

DRESSED MEATS—Dressed hogs are in good demand at firm prices. The quantity of country frozen beef offering is small this winter. From 4 to 4 1-2c has been paid for country beef freely, and 5 to 5 1-2c for good city dressed meat. Fresh unfrozen beef is held at 6c. Choice dressed hogs are taken at 6c, and heavy weights and less desirable hogs at 5 1-4 to 5 3-4c, as to quality. Mutton is steady at 5 to 6c, and lamb at 5 to 7c.

HIDES—The tendency is easy. We quote: Butcher hides, 7 to 7 1-4c for good lots, or 7c for No. 1 and 6c for No. 2. Green frozen hides 6 1-2c; bulls, oxen, stags and brands, 4 1-2 to 6c; kip hides, 6 to 7c; calf, 8 to 9c per lb.; sheep pelts will average 40 to 60c each; horse hides, 75c to \$1.75 each; colts, 25c each.

WOOL—We quote 3 to 10c here for unwashed fleece, nominal.

TALLOW—Quoted at 3 1-2c for No. 1, and No. 2 to 2 1-2c for other grades as to quality.

SENECA ROOT—Quoted at 18 to 20c.

VEGETABLES—Carrots are scarce and higher, and cabbages are higher. Prices are: Potatoes, 35 to 40c per bushel; carrots, 90c to \$1 per bushel; onions, native, 2 to 2 1-2c per lb.; imported, 3c; celery, 40 to 60c per doz. bunches; cabbage, \$4 to \$5 per 100; beets, 30 to 40c per bushel; turnips, 15 to 20c per bushel; parsnips, 1 1-2 to 2c per lb.

HAY—Baled hay is held at \$6.50 to \$8 for cars on track here, or about \$6 to \$7 per ton at points of shipment. Loose hay, \$5.50 to \$6 per ton on the street market.

LIVE STOCK.

The number of cattle feeding for the spring market is limited. The mild weather and light snow fall this winter has been favorable for the wintering of cattle. In some sections of Southern Manitoba cattle are said to be out grazing on the prairie, there being very little snow on the ground. As the fall was very dry, the grass is well cured on the ground. There is no business doing in cattle or sheep, butchers' cattle are nominal at 2 3-4 to 3c and sheep at 2 1-2 to 3c, but prices will probably be higher by the time supplies are wanted.

HOGS—The market for live hogs is firmer and a shade higher prices have been paid, 5 to 10c advance having been paid this week. We quote choice bacon hogs, weighing 150 to 250 lbs at \$4.50 to \$4.60 per 100 lbs; 250 to 300 lbs, \$4.00; heavy hogs, over 300 lbs, \$3 to \$3.50, as to quality, live weight.

British Columbia Items.

Huelat & Bray, dry goods, K. 10, are out of business.

McCallum & Thompson, butchers, have opened at Sandon.

W. B. Cornock, is opening a general store at Greenwood City.

A. A. Brownell, general store, Duncan, is succeeded by E. D. Maude.

T. Pannick, fish, fruit, etc., New Westminster, has sold out to R. Benson.

Langley & Henderson Bros., wholesale drugs, Victoria, style changed to Henderson Bros.

The Kootenay Wire Works Co., Trail, has been dissolved and business discontinued.

The following items are reported from Vancouver: Faulkner, Foreman & Co., wholesale produce, are starting business. Oben & Taylor,

confectionery, have dissolved; J. Oben continuing. R. C. Lawrence, has opened in groceries.

The following items are reported from Roseland: Weeks & Bell, liquors, reported opening. Houghton & Bannett, clothing, etc., advertise giving up at this place. A. Klockmann has purchased the International hotel.

The following items are reported from Nelson: P. Genelle & Co., Nakus, saw mill, have opened a lumber yard. Hair & Eustice, plumbers, have opened business. Newland & Co., have also opened business in the same line. M. Falsetto has opened in groceries. Spencer & Bail, tinmiths, have dissolved, Spencer continuing. T. Booth, fruit, confectionery, etc.; style now Booth & Mills.

The following items are reported from Fort Steele: M. McInnes, of Calgary, has opened a branch butcher shop. T. Love has opened a general store. Robson & Sucksmith, butchers, are succeeded by Robson & Rogers. H. J. Edson, hotel, has given up business. G. B. McDermott, general store, is giving up business.

Vancouver, Dec. 31.—Official returns give the British Columbia salmon pack for the past year at 1,007,838 cases. This is larger than that of any previous year, while the Fraser river pack 400,000 cases more than the pack of 1893, the previous best year. Sixty-four canneries were operated last year.

