

Montreal Markets.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR'S TRADE.

Navigation from this port closed with the sailing of the SS. Guild Hall, on November 27th, thus bringing to a termination one of the most successful years in the history of the port. The final totals for the season show shrinkages in the two principal industries, but they are on the whole not unsatisfactory when compared with previous years.

The total shipments of live stock for the year, with comparisons, were as follows:

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Horses.
1898	101,376	36,086	5,827
1897	119,188	61,254	10,032
1896	100,360	30,671	10,088
1895	96,582	217,399	12,755
1894	87,604	139,763	13,001
1893	83,322	3,743
1892	98,731	15,932
1891	109,150	32,042
1890	123,136	43,372
1889	85,670	59,334
1888	60,504	45,528

It will be seen by a study of these figures that shipments have fallen off in all three lines as compared with last year; the difference in cattle, 17,812; sheep, 25,168; and horses, 4,204. The shortage in cattle is due to two sources only, between which they are equally divided—a shrinkage in shipments from the Northwest and from the United States. Notwithstanding, however, the apparent decrease in shipments, they hold only in so far as this port is concerned, for in the close neighborhood of 20,000 head of Canadian cattle have been exported from western points by way of Boston. Adding these latter to the shipments from this port, it would place this season very near to the great stocker year of 1890, when shipments totalled 123,136 head. These figures furnish conclusive proof that this important branch of Canadian industry is improving steadily; this holds in point of quality as well as numbers.

Opening in May at 11c. per pound (sinking the offer), the markets varied from that figure down to 10c. to 10½c., July opening up with the best market of the year, at 11½c., dropping back again to 11c. In August a drop was made to 10c., but quickly recovered, ranging from 10½c. to 10½c. The September market was strong, advancing close to the highest point of the year, 11c. being made. October, however, proved a surprise to the trade, dropping from the opening price of 11c. to 8½c. and 8½c., but recovering one cent before the close, and opening into November on a ten cent market, and working up to eleven cents at the close.

A feature worth giving prominence to has been the improvement in the quality of our stock sent forward, undoubtedly rendered possible by the scouring the country has had of its scrub stock for shipment to the States as stockers. This has of necessity compelled feeders and farmers to turn out a better class of fattened cattle.

Practically a new market has been opened up for the trade, for although shipments were made spasmodically to Manchester last year, it remained for the "Manchester Liners Co." to establish a regular service to that port, a service which has been in every way a success. During the season London for Canadian cattle, and Liverpool next, Bristol and Manchester have been remunerative markets to ship to, but Glasgow has been for the most part very unsatisfactory, due almost entirely to the boycott which is on at that port. Liverpool was first in the numbers received; London second, followed in order by Glasgow, Bristol, Manchester, and Newcastle.

The sheep trade has dropped away almost to one-half what it was last year, the total for the season amounting to 36,086, against 61,254 last year. This big decrease has been due to a number of causes—heavy shipments from Argentina and Iceland, and the demand from United States points, which made it unprofitable for shippers to ship Canadian sheep. The foreign markets have been very unstable, ranging, with sudden ups and downs, from 9c. to 11½c. per pound.

The big decrease in the horse trade is due almost entirely to the lack of good shipping horses in Canada, and from figures which have just been handed to us we find that of the 5,800 shipped, fully 2,000 head were American horses shipped through in bond.

Good horses only have made money, all others being certain to drop the shipper lots of money. London has been the principal distributing point, followed in order by Liverpool and Glasgow, whose combined shipments about equalled the former.

The total shipments of cheese for the year show a falling off of about 200,000 boxes, as compared with 1897, the total for the year being 1,879,000, against 2,079,000 last year. Butter has increased, however, from 225,510 packages in 1897 to 283,910 in the present year, and eggs 210,000.

The following table shows the growth of this industry:

Year.	Cheese.	Butter.
1898	1,879,000	283,910
1897	2,079,000	225,510
1896	1,736,226	157,321
1895	1,716,007	69,664
1894	1,726,058	32,137
1893	1,682,946	76,914
1892	1,038,353	103,139

Toronto Markets.

The drovers attending the Western cattle market complain that their stock is unduly delayed by reason of the shunting operations at Little York and the Don yards. Often a delay of from five to ten hours takes place at these points, causing shippers to hold their stock over for the following market. One of the grievances is the fact that cattle, sheep, lambs, and hogs are weighed off cars, and the shrinkage on a double decker car means a loss of \$50. The G. T. R. have promised to set the matter right at once, much to the satisfaction of all concerned. A load of hogs was fourteen hours on the road from London, Ont.

