

Hay.—About seven loads per day, sold at \$13 to \$15 per ton.
Straw.—Seven loads of straw, \$8 to \$10.
Toronto, Sept. 25th.

The local cattle market is in a bad way and will not improve until shipments from the country fall off. Receipts have continued heavy from week to week, the offerings on each succeeding market being over 600 cattle, which is a great many more than the local consumption will bear. The only relief that could be given—the export trade—is rendered useless by the quality of the greater part of the cattle; butchers who make it a point to buy the best, having had work to fill their wants. Drivers and butchers, without hesitation, state that such low figures as are at present obtaining, one heavy buyer stating that never during a course of over thirty years in the trade had he bought meat at such an excessively low figure. There is, however, no doubt that if good cattle were forthcoming as high as 4c. and perhaps a shade over would be paid for them. One load of very nice calves, which averaged 100 lbs. this week, averaged 100 lbs. and cost a fraction over 1c. above the market. These are the cattle that are wanted, probably not quite so heavy, but well finished; and it would be indeed a bad market on which they would lose money. Quality, not quantity, is what is wanted. This cannot be pressed home too strongly.

Sheep and Lambs.—The run of sheep was somewhat lighter than on the past few markets, but owing to the continued poor reports from abroad they also sold down to about 23c. per lb., very few making the 3c. per lb. Lambs sold well on Monday, owing to light run, but very poorly on the last week's markets; \$3 to \$3.25 per hundred pounds is about what they are making now.

Calves.—The 100 calves offered sold well and at a little better figure than of late, due, no doubt, to the cold weather experienced since the end of last week, which has caused quite an appreciable drop off in the demand for smoked meats, and a greater demand for small meats. Fair calves sold from \$4 to \$6 each.

Live Hogs.—Little change has taken place in the hog market, certainly nothing to base any change in previous quotations; light hogs, \$4 to \$4.15 per cwt.; heavy fat and mixed \$3.60 to \$3.90 per cwt.

Space.—The space market has been strong and of an upward tendency, freights being now held strongly at 45 to 50 shillings. Even at these figures steamship people have been compelled to curtail the tonnage rates to as low a number as possible; steamers which formerly took from 700 to 900 head of cattle, besides sheep, not taking more than half that number now. The same still each outgoing steamer is crowded to her full capacity with freight, the bulk of which is, of course, apples. Rates on horses have also been advanced 10 shillings, to £4 to London and Liverpool, and £1 to 55 to Glasgow.

Hides and Skins.—The unexpected often happens and such has been the case in the hide and skin market. After the recent decline of 1 to 2 cts. took place, and then tanners, excited by the heavy sales in Chicago, came out of their shells, thinking they were going to be frozen out; the consequences were jumped one cent at once, where they are strongly held at present. Green salted hides, heavy and light—No. 1, 6c.; No. 2, 5c.; No. 3, 4c. per lb.

Shipments of Live Stock:—			
	Cattle.	Sheep.	Horses.
Total for week	2,993	5,214	419
Last week	3,142	3,581	376
Total shipments to date.	69,859	46,670	7,637

The Horse Trade.—Shipments for the week were heavy and show quite an increase over last week. The increase in rates on ocean freight do not seem to have made any difference whatever, and it is evident that horsemen have either received good prospects or expect a sharp advance in the near future. Really good horses are very scarce and hard to get, and at a money, and any that are brought in are quickly picked up for export. Good drivers have sold up to \$150 each, and carload of nice heavy blacks, running in weight from 1,400 lbs. to 1,800 lbs., changed hands at \$90 each.

