

EGGS.

All the available supply has been wanted, and prices have been firm. Round lots went freely at 13c and some were held at 14c.

BUTTER.

Receipts from the country have been light, and it is generally believed that supplies are being held back there. All prime lots were freely taken, and good mediums were in fair demand, while there was some call for low grades. Good quality, whether in rolls or tubs sold at 13c, and choice at 14c and even 15c for gilt edge. Lower grades sold down to 10c.

CHEESE.

A fair demand existed with a firm feeling gaining ground. Good to choice has been selling at 8 to 8½c, mostly in small lots. The demand for poorer grades was slow and light.

PORK.

Very little business reported, and quotations almost nominal. Small lots were quoted at \$13.50.

BACON.

Stocks are known to be light, and holders are independent and not inclined to press sales. The feeling has in consequence been firm. Long clear sold at 8½c and Cumberland 8 to 8½c. Rolls were quoted at 9c and breakfast at 11c. The business done was light.

HAMS.

There has been a good demand for smoked, but very little call for green or pickled. Smoked sold about 13c.

LARD.

The demand has been active and steady with pails selling at 9½c in round lots and 9½c in small lots.

HOGS.

The supply has been light, and offerings have been taken at \$7.25.

The State of Trade.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* this week, while repeating favorable trade features noted a week ago, report a quite general hardening of domestic money market and a widespread improvement in mercantile collections. To a certain extent this is true at New York. At a few cities autumn buying has begun; notably Louisville, where takings are said to be large. This movement is not general as yet, and, owing to the confidence with which traders look ahead to it, its coming is awaited with exceptional interest. The volume of merchandise distributed has not varied materially from that of a week ago. The total of bank clearings at twenty nine cities for this week, specially wired to *Bradstreet's*, is \$846,986,202, against \$835,772,000 last week (five days) and as compared with \$821,758,000 in the like week, 1885. The earnings of 33 railroads for the first week in July aggregate \$3,130,449, against \$2,806,164 in 1885 and \$2,354,018 in 1884. The unfavorable wheat crop prospect seems to discourage speculation on the New York Stock Exchange, and the temporary stoppage of hostilities among the granger roads was not sufficient to put prices up. Some activity and strength was developed in the trunk-line stocks on the improved earnings of Erie. Transactions were 1,077,000 shares, against 1,247,000 shares last week. Money is in fair supply on call at from 2 to 3 per cent. Exchange is weak. Now that the domestic wool clip has been cleaned up, interest centres on the degree of shortage as compared with last year. Conservative authorities place it at 10 per cent., with

the greater share of the decrease in Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas. London wool prices are no higher. Domestic quotations are unchanged and holders very firm. Stocks of cotton goods at the east are small and some brands are higher, checking sales to jobbers. The next offering of cassimeres is expected to be at higher prices, when the demand for raw wool by makers will become active. Print cloths are firm and higher at 35/16c. The steel rail mills indicate their prosperity by increasing the total allotment for the year to 1,400,000 tons, 1,100,000 tons having been already contracted for. The activity in Bessemer pig at \$19 per ton, its production aggregating 195,000 tons monthly out of 455,000 tons, the total monthly production of anthracite and bituminous irons, is accounted for by the condition of the rail industry. The wheat markets have been quieter, with prices fluctuating within a moderate range. The damage to the spring wheat is currently estimated at from 10 to 20 per cent., earlier reports having been exaggerated. The result is to leave a strong under-current of feeling that a higher range of prices for wheat is likely to prevail during the coming crop year than has been quoted for two years. This is emphasized by unfavorable crop reports from the United Kingdom, Russia, India, Australia and elsewhere. No. 2 red wheat at New York closed yesterday at 87c against 86½c a week ago. The effects of the drouth on general trade in some portions of the spring wheat country constitute the marked exception to the generally favorable trade reports mentioned above. The condition of the cotton crop in the southwest continues excellent. Improvement is noted in some sections of the south Atlantic and gulf states, but is not general. The tobacco crop in Missouri needs rain. There were 189 failures in the United States reported to *Bradstreet's*, against 153 the week before, 185 in the second week of July, 1885, and 211 in 1884. Canada had 11 this week, 12 last week, and 14 last year. The total failures in the United States, from January 1 to date is 5,777, against 6,616 in 1885, (decline of 839 this year), 5,762 in 1884, 5,515 in 1883, and 3,872 in 1882.—*Bradstreet's*.

