

the wheat market here during the past week, and the situation has been quite devoid of any feature of importance. The quiet feeling of the previous week has continued without interruption, and has even increased in intensity. Receipts during the week were light and show a falling off, but samples coming to hand were generally of a higher quality. Shipments have been almost at a stand-still owing to dull and declining eastern markets and prospects for the immediate future in that direction are not encouraging. Prices here are not materially changed since last report, but the feeling is easier, especially as regards damaged lots. Quotations are as follows: No 1 hard, 75c; No. 2 70c; No 1 Northern, 70c; No 2 60c; No 3 55c; No 1 Regular 65c; No 2 60c.

FLOUR.

In this market business remains in a dull and depressed state for the lower grades. A fair local demand exists for patents. Nothing is being done in shipments. Two of the mills have resumed grinding, but the largest mill in the city will not be in repair for resuming operations for about two weeks. However, stocks are ample to meet all anticipated demands. Prices are unchanged and are as follows: patents \$2.45; strong bakers, \$2.15; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30 to \$1.40.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

A good local demand has existed for both these products during the week, sufficient to absorb all obtainable. Bran especially was in good request. Prices are, for bran \$9 per ton, and shorts \$10 per ton.

OATMEAL.

The local demand has continued fairly satisfactory. A quantity will probably be shipped to eastern markets at an early date, as arrangements are being made to forward the second shipment from the province. Prices continue at the old quotation of \$2.25 for standard and \$2.50 for granulated, per sack.

POTATOES.

The recent cold dip has put a stop to all movement in potatoes. Some are wanted at the old price of 35 to 40c, if they could be had.

EGGS.

A fair demand exists for these with ample supplies. Prices remain about the same as last week. Lots in case are quoted at from 25 to 27c, which appear to be about the ruling prices, though some lots have been quoted as low as 23c.

CHEESE.

Some slight demand has existed, but the cold weather has retarded shipping to outside points. Ontario cheese is still in the market and is quoted at 11c for prime. The home product is quoted at 10½ to 11c for prime and 9½ to 10c for medium.

BUTTER.

The situation is practically unchanged. In medium qualities stocks are large while in choice grades the quantity on hand is only fair, though no scarcity as yet exists. A good city demand exists for choice qualities and in medium there has been more call to supply lumber camps. Prime dairy is quoted at 20c; medium grades range all the way from 8 to 15c.

OATS.

Receipts have been light during the week, and this together with an active demand has had the effect of advancing prices from 2 to 3c over last week. The quotation is now invariably 25c, at which all offered have been readily taken for feeding purposes. No shipments east are being made.

BARLEY.

In this market a good demand exists for local malting purposes. No eastern shipments are being made. The samples coming in range from No. 4 to No. 3 extra, and prices from 30 to 40c. For No. 1 50c could readily be obtained if there were any offerings of that grade.

BACON.

The demand is not active in this product. Prices, however, rule steady and are as follows: dry salt 8 to 8½c; smoked 8½ to 9½c; old dry salt 7c; rolls 11 to 11½c.

HAMS.

There has been a fair demand during the week. Both local cured or American cured may now be had at the uniform price of 13c.

MESS PORK.

No improvement to note and the market still remains quiet. Prices are unchanged at \$15 to \$15.50 per barrel.

MESS BEEF.

Very little is doing in this market. Prices are steady and unchanged, \$15 being the ruling figure.

LARD.

In this article the one quotation is now \$2.25 per pail, at which figure both the home or American packed may be had.

DRESSED HOGS.

There is a decidedly easier feeling in this market and prices have undergone a considerable decline owing to large receipts and lower outside markets. The maximum figure now paid is \$4.75, with a probability that \$4.50 will shortly be reached.

DRESSED POULTRY.

The demand for these has greatly slackened since the holiday season. Quotations are as follows: turkeys 16c; geese 12c; ducks 13c, and chickens 10c.

OYSTERS.

