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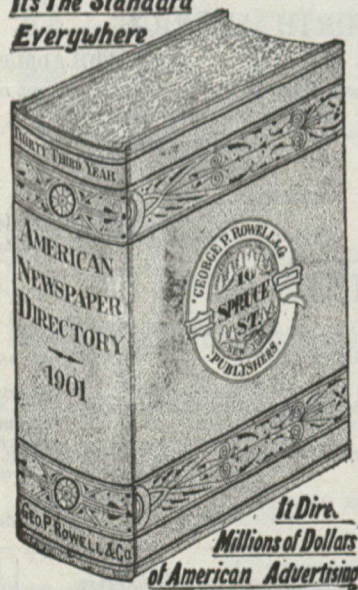
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is strong owing to something of a scarcity. Sheepskins have gone up about 10c., owing to small offerings. Caliskins and deerskins are quite firm. Tallow continues steady with an upward tendency. In Chicago, a moderate amount of business is being transacted for packer hides at full values. The sales reported include 6,000 Texas sold during the latter part of last week to the United States Leather Co., at 14c. for heavy; 12½ to 12¾c. for light, and 10½c. for extremes; other sales were about 6,000 branded cows at 10c.; all of these hides ran back to March salting. Prices are firm at 12½ to 13c. for native steers, 14 to 14½c. for heavy Texas, 12 to 12¾c. for butt brands, 11¾ to 12c. for Colorados, 10 to 10¾c. for heavy native cows, and 10 to 10¾c. for branded do. Country hides are quiet, with sellers steady at 8¾c. for No. 1 buffs.

**Live Stock.**—Buyers this week were not so keen about getting stock, and the result was, in spite of efforts of the drovers to keep prices well up, they fell somewhat. Export cattle were lower by about 10c. per cwt. owing to large offerings, though the quality remains very fair. Butchers' cattle, however, kept pretty steady. Sheep and lambs sold well at steady figures.

**Provisions.**—Butter is weaker, best rolls selling at 16c. Stocks are beginning to accumulate a little. Cheese is firm at 11½c. for new, and 11c. for old. The hog product market is very stiff, and stocks are very low. Long clear bacon is very scarce, and it is altogether probable that this and other hog products will be advanced materially before long, as live hogs are going up considerably. Lard is fetching 11¼ to 11½c. Eggs are firmer at 13c. The Cincinnati Price Current says: The marketing of hogs has increased, but is largely short of the movement last year. Total Western packing 385,000, compared with 335,000 the preceding week, and 350,000 two weeks ago. For corresponding time last year, the number was 495,000, and two years ago, 425,000. From March 1st, the total is 3,465,000, against 3,925,000 a year ago—a decrease of 460,000. The quality is variable, running from only fair to quite good. Prices have declined, and at the close the average is 10 cents per 100 pounds lower than a week ago, prominent markets showing an average of \$6.85 per 100 pounds, compared with \$6.95 a week ago, \$6.85 two weeks ago, \$5.70 a year ago, and \$5.15 two years ago.

**Wool.**—No new feature calls for attention under this head. Offerings are about normal. The market is very dull. At the London wool sales this week competition has been active, and prices firm. Medium and fine crossbreds ruled 10 per cent. above the March average price, and good combing merinos advanced 10 per cent. Cape of Good Hope and Natal scoured was 1d. higher. Americans bought a few good greasy Victorian and some medium crossbreds. Next week 52,700 bales will be offered.

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