Export Cattle opened brisk; good cattle firm; choice export sold at \$4.25 to \$4.65 per cwt. Cattle show an improvement.

Butchers' Cattle.—Choice picked lots of butchers' cattle weighing from 1,000 to 1,400 lbs. were selling at from \$4.25 to \$4.75 per cwt. Inferior sold down to \$3.00 per cwt.

Export Bulls.—Choice heavy export bulls

RELIABLE SEEDS

OUR STOCK INCLUDES ALL THAT IS BEST IN

FOR FARM AND

Garden and Field Roots,

GARDEN

Flower Seeds and Flowering Plants,

Grasses, Clovers, and Seed Grain.

Illustrated Catalogues mailed free on application.

WILLIAM EWING & Co.,

SEED MERCHANTS.

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"RAPID-EASY" GRINDERS.

WORK OF

Best Quality; Greatest Quantity

WITH LEAST POWER.



80 lbs. of steam on "Rapid-Easy" Grinders will do more work than 100 lbs. on any other. Four horses will do as much work as six horses on other Grinders.

"The Rapid-Easy Grinder I purchased from your agent does its work faster and easier than any other make of Grinder."

William Moffatt, Rosemont, November 14th, 1898.

"It is ahead of any other Grinder I have ever seen."

Thomas Hanna, Rosemont, November 7th, 1898.

J. FLEURY'S SONS,

AURORA, ONTARIO.

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We hold the record for up-to-date Tread Powers. We are so often asked the question if our Governors will fit other makes of Powers. We answer YES. That's a strong point in favor of our

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Over twenty years established, and in dealing with us you have all the benefits derived from experience. No other firm's goods find so many imitators as ours. Take for example our Blower, Propeller, Elevator, Feed Cutter. Every effort has been put forth to down this machine, but

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The Razor Steel, Secret Temper, Cross-Cut Saw

WE take pleasure in offering to the public a Saw manufactured of the finest quality of steel and a temper which toughens and refines the steel, gives a keener cutting edge and holds it longer than by any process known. A Saw to cut fast "must hold a keen cutting edge."

This secret process of temper is known and used only by ourselves. These Saws are elliptic ground thin back, requiring less set than any Saws now made, perfect tapes from tooth to back.

Now, we ask you, when you go to buy a Saw, to ask for the Maple Leaf, Razor Steel, Secret Temper Saw, and if you are told that some other Saw is as good ask your merchant to let you take them both home, and try them and keep the one you like best. Silver steel is no longer a guarantee of quality, as some of the poorest steel made is now branded silver steel. We have the sole right for the "Razor Steel" brand.

It does not pay to buy a Saw for one dollar less, and lose 25 cts. per day in labor. Your saw must hold a keen edge to do a large day's work.

Thousands of these Saws are shipped to the United States and sold at a higher price than the best American Saws.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY SHURLY & DIETRICH, GALT, ONTARIO.



PLEASE MENTION FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

sold at \$3.65 to \$4.00 per cwt.; medium at \$3.25 to \$3.40 per cwt.

Stockers.—Buffalo stockers weighing 500 to 600 lbs. each selling at \$3.00, while choice bred sold at \$3.35.

Feeders.—Few good feeders were offered; prices were a little firmer, at \$3.65 per cwt.

Cattle.—The general run sold at \$3.00 to \$3.00 per head, with veals of extra weight and quality selling at \$5.00 per cwt.

Sheep.—Prices for sheep were a little easier. Choice picked lots at \$3.50; bucks, \$2.50 per cwt.

Lambs.—Deliveries heavy; prices easier on slow demand, at \$3.75 to \$4.10 per cwt.

Milk Cows.—Choice springers and good milk cows would find ready sale at good prices. Only 15 on offer; sold at from \$25 to \$45 per head.

Hogs.—Owing to the severe storm, deliveries were light this week. The price easier; there was only a poor demand. Choice selection of cars sold at \$4.25 to \$4.37 per cwt; heavy fat, \$4.25; light fat, \$4; sows, \$3; stags, \$2.

Mr. Harris complained that fully 50 per cent. of the hogs offered the other day were too fat. From 160 to 220 is the standard. The prospects are that prices for hogs will go still lower.

Dressed Hogs.—Deliveries of dressed hogs have been unprecedented during the last week, and prices are easier on the street. Farmers' loads are quoted at \$5.50 to \$5.60 for choice quality.

Green Market.—Receipts of farm produce were light. Wheat easier, at 70c. for white and red; goose, 67c. per bushel; barley, 49c. per bushel. Oats, 30½c. per bushel. Peas, 60c. per bushel.