Cattle.—Market steady to strong at quotations given: Prime to fancy steers, \$1.75 to \$5; good to choice, \$1.35 to \$1.5. Good, ripe, 1,100 to 1,250 lb. steers, \$1.25 to \$1.40; common fair, \$3 to \$3.40. Feeders, fair flesh, good quality, \$3.60 to \$3.75. Stockers, good quality, \$3.25 to \$3.40. Prime heavy cows, \$3.25 to \$3.50. Bulls, prime to fancy, \$3.40 to \$3.5. Common and light bulls, \$2 to \$2.25. Milkers and springers, fancy, \$4.5 to \$50; common, \$1.5 to \$17. Veal calves, extra, \$6.75; common to fair, \$4.50 to \$5.25.

lancy, \$6.15; common to fat, \$5.00. Offerings of native lambs have been rather light this point, but in connection with Canadian lambs, which have been coming rather freely, the market remains in a rather dull condition. Sheep prices to 35c higher than last week. Choice to fat, \$1.25 to \$1.50; fair to good butchering quality, 75c to 1.00; culls, \$1.00 to \$1.25; fat to good butchering quality, 70c to 75c; \$1.25 to \$1.75; culls, common to fair, \$1.00 to \$1.25; grades, \$3.25 to \$3.85; choice fat sheep, for export, 110 lbs. and up, withers, \$3.75 to \$3.90; choice fat sheep, for export, 110 lbs. and up, mixed, \$3.50 to \$3.65; good choice butchering weight, 100 lbs. and up, mixed, \$3.25 to \$3.65; fair to good killing sheep, \$3.10 to \$3.25; culls, common to fair, \$1.25 to \$2.

Hogs.—The market generally is in a much better shape than it has been any time this summer. It is not likely that prices will be very much higher than they are now, but the demand is better. Choice to prime heavy shipping grades are \$3.40 to \$3.45; mixed loads, mediums and Yorkers, 190 to 270 lbs. average, \$3.50 to \$3.60; Yorkers (corn-fed), 140 to 170 lbs. average, \$3.65 to \$3.70; pigs, good to choice, 100 to 120 lb. average, \$3.20 to \$3.40; roughs, \$2.90 to \$3.10; stags, \$2.25 to \$2.50. Common half fat hogs 10c. to 15c. under these quotations.

Cables this week had a firmer tendency, but sales do not seem to have come out any better, but it is thought with the lighter run of cattle from this side a further marked improvement may be looked for. Choice Canadian steer and maid heifers are quoted 10c. to 10½c. per lb (sinking the offal); sheep, 10c., in London; Liverpool, cattle, 10c.; sheep, 9c. per lb. But States cattle are quoted up to 11½c. per lb.

At a late sale of Canadian horses in Old London the bidding was brisk. The various lots realized satisfactory prices. Sixty heavy draft animals were brought under the hammer. Special attention was given by purchasers to a lot of eighteen horses, the property of Messrs. Hay & Kidd, of Listowel. These averaged about 36 gs. each. Another lot of eighteen belonging to Mr. Weise, of Montreal, made an average of 32

Following are the current and comparative prices for the various grades of live stock :—

CATTLE.	Top prices			
	Present Prices.	two weeks ago.		1894. 1893.
1500 lbs. or.....	\$ 3.80 to 5.00	\$ 5.20	\$ 5.65	\$ 6.40
1350 @ 1500.....	3.35 to 5.00	5.00	5.50	6.40
1200 to 1350.....	3.15 to 4.85	5.00	5.35	6.35
1050 to 1200.....	3.00 to 4.70	4.75	5.00	6.00
900 @ 1050.....	2.90 to 4.40	4.40	4.90	5.50
Sts. and F.....	2.90 to 3.90	3.70	4.55	3.85
Fat cows and heifers.....	2.80 to 3.75	4.25	3.80	4.25
Canners.....	1.00 to 2.00	2.10	2.50	2.50
Bulls.....	1.50 to 3.50	3.40	4.50	5.75
Calves.....	2.00 to 6.05	6.00	7.00	5.75
Stags steers.....	2.25 to 3.25	3.00	3.75	3.20
Texas C. & B.....	1.50 to 2.70	2.25	2.65	2.65
Western steers.....	2.60 to 4.25	3.85	4.75	4.85
Western cows & bulls.....	1.70 to 3.35	3.40	4.15	3.75
HOGS.				
Mixed.....	2.75 to 3.40	3.40	4.60	6.25
Heavy.....	2.45 to 3.30	3.30	4.55	6.50
Light.....	2.80 to 3.40	3.45	4.65	6.10
Pigs.....	1.50 to 3.35	3.30	4.40	5.65
SHEEP.				
Natives.....	1.50 to 3.00	3.00	3.75	3.90
Western.....	1.40 to 2.90	2.85	3.50	3.50
Lambs.....	2.50 to 4.75	4.25	5.00	4.30

