

get through the season on a small quantity of store goods it will still leave a most embarrassing prospect for merchants. The money market is nominally unchanged. Banks continue to carry large accounts on the faith that they will be settled. And, with a vast amount of produce yet to bring to market, the idea seems to be correct. The only difficulty is in the delay. But that is well understood. Commercial paper is discounted at 6½ per cent for good paper and up to 7 and 8 for less satisfactory securities. Exchange has not varied beyond a small fraction during the week. Bank and other stocks have been rather better, with only moderate activity. It has been thought that investments in stocks would pay as well as any other just now when there is so little outlet for money. Following are prices of stocks today compared with those of last Thursday:—

Banks.	Bid Dec. 4	Bid Dec. 11	Loan Cos.	Bid Dec. 4	Bid Dec. 11
Montreal..	187½	187½	Can. Per.....	212½	213½
Toronto...	174	173½	Freehold.....	161	161
Ontario...	106½	106	Western Can..	183	183
Merchants	109½	109	Bldg. & Loan	101½	105½
Commerce	123½	116½	Farmers' Loan		
Dominion	186	185	Land. & Can'dn	137	137
Hamilton	118	116	Huron & Erie	168	168½
Stand'd...	112	111½	Dom. Savings		114
Federal...	40½	48½	Ontario Loan	123½	
Imperial...	129½	129	Hamilton Prov.		
Molson...			Imperial Sav...	108½	109½

GENERAL TRADE.—Prices current in the several branches of goods are scarcely changed. Trade is generally slow. Boots and shoes are said to be moving in regular small lots, and wholesale prices are steady. Retail trade is quiet. Coal oil active, and prices unchanged. Drugs have been quiet, with leading articles unchanged. Dry goods sluggish, and the retail trade quite flat, owing partly to mild weather, and chiefly to scarcity of money among buyers. Hides and skins are coming in freely, and prices are easy for hides both green and cured, last week's prices being shaded. Leather is rep- red

moving in small lots to country buyers at unchanged rates. Hardware is exceedingly dull, and prices continue low. Seeds, reported last week are coming in freely, as the Canadian crop would have to compete with American seed for export. Wool is not changed, there is no increased movement, and prices are low as ever.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—The course of the bread-stuffs markets has been generally unchanged. Flour is still very quiet. There is no speculative demand even at the low current prices. Superior extra has been sold at \$3.40 to \$3.45, which are the current figures, extra at \$3.35. Still, with wheat at the going prices millers would do a good trade, if the demand was even moderate. The grain markets have also been very quiet. Wheat was rather firmer for a few days at the end of last week, but the current changed. Quotations are now about 74c for No. 2 fall and No. 1 spring; and 71c to 72c for No. 2 spring and No. 3 fall, respectively. Barley has been stagnant and prices declined. No. 1 is quoted at about 65c; No. 2 at 61c; 3 extra at 55c and No. 3 at 51. There is no demand, and increased shipping rates are against any advance at present. Oats quoted at 31c. Peas, at 58c to 59c for No. 2. Rye, at 58c, with little doing. Stocks in store on Monday were: wheat 158,913 bushels; barley, 121,851 bush.; peas 10,156 bush.; rye, 1,101 bush.; oats nil.

PROVISIONS, &c.—The market has been irregularly quiet and still overstocked with all kinds of farm product. Butter is easier, supplies are coming to light that were not hinted at a few weeks ago, and holders are disappointed at the reduced prices. Fine tubs are quoted about 19c; large rolls at 14c to 15c; inferior at 10c to 11c. Bacon is still quiet, offered at 8c for ten lots and 8½c for box lots. Hams at 11c for smoked. Eggs 2½c for packed. Potatoes still low at 40c per bag for ear lots. Hops unchanged at 12c to 18c as per quality. The general list is quite unchanged. Poultry is low; chickens 25c to 40c pair; geese 5½c to 6c per lb; ducks 5½c to 60c per pair; turkeys 9c to 10c per lb. Hogs are coming in freely, and prices have been irregular. The general price is \$5.50 to \$6, ranging over the past few days; the outside figure being rather high.

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