

Commercial.

FARMER'S ADVOCATE OFFICE,
London, Feb. 27, 1879.

Since the last report we have had another month of steady weather with good roads; in some sections of the country good wheeling has prevailed and in others sleighing. During the last few days sleighing is again general all over the country. So far the winter has been all that could be desired, and we hope to see this weather continue for another two weeks or more, and then change for spring.

WHEAT

has taken a turn upward, and the "bulls" seem to be masters of the situation, at least for a time. How long that time may last is very hard to forecast. With the enormous quantities of wheat afloat and in sight (some 20,000,000 bushels) it will require some careful management on their part, and should any unforeseen circumstance turn up to break the clique, we would in all likelihood see prices go back to their old level. Some very sanguine individuals have expressed the opinion that wheat will go to a dollar before long. We only hope so for the farmers' sake, although those who really need this benefit are the ones who have already marketed their wheat, and we think they have done wisely by so doing. We are no advocates of farmers speculating; for the farmer who holds his wheat for a higher price, when he is in a position to market the same, and would do so did the prices suit him, that farmer is a speculator just as much as he who buys up wheat or other produce with a view to make money by so doing.

PEAS.

The indications are that they are pretty well out. There is some inquiry for good seed peas, and we shall not be surprised to see good, clean, bright peas, free from bugs, wanted at good prices for seed.

BARLEY

continues extremely dull, and nothing but the best samples can be sold at all. Some of the warehousemen have put in mills for cleaning and blowing it, and by so doing have been able to work off their stock. We would advise farmers to be particular about their seed, and if their ground is not in proper condition to sow something else.

CLOVER SEED

continues dull and not much doing. Some few firms have shipped a good deal, but it has been nearly all on their own account, and has been sent forward at a venture.

BUTTER

has been pretty well bought up throughout the country at from 6c. to 12c. per lb., and we presume the bulk of it at or near the latter price. The following table will give our readers some idea of the trade of the Dominion in butter and cheese, and the rapid development of the latter:—

The quantity and value of exports from the Dominion since 1860 was as follows:

Fiscal y'rs ended 30 June.	BUTTER.		CHEESE.	
	Qn'tity. lbs.	Value. \$	Qn'tity. lbs.	Value. \$
1860...	10,853,268	2,343,270	4,503,370	549,971
1870...	12,259,887	2,353,570	5,827,782	674,486
1871...	15,439,266	3,065,229	8,271,439	1,109,906
1872...	19,068,348	3,612,679	16,434,025	1,840,284
1873...	15,208,633	2,808,979	19,483,211	2,280,412
1874...	12,233,046	2,620,305	24,050,982	3,523,201
1875...	9,268,044	2,337,324	32,342,030	3,886,226
1876...	12,392,367	2,579,431	35,024,090	3,751,268
1877...	15,479,550	3,224,981	37,700,921	3,897,968
1878...	13,504,117	2,474,197	39,371,139	4,121,301

At the Annual Convention of the Western Dairymen's Association, held at Ingersoll the other day, Prof. Bell, of Belleville, read a paper on butter-making and the butter trade, in which, after giving figures to show the growth and extent of the cheese trade, he expressed it as his opinion that the production of cheese for the English market had reached the utmost limit to which it could be carried with safety, and that it would be much better for the farmers to abstain from cheese making and turn their attention to the manufacture of butter, on the same system that the cheese is now made, and which had proved so successful in the sister product. We agree with Professor Bell, and venture the assertion that there is a great future in store for Canadian dairymen if they will only take up the butter question, and deal with it thoroughly and heartily. The day for making and selling poor butter is gone by, and he who makes poor butter had better make none at all.

CHEESE.

The trade is very quiet, and stocks are still heavy, and for which holders want more cash than they are likely to get. A dealer informed us that there were 15,000 boxes represented at the late Convention held in Ingersoll. This, with some thousands in store in cellars throughout the country, will foot up a large stock for the time of year. The stock is too large entirely.

Little Falls Cheese and Butter Market.

Reported for the FARMERS' ADVOCATE by PROF. X. A. WILLARD.

LITTLE FALLS, N. Y., Feb. 28, 1879.

CHEESE.

There has been no material change in the market during the month from that given in our last report, except that the feeling among sellers is firmer, and there is more disposition to hold cheese for better prices. The views of dairymen and factorymen are generally above those of buyers on all grades of cheese, consequently there is considerable cheese back or in store awaiting sales. The prices offered by buyers for "good Novembers" and "late ends" range from 5c. to 6c., and this is about the price received by factories selling. But holders who are not willing to accept these figures are asking from 6c. to 7c. for "late ends." Early selections of good quality may be quoted at 7½c. to 8c., but they are scarce.

The farm-dairy cheese has mostly gone forward; prices during the month have ranged from 5c. to 7c. according to quality; while some lots of extra fine Octobers are being held at 8c. to 9c., which is above the views of buyers. The large exports of common, or second grade cheese, from New York during the middle and latter part of the month, has had the effect of giving a better feeling and more firmness to the markets in the interior.

BUTTER.

There has been considerable "winter-made" butter brought forward and sold at rates ranging from 13c. to 16c., according to quality. Fall make and creamery have sold from 18c. to 20c. if of unexceptionable character, and mostly for the home trade.