Victoria, Dec. 31.—The boards of trade, backed by members of parliament, are protesting to the Dominion government against allowing United States relief expedition stores to be admitted to Canada free of duty. They contend that relief is not needed in Dawson, and even if it was Canada is able to attend to it.

Western Business Items.

W. Wood & Co., boots and shoes, Winnipeg, has sold out.

D. Sinclair, livery, Winnipeg, has sold out to Bysanette.

D. D. McDonald has opened in clothing at Grenfell, Assa.

E. L. McDonald, jeweller, Winnipeg, mortgagees in possession.

J. Lovering, butcher, is starting business at Dominion City, Man.

J. Russell, fruit and confectionery, Winnipeg, has sold out to J. W. Carson.

Ed. Boyce, carriage maker, Winnipeg, has sold out to Corregan & Lawrence.

Morisette & Setherington, general store, Norman, have assigned. Sheriff in possession.

A. G. McDonald, tailor, Port Arthur, has assigned to John Ferguson, Toronto.

The Ontario Mutual Life has furnished The Commercial with a very useful calendar for 1895.

La Rue & Picard, general merchants of Edmonton, have issued a neat calendar with a reproduction of a photograph of a pack train for Klondike, just starting from their store.

Mrs. C. McDougall, hotel, Birtle, Man., has sold out to B. Fenwick.

W. Johnston, implements, Brandon, is admitting A. M. Stewart into partnership.

Melville S. Parry has been appointed general agent for British Columbia for the Confederation Life Co. Mr. Parry has been in the office of

the company in Winnipeg for the past three years, and here, where he is well known, he is highly esteemed.

Mr. Wickson, manager of the Merchants bank, Winnipeg, returned on Friday from a western trip. Mr. Wickson visited Prince Albert among other places, where he went to look over the ground with a view of establishing a branch of the bank there. In his opinion however, the time has not yet arrived for the starting of another bank in that town.

U.S. Wheat Outlook.

New York, Jan. 5.—The special crop report of the New York Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin says: "Final returns make the area of winter wheat 28,683,000, as compared with 23,930,000 acres harvested last year, an increase of 11.4 per cent. The increase on the Pacific coast, that is, California, Oregon and Washington, is 4.5 per cent, the approximate acreage being 3,903,000, as against 3,798,000 last year. There has been a material increase in wheat seeding in the southern states, due to the low price of cotton. Favorable weather during December improved the condition of wheat. The present average is 87.8 per cent, as against 84.1 per cent last month. In the six principal states east of the Rocky mountains the improvement has been more noticeable. The condition is now 84.8 per cent., as compared with 79.5 per cent on Dec. 1. According to the January returns there are 240,000,000 bushels of wheat held on farms, which is 41.3 per cent of last year's production. On the corresponding date last year there were held in the same position 190,000,000 bushels. Of this total the six principal winter wheat states east of the Rocky mountains have 83,000,000 bushels, or 41.4 per cent of the last crop; Minnesota and the Dakotas 59,000,000 bushels or 41 per cent, and the Pacific coast 30,000,000 bushels or 38.9 per cent. The present estimated supply of wheat in all positions is 315,000,000 bushels. Domestic requirements for bread to next July are 150,000,000 bushels, and for spring seeding say 20,000,000 bushels more, in all 170,000,000 bushels, leaving a surplus for export during the ensuing six months and for home reserves at the end of June of 145,000,000 bushels.

A carriage manufacturers' deputation waited upon the Dominion government on Thursday to endeavor to secure the reimposition of a duty on twine.

A stronger feeling prevailed in dressed hogs at Montreal on January 5, and prices scored a further advance of 25c per 100 lbs. Sales of light weights were made at \$6.75 to \$7, and heavy at \$6.25 to \$6.50 per 100 lbs., in a jobbing way.

A slight improvement in cheese was reported from Montreal this week, but buyers may or may not follow the tendency to advance.

At a meeting of Canadian furniture manufacturers at Toronto recently, it was given out that the export trade, particularly to England, has grown so large that the manufacturers have difficulty in meeting all demands.

London, Jan. 6.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England shows the following changes, compared with the previous account: Total reserve decreased £21,000; circulation increased £790,000; bullion increased £768,350; other securities increased £252,000; other deposits increased £1,199,000; public deposits decreased £212,000; notes reserve increased £42,000; government securities increased £999,000. The proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 40.01 per cent, is now 39.13 per cent. The bank's rate of discount remains unchanged at 3 per cent.