Board of Trade.

The half yearly meeting of the Winnipeg Board of trade was held on Tuesday afternoon in the board room, Clement's Block, the chair being occupied by Mr. Kenneth McKenzie, the president.

There were present, Messrs. W. W. McCleary, D. K. Elliott, N. D. McDonald, G. F. Stephens, J. A. Cameron, F. Osenbrugge, S. Spink, W. W. Watson, John A. Moore, W. J. Atkin, J. B. McKilligan, S. Nairn, D. H. McMillan, E. Powis, R. J. Whitla, F. B. Ross, W. F. Luxton, James E. Steen, and others.

After reading of minutes and other opening routine, the secretary reported having had printed and mailed to traders west of Winnipeg the Board's circular, announcing the reduction in freight rates on the C. P. R. from Winnipeg westward.

Messrs. John Williams and ——— Atkinson were put forward for membership, and on mo-

tion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Nairn, the rule on ballot was suspended and both gentlemen unanimously elected.

The secretary read the annual report of the committee of hide and leather examiners, which was as follows:

To the President and members of the Winnipeg Board of Trade.

Your committee of hide and leather examiners beg leave to submit this their first annual report:

When appointed a year ago, the first duty of your committee was to examine candidates for the office of hide and leather inspector at this city, which was done, and Mr. W. J. Bird selected as the most suitable for the position, which selection your board afterwards ratified.

Although no delay took place in recommending Mr. Bird to the Department of Inland Revenue for inspector here, it was not until the beginning of April last that that gentleman received his appointment, since which time he has maintained a regular system of inspection.

Between the 8th of April, 1886, the date when Mr. Bird commenced operations, and the 10th day of the present month, that gentleman has inspected 3,169 hides and calf skins, the grading of which were as follows: 1,627 of No. 1, 1,231 of No. 2, 253 of No. 3, and 58 damaged. The fees received by him during this period were \$158.45.

The above figures refer only to hides and calf skins, no sheep pelts having been inspected. Neither have the trade demands of the city or province caused as yet any necessity for leather inspection.

Your committee are aware that, as yet, hide inspection is somewhat of an experiment in this Province, its existence being too short to allow of any definite conclusions being arrived at as to its value to the country. Still they are satisfied that it has already developed satisfactory symptoms, indicating that in time it will prove a great benefit to the hide trade, and the inspector and men and firms connected therewith intimate, that already they can see an improvement in the condition of hides coming to market, which is much more marked in connection with the hides furnished by the city dealers than in those coming from the country.

Your committee desire to state that since his appointment, there have been no appeals from the inspection of Mr. Bird, and no complaints of any kind brought before their notice.

Your committee would much rather that this report had been more elaborate and exhaustive, but the time from which conclusions can be drawn being so limited, they must content themselves with this meagre one, and leave to their successors the work of enlargement, which a more extended experience will enable them to carry out.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. OSENBRUGGE, chairman.

July 16th, 1886.

On motion of Mr. W. W. Watson, seconded by Mr. J. A. Carman, the report as read was unanimously adopted.

The Secretary then read the annual report of the committee of grain examiners, which was as follows:—

To the President and members of the Winnipeg Board of Trade.

In submitting this their first annual report, your committee of grain examiners wish first to state, that their labors since their appointment have been confined almost exclusively to the work of organization, which has progressed well during the past twelve months.

The first work of consequence in which your committee engaged was the collection of samples of grain from which to select the standards for grading during the year. This they attend-