A steady and fairly large trade is doing in these, both in cans and bulk. Cans are worth 40c for plain selects and 50c for extra selects. Bulk oysters are quoted at from \$2 to \$3 per gallon.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The first business day of the New Year found wheat strong and active, but a decline, due solely to manipulation, set in before the close of the session, and the close to day was two to four cents lower all around, here and elsewhere, with a very weak feeling. People who were confidently expecting a lively and advancing market, after the holidays, and were loaded with reasons for this happy condition, now hold their peace or pin their faith in higher prices to the dubious prospects of a foreign war. Meanwhile the farmers have almost ceased marketing, receipts along all northwestern railways being light, while the figures showing receipts here and at Duluth are very small, barely keeping pace with the milling demand. If, as many believe, prices are to go lower soon, it will require a much heavier demand for flour than now exists to keep many mills in operation. The sickest of the many sick people now interested in wheat are those who were bears during the most of last year, but decided, last Saturday, that a boom was coming, and bought heavily. Some of them "sitting on it," but the majority dropped out with great celerity and thus materially aided in the success of the great bear raid which began Saturday.

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'charge during the week ending to-day, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

				Jan. 6.	
Wheat.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing	1885.	
No. 1 hard..	90½	.. 88	.. 88	76½	
" 1 north'n	85	.. 82	.. 82	71½	
" 2 ..	80	.. 77	.. 77	68½	

Futures were in most favor, but declined, May 1 hard selling down from 97½ to 95c and May 1 northern from 91½ to 88½c. Coarse grains were inactive, corn closing at 31½c for New Nebraska and 38 to 39c for old; oats, 28 to 29; barley, by sample, 45 to 75c, and rye, by sample at 49 to 51c.

MILLSTUFF.—Is in good demand and firm at \$8.50 to \$9 per ton for bulk bran and \$9.25 to \$10 for shorts.

FLOUR.—There was a much better feeling in the flour market last week, and active inquiry, from both domestic and foreign buyers, but the sudden decline in wheat has killed all interest in flour. Cable offers received to-day were 5 to 10c below the bottom figures of millers, but they believe that stocks of American flour abroad are not only light, but badly broken in assortments of grades, so that an early stocking up in some lines must be effected. "There's no use talking," said T. A. Sammis, to-day, "flour stocks are not large throughout this country. I don't care what the market manipulators say, there is no glut of flour in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, or anywhere in the interior. There must be a fair demand for flour soon and if it cannot be had at buyers' prices they will raise their bids to meet the views of millers. They must have the flour, though they will not pay big prices for it."

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.70 to \$5; straights, \$4.50 to \$4.75; first bakers', \$3.70 to \$4; second bakers' \$3.25 to \$3.50; best low grades, \$2.20 to \$2.35, in bags; red dog, \$1.60 to \$1.70 in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 30c per bbl for 25c and 140 lb jute bags, 20c for 98 lb cotton sacks, 15c for 40 lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24 lb cotton sacks, and 20c for 49 lb paper sacks.

The milling situation seems to grow worse rather than to improve, despite the former predictions of millers to the contrary. The heavy decline in wheat during the past three days has had a very depressing effect on the flour market, and millers who believed that a period of greater activity was about to set in, have had their plans upset and are uncertain what next to look for. The flour production of last week was 98,050 bbls—averaging 16,342 bbls daily—against 77,200 bbls the preceding week, and 107,460 bbls for the corresponding period in 1885. The list of mills running at noon to-day numbered eleven, representing a daily capacity of about 15,500 bbls. One of these 1,200 bbls, was started this morning and will be operated no longer than Saturday. Two mills of 2,500 bbls which have not run for a long time were expecting to start up next week, but the present uncertainty of markets makes this rather doubtful now. The mills running are storing flour quite freely, and should the present state of affairs continue, it may become necessary to stop a part of their capacity. The exports of flour from Minneapolis for December were 98,000 bbls, against 138,500 bbls, exported for November.

The following were the receipts at and shipments from Minneapolis for the weeks ending on the dates given: