

ending to-day, together with to-day's closing prices and the prices one year ago:

Wheat.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing 1884:	Mar. 26
No. 1 hard..	82	81	81½	98½
" 2 ..	80	79	80	94½
" 1 ..	75	73	75	89
" 2 ..	68	65	68	85

Futures were higher, No. 1 hard, May, opening at 81½ and closing at 85½c. May, No. 2 hard, opened at 81½ and closed at 83c. Coarse grains have been in good demand, but closed weaker. No. 1 oats, 26 to 27½c; corn, 36 to 37c.

MILLSTUFF—Has been strong, and advancing, bulk bran closing at \$10 to 10.50 and shorts at \$11.25 to 12.

FLOUR—Until to-day the flour market has been quiet and easy, but the advance in wheat has caused a sudden stiffness and millers have refused to consider orders for future delivery at anything like present prices. The fact that recent able tenders at prices above those ruling here the past 48 hours has given our millers much encouragement, they believing that it indicates an early and important change in affairs abroad. The domestic demand is slightly better and the general market is better. The principal change for the week is in the shape of a better demand for patents, which have not been active for some time.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.30 to 4.80; straights, \$4.20 to \$4.50; first bakers', \$3.40 to 3.80; second bakers', \$3 to 3.30; best low grades, \$1.80 to 2.00 in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to 1.60 in bags.

The operations on the Falls last week were quite satisfactory to those mills which ran. The water-power was the best it has been thus far this spring, and enabled two-thirds of the mills to keep up to full motion, and turn out nearly their full quota of flour. A 10,000-bbl increase in the output was the sequence. The production of the week was 102,000 bbls—averaging 14,580 daily for the seven days—against 92,140 bbls the preceding week, and 73,435 bbls for the corresponding time in 1884. The current week opened less auspiciously. Sunday there was a big read of water; but on Monday, when the mills began to pull on it strongly, it gradually fell away, and, while at times considerably improved, it averaged quite low up to Wednesday, and gave the operative miller a taste of experience approaching the worst times he passed through last winter. An improvement is looked for very quickly, however. While no high water is expected before rain comes, it is the belief that, as small streams and feeders become opened up, the volume will grow until there is a fair stage to work with. The weather has been quite severe the past two weeks, and the present decline of the water is largely attributed to that. By a great many the shortage of power is looked upon as an unmixed blessing, as it has the effect of keeping the flour production down. The flour market shows slight improvement, prices having been generally advanced about 10c on Wednesday, and most firms withdrew all outstanding offers on the same day. This is the result of stronger offers from abroad, and

the advance of wheat in Liverpool and Chicago. Private cables of the leading milling firms state that appearances are more warlike, and feeling is accordingly stronger. The Millers' Association advanced prices of wheat 2c on Wednesday morning, hoping to draw out the remainder of the hard wheat, which will all be needed to complete the season's run. Orders for considerable quantities for June delivery have been placed in Duluth.

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

	RECEIPTS.	Mar. 24	Mar. 17	Mar. 10
Wheat, bush..	456,000	353,300	394,850	
Flour, bbls ..	695	420	640	
Millstuffs, tons	40	24	38	

	SHIPMENTS.	Mar. 24	Mar. 17	Mar. 10
Wheat, bush ..	67,300	74,000	51,380	
Flour, bbls ..	95,105	93,274	76,744	
Millstuffs, tons..	3,008	2,419	2,291	

The wheat in store in Minneapolis elevators, as well as the stock at St. Paul and Duluth, is shown in the appended table:

	MINNEAPOLIS.	Mar. 23.	Mar. 16.
No. 1 hard ..	1,259,883	1,242,408	
No. 2 hard ..	98,193	102,101	
No. 1 ..	1,799,182	1,791,697	
No. 2 ..	241,216	284,335	
No. 3 ..	18,053	11,923	
Rejected ..	14,656	16,260	
Special bins ..	560,554	660,225	
Total ..	3,901,742	4,034,905	

	ST. PAUL.	Mar. 25.	Mar. 18.	Mar. 11.
In elevators, bush ..	1,145,000	1,145,000	1,152,000	

	DULUTH.	Mar. 24.	Mar. 17.	Mar. 9.
In elevators, bush ..	5,987,500	5,887,000	5,823,079	
Afloat ..	101,000	—	—	

—Northwestern Miller.

CHICAGO.

The wheat market during the past week has been in rather an unsettled state, and a vigorous tug has been going on between bears and bulls, with the advantages going slowly but steadily in favor of the latter. The belief that a war between Britain and Russia is unavoidable has been steadily gaining ground, and the action of the British Government in calling out the militia and reserves leaves very little doubt upon that point. This has given fresh courage to the bullish element, and reports of probable damage to the winter wheat crop has also aided in this direction. On the other hand the enormous quantity on sight in every portion of the world, and the equally enormous quantities known to be held by farmers in every grain growing country, proves quite a heavy load to pull against, and the load is made a little heavier by the fact that in this and other American cities, banks are not too ready to let out funds for grain speculation. Then while war between Britain and Russia seems unavoidable no one knows how long the actual crash may be held off by the devices, schemes and subterfuges of modern European diplomacy. These

circumstances give encouragement to the bears, and while they have been losing ground steadily during the whole of last week, they contest every inch of it with stubbornness. Corn has been in sympathy with wheat, but has not shown such a marked advance. On the other hand meats have not been affected by war rumors, and pork and lard have been subject only to such fluctuations as a scalping market would produce.

On Monday wheat opened quiet and firm, and kept advancing during the day, although the trading was but light. In corn matters were equally quiet, but not so firm, while oats showed considerable improvement. Pork and lard were a little easier than on Saturday and confined to a limited range in fluctuations. Closing quotations were:

	Mar.	Apr.
Wheat ..	\$0.75½	\$0.76½
Corn ..	37½	38½
Oats ..	—	28
Pork ..	11.77½	11.80
Lard ..	6.77½	6.80

On Tuesday there was considerable demand for actual deliveries of cash, but futures were quiet, and prices lower a shade. Receipts for the day increased to 124 against 94 on Monday. Speculative offerings were very free. Corn was weak in sympathy with wheat, but declined only about ¼c. Pork and lard were a little stronger. Closing quotations were:

	Mar.	Apr.
Wheat ..	\$0.74½	\$0.75
Corn ..	37½	37½
Oats ..	—	27½
Pork ..	11.72½	11.77½
Lard ..	6.80	6.82½

On Wednesday there was an advance in prices all round and much more activity among the speculative crowd. Receipts of wheat fell to 57 cars, and the opening showed quite an improvement on Tuesday's closing. Prices advanced steadily and quite a brisk business was done. Corn and oats were both active and tending upward in sympathy with wheat. Pork was strong and higher, and lard was steady and firm. Closing quotations were:

	Mar.	Apr.
Wheat ..	\$0.76½	\$0.76½
Corn ..	38½	38½
Oats ..	—	28
Pork ..	11.90	11.92½
Lard ..	6.85	6.87½

On Thursday there was a nervous feeling, and wheat had quite a range in its fluctuations. European stock reports being conflicting. Corn was also unsettled while oats were quiet and easier. Pork was irregular and a little higher, while lard was quiet and almost without change. Closing quotations were:

	Mar.	Apr.
Wheat ..	\$0.76½	\$0.76½
Corn ..	38½	38½
Oats ..	—	28
Pork ..	12.05	12.07½
Lard ..	6.82½	6.85

On Friday there was a weaker feeling all round at one time, and the bears seemed to get firm hold of wheat. Corn was in sympathy