233	226	237	216	216	216	235	240
Aug.....	249	235	237	224	250	224	218	244	232	248
Sept.....	252	257	242	232	258	237	225	241	277	268
Oct.....	244	242	230	232	267	230	227	233	258	268
Nov.....	252	245	241	235	262	235	232	232	249	268
Dec.....	245	254	243	229	255	230	242	232	251	261
Year.....	242	246	230	223	240	223	221	224	248	248

The hog market has lately suffered quite a slump in prices, due to heavy marketing and a speculative feeling that the market was top-heavy.

J. S. Robinson, of Neponset, Ill., was here with some good Shropshire lambs of his own raising and feeding. They were extra good, averaging 113 lbs. shorn, and sold for \$5.50. There were a few yearlings in the lot.

R. F. Quick, of Chicago, representing Armour & Co., bought 2,000 mutton feeders from Chas. Schreiner, at Kerrville, Texas, at \$2.37 per head.

There have been 909 cars of Colorado lambs received at Chicago for the season up to June 1. In February, 63; March, 251; April, 304; May, 291. This made about 350,000 head, as these lambs averaged about 275 head to the double deck. The first of the woolled lambs sold at \$5.85, and the latest and highest price was \$6.35. The clipped Colorado lambs sold as low as \$5.00 early and up to \$6.00 lately. Most of the woolled lambs averaged around 80 lbs. There are only ten or a dozen more cars of these lambs in the Colorado feeding pens. The feeders claim they have not made as much money as last year, as the lambs cost very dear, and the bulk of the crop sold at the low prices. Naturally they didn't make as much as was expected they could, but it was pretty good business.

O. W. Mills, Richland, Iowa, sold a choice consignment of drivers in the auction to-day, one 16-hand coach horse, weighing 1,200 lbs., of good style and fine knee action, brought \$300, being purchased by P. Olt for export to France. The same party paid \$120 for a 15.3-hand brown gelding out of the same consignment. A stylish brown gelding, 15.3 hands, was knocked down for \$127.50 to Remi Dejonckheere for export to Brussels. Dufour & Co. paid for a 15.2-hand gray, four-year-old gelding, that showed a mile this spring in 2:53, for export to Antwerp, \$130. The same dealer also bought a black driving team, 15.2 hands, weighing 2,100 lbs., for \$340.

Only a small percentage of horses shipped to the market for cavalry service pass inspection, and the residue are \$15 to \$25 per head lower than before the Government commenced to buy cavalry horses. It takes a good horse to pass the regulation examination, and the cavalry troops will have choice mounts in the horses forwarded to Chickamauga from Chicago. Considerable activity pervades the market in filling the order for 1,220 light draft horses for the heavy artillery, 51 head being inspected yesterday, and about 700 horses accepted on the order. Draft horses are dull at \$120 to \$155 for good to choice, and \$75 to \$100 for common to fair arrivals. Boston and export chunks sell at \$65 to \$120, the top offerings being taken by contractors for the artillery service, with but few of this grade being reported. Farm chunks are lower, selling around \$45 to \$65; drivers are wanted for the domestic trade, and also exportation, at \$65 to \$800.

Live Stock Exports.

The live stock exports for the two weeks ending June 8th, as prepared by R. Bickerdike, of the Live Stock Exchange, Montreal, show that 5,320 cattle and 1,040 sheep have left Montreal for Liverpool, London, Bristol, Glasgow, Newcastle, and Manchester, on sixteen boats.

English Live Stock Markets.

Liverpool, June 11.—(Special).—The market is slow. American steers are selling at from 9½c. to 10½c. per lb. (estimated dressed weight); live sheep are steady at 9½c. to 10½c. per lb. (estimated dressed weight); refrigerator beef is dull at 7½c. to 8c. per lb.

An Exhibit at Omaha.

An exhibit of grain in the straw has been sent from the Brandon Experimental Farm to the Trans-Mississippi Exposition being held at Omaha, Neb. The exhibit consists of 150 bunches of various varieties of grains best calculated to illustrate the capabilities of Manitoba farmers' wheat lands.