Cattle are selling at comparatively high prices, because good to choice grades are scarce. Some 1,481 lb. Hereford and Shorthorn steers sold at \$4.50, and some 1,743 lb. Angus steers sold at \$5.00. Exporters and shippers have been using a good many Western range cattle, costing around \$3.50. The Western range cattle are about 75,000 short of last year so far, and are fully 50c. per 100 lbs. lower. Native export cattle, 1,400 lbs. to 1,500 lbs., sold largely at \$1.50 to \$4.75 lately. Very few native cows are coming, farmers preferring to keep them to eat the large amount of feed on hand. There is a big demand for thin and young stock to put on feed, and farmers are having difficulty to get money enough to buy what they want in that line. Stock heifers sold at \$2.25 to \$2.80; assorted feeding steers, \$3.25 to \$3.60; inferior to fair mixed, \$2.40 to \$2.75; choice to extra selected feeders, \$3.75 to \$3.90.

The supplies of sheep coming now are liberal and consist almost wholly of Western ranges. Utah, Idaho, Washington, Wyoming, and Montana have been monopolizing the sheep markets for some time. Prices for the various grades of sheep and lambs range as follows: Selected killing and export Western sheep, \$2.70 to \$2.90; fair killers, \$2.50 to \$2.60; feeding sheep, \$2.40 to \$2.60; feeding ewes, \$2.25 to \$2.40; tail-end, \$1.50 to \$2.00; Western feeding lambs, \$3.00 to \$3.50; fair Western lambs, \$3.75 to \$4.25; fancy native lambs, \$4.50, and good native lambs, \$4.00.

Hogs continue to sell at a narrow range of prices, mostly \$2.90 to \$3.15. The quality of the hogs coming is not nearly as good as it was during the summer. The average weight is very heavy, with a large share of heavy brood sows. Farmers in the West will surely "have corn to burn" this winter, but at present they are throwing it to the hogs in a very free way. Reports as to the number of stock hogs for fattening show a decrease of seven per cent. from those of last year. In the five largest hog-producing States the percentages are as follows: Iowa, 93; Missouri, 89; Texas, 93; Ohio, 92, and Illinois, 89. Six States show increases of 10 per cent. or more. Of these, Iowa is the most important of which is South Carolina, which, however, shows a decrease of but five per cent. Large gains are indicated in Wyoming, Nevada, and Oklahoma, none of which, however, are important in regard to hog production. Notwithstanding the numerous losses from disease and scarcity of feed in some sections of the country, the average condition as to weight and size is 0.6 point higher than that of last year.

One of the big Chicago packers, speaking of the present situation, says: "They have a good stock of hogs on the other side. Our low prices will increase the trade. Exports are large already, as any one can see from the figures, but it will take some time to get the full benefit of our low prices. Trade is good with the South, but the cotton packers will be early in getting out of the South and they will be a big factor. They are short of corn and wheat and the South will be a good place to get it. I expect, however, than last year. I expect lard to do better, relatively than either pork or ribs. I am rather friendly to it and yet I would hardly declare myself bullish on it at this time. Butter exports are very large. That means an increased demand for lard. At the very low level of prices, the demand for vegetable oils is very heavy. My view is that provisions are low enough, but that any important bull market must be preceded by a better demand from the other side for meats."

