

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

May wheat opened at 80½c on Monday, and sold up ½c. The feeling, however, was unsettled and nervous, and heavy lines of long wheat which came out, broke down prices. May got down to 79½c, and but for the support of a few traders, there might have been a serious break. Corn and oats were a shade easier. May pork opened at \$13.80 and sold down to \$15.52½, closing better. Last prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	73½	79½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24½	28½
Pork	13.55	13.72½
Lard	6.72½	6.57½
Short Ribs	6.95	7.05

Wheat was nervous and unsettled on Tuesday, and fluctuations were considerable. May sold down to 79½c, then up to 80c on favorable export news from New York, but again dropped back to 79½c and later under a vigorous bull movement declining to 78½c. Corn and oats were weak. Provisions were booming along the entire line. May pork advanced rapidly to \$14.35, with some sales even 2½c above this figure. From the top there were several sharp fluctuations, prices declining in one instance to \$14.05. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	72½	78½
Corn	34	39½
Oats	24½	28½
Pork	14.15	14.30
Lard	6.85	6.97½
Short Ribs	7.22	7.35½

On Wednesday the market was more steady, though the general tendency of prices was lower. Liverpool was quoted as steady, and there was better cash buying in the local market. A few good-sized lots were worked for shipment. May once got down to 78½c, but the close was at the top. Chronic bears are talking of May wheat at 75c, but the general opinion seems to be that it is now time for a natural reaction and advance in prices, after the steady decline of 10c which has occurred. Provisions were active and irregular. May pork ranged from \$14.25 to \$14.62½. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	73½	79½
Corn	34	39½
Oats	24½	28½
Pork	14.25	14.42½
Lard	6.97½	7.12½
Short Ribs	7.32½	7.42½

Wheat continued steady on Thursday, but trading was quiet. Futures were abnormally quiet, whilst cash was firmer, with evidences of a healthy foreign demand for American wheat. A number of bids for large lines were made, but at slightly lower prices than was acceptable. Pork was easier, May selling down to \$14.17½. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	73½	79½
Corn	34	39½
Oats	24½	28½
Pork	14.20	14.37½
Lard	6.90	7.02½
Short Ribs	7.25	7.37½

Foreign advices continued favorable on Friday, and the market opened with a decidedly firm feeling. New York reported clearances of

300,000 bushels for yesterday, with continued good inquiries for cash wheat. A reduction of 1,000,000 bushels in the next visible supply statement is predicted, owing to decreasing receipts and good export movement. May pork sold up to \$14.72½, with advances in lard and ribs. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	74½	80½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24½	28½
Pork	14.40	14.65
Lard	7.00	7.15
Short Ribs	7.37½	7.47½

On Saturday prices generally were easier in cereals, wheat and corn both closing lower. Oats were about stationary. In provisions, however, the reverse was the case, and there was an advance all along the line, despite the general belief the day previous that pork had reached the top round of the ladder, and must soon react. Wheat opened ½c lower, and only sold ½c higher than the opening, the general tendency being lower. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.
Wheat	73½	79½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24½	28½
Pork	14.50	14.70
Lard	7.07½	7.20
Short Ribs	7.50	—

TORONTO.

WHEAT

The chronic dullness has continued in the wheat market here, without let or hindrance, and the decline in outside markets has practically put a stop to business. No. 2 fall was nominal at 78 to 79c; No. 2 spring, 80c.

OATMEAL

Frm, at \$3.65 to \$3.75 in car lots. Small lots, \$4 to \$4.25.

OATS

Were not offered very freely, and all coming to hand were taken readily at firm prices. White generally brought 33c and mixed, 32 to 33c.

BARLEY

Was quoted at the close as follows: No. 1, 58c; No. 2, 53c; extra No. 3, 46c; street prices, 40 to 60c.

APPLES.

One car of good winter fruit sold at \$2.45, with more wanted at the same prices, but not forthcoming.

BUTTER

The movement has been small, owing to light stocks and light receipts. Really choice dairy has been wanted, and owing to the scarcity of such qualities, prices have been higher—20 to 21c having been paid. Mixed lots of dairy brought 17 to 18c. Shipping lots were wanted, and 15 to 16c would have been paid for good, with white out, but were not obtainable. Rolls brought 17 to 18c for good.

EGGS

Fresh have commenced to move more freely and have been taken readily at 22 to 24c.

CURED MEATS.

Long clear bacon held at 8c in tons and cases; Cumberland, 7½ to 7¾c; rolls, 8¾ to 9c; bellies, 10 to 10½c; pans, 11 to 11½c for smoked; mess pork, \$15 to \$15.50.

DRESSED HOGS

Car lots sold at \$5.85 to \$5.95. Street prices ranged from \$5.75 to \$6.25.

DRIED APPLES.

Still somewhat excited and firm in price. Trade lots have been taken at 5c, which price would have been repeated at the close; dealers have been firm at 5½ to 6c. Evaporated very scarce; no trade lots offered and dealers up to

13 to 13½c. At close on Wednesday a car lot of common, we suppose for shipment, changed hands at 5½c.

HIDES.

Green have declined a half-cent, standing at 7c for No. 1 and proportionately for other grades; offerings have continued large, but all taken. Cured quiet; one car sold at 8c prior to the fall in green, but at close were offered at 7¾c.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

Wheat opened weak on Monday and sold off steadily during the day, the close being ½c lower than the opening and 2½c lower than Saturday's opening, the total decline from the commencement of the break on Wednesday being 4c. On Tuesday the market was more unsettled, and the bears met with considerable opposition, prices several times regaining any declines. May advanced to 80½c on Wednesday, but reacted and went once as low as 79½c. Friday was an uneventful day with prices fluctuating considerably, but closing not materially changed. The last day of the week was one of depression, prices slumping off. However, many think that this week will improve the condition of the markets, and that a reaction must come, which will carry prices back to about previous values before the decline commenced. Closing prices for No. 1 hard on each day of the week were:

	Cash	May.	June
Monday	—	81½	—
Tuesday	—	80½	—
Wednesday	80	80½	—
Thursday	—	81½	—
Friday	80½	81½	—
Saturday	—	81	82½

MINNEAPOLIS.

Wheat has declined steadily the past week, until to-day, when it reacted a fraction and closed a little higher than yesterday. The movement to market has been light, but the visible decrease was small and until it requires seven figures to express this decrease, the absence of war rumors and good reports from winter wheat fields will be too much for the bulls. Foreigners are operating on the news from our markets and will not bull wheat until our speculators set the example. It is possible that the experience of the first four months of 1886 may be repeated this year, but many look for a marked reaction from the present low level, although reasons for an advance are scarce and flimsy.

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'change during the week ending Feb. 16, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	Feb. 19. 1886.
WHEAT— No. 1 hard	76½	75½	75½	86½
" 1 northern	75½	73½	73½	81
" 2 "	74	71½	71½	75

Transactions in futures have been fair. May 1 hard opened at 81½c and closed at 78½c. May 1 northern opened at 78½c and closed at 76½c.

FLOUR.—There is rather more inquiry from abroad, the past day or two, but domestic buyers seem to be thoroughly disgusted, and are not showing any desire to buy. The market is weak and quiet.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are: Patents, \$4.20@4.35; straights, \$4.00@4.20; first bakers', \$3.55@3.75; second bakers', \$2.95@3.00; best low grades, \$1.70@1.90, in bags, red dog, \$1.40@1.50, in bags.

MILLSTUFF.—Has been active and steady, bulk bran closing at \$10@10.50 and shorts at \$11 @11.50 per ton.