Hay.—Over 40 loads on the market to-day, at \$8 to \$9.50 for timothy, and \$6 to \$7 for clover.

Straw scarce; four loads at \$8 to \$10 per ton.

Poultry.—The King, Darrell Co., of Elm street, Toronto, closed down for the season. They have shipped 20 carloads of dressed poultry, comprising 50,000 head of turkeys, ducks and geese. A cable message reports the arrival of the first consignment in excellent condition. A better method must be devised next year of shipping to market. The loss from dead birds in the cars has been lamentable, the ducks more especially. They do not bear the constant jolting, and very quickly succumb. The loss from this cause has been very extensive.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

	Top Prices	Two weeks ago	1897	1896
Beef cattle				
1500 lbs. up	\$6 25	\$5 70	\$5 50	\$5 70
1350 to 1500 lbs.	5 85	5 05	5 25	5 90
1200 to 1350 lbs.	5 90	5 00	5 25	5 60
1050 to 1200 lbs.	5 75	5 50	5 50	5 35
900 to 1050 lbs.	5 50	5 25	5 00	4 90
Fed Westerns	5 00	5 25	5 05	5 15
Hogs				
Mixed	3 32½	3 35	3 32	3 32
Heavy	3 35	3 30	3 32	3 50
Light	3 50	3 32	3 50	3 50
Pigs	3 40	3 40	3 45	3 50
Sheep				
Natives	4 50	4 50	4 75	4 00
Western	4 30	4 15	4 05	3 90
Lambs	5 50	5 40	5 80	5 25

A couple of 1,800-lb. pure-bred Herefords sold at \$6.50. Opinions agree that ripe fat cattle are not plentiful. The following were top prices for Christmas cattle at Chicago:

December, 1898... \$6 25 December, 1897... \$6 40

December, 1897... 5 65 December, 1896... 6 30

December, 1896... 5 50 December, 1895... 6 80

December, 1895... 5 50 December, 1894... 8 00

December, 1894... 6 00 December, 1893... 8 25

December, 1893... 6 75 December, 1892... 7 00

December, 1892... 7 00 December, 1891... 7 75

December, 1891... 7 15 December, 1890... 7 00

December, 1890... 6 40 December, 1889... 5 50

December, 1889... 6 10 December, 1888... 5 50

December, 1888... 7 00

There is a widespread feeling that the supply of good ripe cattle is bound to be short for some time to come.

An Iowa breeder had in 107 head of 1,383-lb. Angus cattle, which sold at \$5.70; also 15 head of 1,578-lb. fancy cattle, which sold at \$6.25.

These were two-year-olds that had been fed by an expert Scotch feeder. The owner said it was wonderful the amount of feed they were fed, largely on a mixture of chopped oats, beans, oil meal and molasses. Ten of these were at the Omaha E. position, where they took first and second premiums for grades and crosses, also for individuals. The owner said there was a good deal of satisfaction in preparing such cattle as the load of best ones, but there was not much profit in the matter of dollars and cents.

Stock holders lately have been very hard to sell, at disappointing figures.

The average price of 1,500 to 1,800-lb. beef cattle in November was \$4.50, being 10c. lower than the previous August, which was the highest average of the year.

October prices were 35c. higher than in October, 1897, and this year's average prices show about 20c. per 100-lbs. gain over last year, being the highest average since 1896. This is an encouraging state of affairs, and good judges see no reason for thinking that prices for good cattle will be materially lower for some eighteen months.

A large number of feeding cattle went back to the country this fall, but owing to the increasing value of corn the number of cattle being marketed in half-fat condition is very large.

The November price of heavy hogs averaged \$3.50, against \$3.40 in November, '97, \$3.25 in '96, \$3.60 in '95, \$4.50 in '94, and \$5.10 in '93.

Average price of heavy hogs the first eleven months of 1898, \$3.85, against \$3.65 in 1897, \$3.40 in '96, and \$6.55 in 1895.

November average price of mutton sheep, \$4.05, being 15c. lower than November, '97.

Eleven month's average price, \$4.30, being 55c. higher than the average price for all of 1897, \$1.10 per 100 pounds higher than 1896, and \$1.50 higher than in 1894.

Mr. Edgar Silcox, Sheddau, Ont., breeder of St. Lambert Jerseys, in remitting for advertisement expresses his high appreciation of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE as an advertising medium. He refers to a yearling bull and bull calf he still has for sale as being worthy to head fancy herds. He needs the room they occupy, and will sell them for prices below their value.