Present and comparative hide prices at Chicago are as follow

	1896.	1895.
Native steers, spready.....	7½ @ 8	12½ @
Native steers, heavy.....	7½ @ 8	12½ @
Native steers, light.....	7½ @ 7½	12½ @
Texas steers, heavy.....	7 @ 7½	12½ @
Texas steers, light.....	6½ @ 7	12½ @
Texas steers, extra light.....	6½ @ 7	9 @
Butt-branded steers.....	6 @ 6	10½ @
Kolorado steers.....	7½ @ 7½	10½ @
Native cows, over 55 pounds.....	7½ @ 7½	10½ @
Native cows, under 55 pounds.....	6 @ 6½	10½ @
Branded cows.....	6 @ 6½	10½ @
Native bulls.....	6½ @ 6½	10½ @
Branded bulls.....	6½ @ 6½	10½ @

No. 2 hides are usually sold one cent per pound less.

	COUNTRY HIDES.		1896.	1895.
No. 1 heavy steers.....	64	α	61	α
2 heavy steers.....	54	α	51	α
Side-branded steers, flat.....		α	54	α
Side-branded cows, flat.....		α	51	α
No. 1 harness cows.....				α
1 heavy cows.....	64	α		α
1 buff hides.....	64	α		α
extra light hides.....	7	α		α
2 buff hides.....	6	α		α
No. 1 bulls.....	54	α	51	α
1 calfskins.....	7	α	8	α
1 kips.....		α		α
Deacon skins, each.....	35	α	40	52½
Slunks, each.....	20	α	25	α
Horsehides, each.....	2.40	α	2.60	3.50
Horse skins, each.....	10	α	15	α
Cattle switches, buyers' count.....		α	24	α
Horse switches, buyers' count.....	18	α	20	17

Poultry, old or young, will not thrive if kept close, crowded quarters, especially at night. T huddling together at night of great numbers, with defective ventilation, or possibly in a draught, the damp night air of autumn, is a fruitful source of the roup and diarrhoea.



Golf is a game that has been played for many centuries by kings and other ordinary people in Scotland. It became epidemic in England largely through the efforts of Mr. Arthur Balfour, who is a slim young man and deservedly popular. There are three pronunciations of the name: the Scottish kings called it "gowf," some people call it "goff" if it was the bark of a dog. "Golf" some people call it "goff"; I, on the other hand, pronounce it "goff" because there are too many silent letters in the English alphabet as it is, and I say that if a word has an I, it, in it, gye it L, and pronounce it so.

I have played but one game of golf in my life, and I doubt if ever I shall take part in another. The reason of this is not at all what you would suppose. I really like the game very much indeed, and if I had not been so extremely successful the first time that I played it I would now be so much addicted to golf that nothing but the gold cure would break me of the habit.

I was invited to try my hand at golf by a great novelist, hereinafter throughout this document referred to as the G. N. I shall call him N. G., for I certainly expected to be asked to call him N. G. like the heathen Chinese, I did not understand, and of which I had never had any previous experience. It is remarkable that no great writer heretofore describing the game of golf has mentioned its great likeness to the game of billiards. Each of the games is played on a green field, and the size of the English billiard table is only slightly less than that of a good golfing ground. In each case the player plays with white balls; and when he is an inebriate in the game that the inveterate golfer becomes such an inebriate, red balls are used. In each case the player plays with sticks, though the projection of the ball is somewhat differently attained in golf than in billiards, giving a side swoop rather than an end push. In each game the trick seems to consist of dropping a ball in a pocket. I wonder that no one has noticed this similarity in the games before.

When the G. N. and I came to the golf ground we found the clubhouse at the entrance to the field; this, I afterwards discovered, was a very useful institution, because a person getting thirsty as the game proceeds. Two caddies were always on hand, secured. A caddy is a small boy who carries the golfer's bag, and looks like a telescope cover, in which the golfer's clubs are stored. The number of caddies is not limited, and they are all inserted, handles down, on the golfer's back, and the golfer player affects. I think these caddies are carried round merely for show. I found that one could play the whole game with one stick, and I don't see the necessity for the numerous other implements of strange shapes which the unfortunate caddy is compelled to lug about with him. I asked the G. N. what the origin of the caddies was, and whether it came from the fact that the caddies play golf, and the caddy was the representative of this well-known word. The G. N. said that was not the origin, but that the caddies were, with some asperity, that cads sometimes visited the golf grounds, but were not eligible to membership. I have often wondered since what he meant by that remark. When we arrived at a spot, which I think he called the putting ground (I cannot guarantee the name), we found a large mound of soft earth from out of a hole, in this game, the caddy is to make a pyramid of soft earth from out of a hole, and the golfer is to make a pyramid on the ground, as if he were trying to make a mud pie. On the apex of this pyramid he placed small, white, hard rubber ball, very dexterously.

"Now," said the G. N. to me, "you must remember that there are twenty things to think of at once as you stand to make your first drive."

"Well," I said, "I am going to let nineteen of them go, and think of only one thing, and that is how I can get the best lawyer on this ball."

"That will never do," said the G. N., as I took up my position and swung my club backward and forward. "If you stand like that you will miss the ball altogether, and the driver will fly out of your hands and probably kill somebody in the adjoining county. You must set your feet apart and stand like this."

"Now," I said, genially but firmly, "I intend to play the game in my own way. Rules are all right enough if a person wishes to become a golf sharp, but I don't. I'm not going to play an exhibition game, but merely a plain, everyday sort of golf, that I flatter myself will amaze the onlookers."

golf, that I flatter myself will amaze the onlookers. "Very well," said the G. N.; "you may do as you please, but I warn you, you won't touch the ball in that position." As he said this I drew back and hit the white ball on the top of the mound of sand. The clip which it will not forget for many a day, it sailed through the air with the easy grace of a hawk, flew to a tremendous distance and dropped within twenty feet of the flag which was fluttering further down the grounds.

"Well, I be blowed," said the G. N. "For a lucky fluke never saw that beaten.

"Fluke !" I cried. "There's no fluke about it. Did you expect me to drop it in the hole ; if you did, why didn't you say so ? I didn't know it was one of the rules of the game to drop it in the hole the first whack ; I thought you worked that way gradually."

that way gradually.

The G. N. was at me in amazement for a moment or two, then he moved up his position before his own ball, which was placed on what I understand is technically called a "tee," the little mound of earth I spoke of. The G. N. knows all about the game, and took up his position as was recommended by the authorities on the subject. He waved his driver back and forth in the air for a few seconds, then with a hissing swoosh he beat his sixteenth he furiously smote the ground about six inches from where his ball stood, throwing up a spouter of brown earth, and to do him justice, I must admit that he dislodged the ball from the tee, for it flew about an inch away. The G. N. muttered something which I shall not put away. And ordered the boy to erect another tee and place the ball upon it.

"That counts one for me, doesn't it?" I asked, for, though I knew but little of the game, it seemed to me that such a fatal stroke ought to be in my favor.

"It certainly does," admitted the G. N. His next stroke was more carefully done, but the ball travelled only half as far as mine had done, and it dropped into some long grass while he was finding it. The G.

where we searched for a while before we found it. The G.I. selected another kind of a stick, differing in shape from the one he had been using (it had an iron arrangement at the end of the set at an angle), and was evidently preparing to hit the defenseless ball again.

"It's all right," he answered. "It all counts in your favor. You see, the man who is left behind hits the ball till he's out with his opponent."

He made one or two ineffectual swishes through the long grass at the ball, which was partially concealed, but he did not succeed in getting it out.

"Here," I said, "don't bother mowing down that long grass. Pick up your ball and let's go on with the game. Come over to the smooth turf where you can get a fair show at it."