About the middle of the month "new milk" butter began to come in market, and sold readily at 18c.

Cows are now coming in milk, from which butter is made. There is a strong feeling against skim-cheese, and the probability is that little will be made the coming spring in this section.

Our latest advices from England are that there is more doing in American Septembers at 56s. and fine at 51s. to 53s. The secondary sorts at from 20s. to 30s. and up to 40s. per cwt., are decreasing

fast. English Cheddars are quoted at 70s. to 80s.; Scotch at 58s. to 56s.; Cheshire, fine, at 63s. to 76s., and Dutch Edoms at 60s. to 65s. per cwt.

Fine butter is scarce and American is asked for. Clennells brings from 116s. to 120s.; Dorsets, 160s.; Danish, 130s. to 156s.; Swedish, 120s. to 154s.; American, 60s. to 90s.; creameries 116s. to 124s.; and Canadian butter from 60s. to 100s. per cwt.

American brands of Oleomargarine, or artificial butter, sell at 50s. to 60s.; Dutch brands, 70s. to 80s., and Swedish from 76s. to 78s. per cwt.

London Markets.

London, March 1, 1879.

GRAIN.

	Per 100 lbs		Per 100 lbs
White Wheat...	\$1 60 to 1 68	Peas.....	80 to 1 00
Treadwell.....	60 to	Oats.....	80 to 90
Clawson.....	60 to	Rye.....	90 to 00
Red.....	1 65 to 1 60	Buckwheat.....	75 to 85
Spring.....	1 15 to 1 35	Corn.....	60 to 75
Barley.....	80 to 1 30	Beans.....	00 to 00

PRODUCE.

Eggs, retail.....	18 to 20	Cheese, lb.....	6 to 6
Butter.....	12 to 22	Timothy seed.....	\$1 35 to 1 50
Potatoes, bag.....	70 to 85	Clover seed.....	3 50 to 3 75
Apples, per bush.....	40 to 60		

Flour, per 100 lbs.....\$2 25 to \$3 00

POULTRY.

Chickens, pair.....	30 to 50	Ducks, pair.....	50 to 60
Geese.....	45 to 60	Turkeys.....	75 to 1 25

MEATS.

Beef, per lb.....	4c to 6c	Mutton, lb.....	5c to 6c
Pork, per 100 lbs.....	3 75 to 4 25		

Toronto Markets.

Toronto, March 1.

Barley.....	\$ 50 to 70	Cheese.....	7 to 10
Spring wheat.....	80 to 91	Butter.....	4 to 14
R. Winter.....	85 to 93	Eggs.....	16 to 20
White.....	85 to 97	Poultry.....	50 to 65
Oats.....	31 to 33	Flour.....	\$3 80 to 4 05
Peas.....	55 to 60	Beef.....	4 00 to 6 50
Wool.....	00 to 00	Pork.....	5 50 to 6 00
Corn.....	40 to 42	Mutton.....	5 00 to 6 00
Potatoes, per bu. 1 00 to		Apples, per bri 1 25 to 2 00	

Montreal Markets.

Montreal, March 1.

Barley, 40c to 70c; Peas, 72c to 73c; Oats, 28c to 29c; Corn, 44c to 45c; Cheese, 8c to 9½c; Butter, 7c to 20c; Eggs, 40c; Flour, \$3 40 to \$4 80; Beef, \$4 to \$6 50; Pork, \$5 75 to \$6; Potatoes, per bag, 80c to \$1.

Liverpool Markets.

Liverpool, Feb. 28.

	s	d	s	d		s	d	s	d
Flour.....	8	0	10	0	Barley.....	5	3	0	0
Wheat, spring.....	6	11	8	1	Pork.....	47	0	50	0
R. Winter.....	8	0	9	0	Lard.....	30	9	0	0
White.....	8	10	9	4	Bacon.....	25	0	26	0
Club.....	9	1	9	6	Cheese.....	49	0	00	0
Corn, cental.....	4	7	0	0	Tallow.....	36	6	00	0
Oats.....	5	6	5	6	Beef.....	71	0	00	0
Peas.....	6	5	00	0					

New York Markets.

New York, March 1.

Spring wheat, \$1 13 to \$1 13½; Barley, State, 64c to 85c; Canada, 85c to \$1 10; Oats, 32c to 36c; Corn, 43½c to 47c; Pork, per lb., 4½c to 5½c.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, March 1.

Spring wheat, 92½c to 93½; Barley, 76c; Oats, 23½c to 23½c; Corn, 33½c to 34; Pork, per bbl, \$10 10 to \$10 25.

Montreal Live Stock Market.

Montreal, Feb. 27.

The supply of cattle on St. Gabriel market to-day was light, at prices ranging from \$3 per 100 lbs for common, to \$4 25 for good cattle.

Montreal, Feb. 28.

The supply of cattle was not large, but quite sufficient for the demand, butchers buying sparingly, owing to the near approach of Lent. Sales were made at from \$3 per 100 lbs for common cattle, up to \$4 50 for good beasts.

Toronto Cattle Markets.

There is nothing to report of the export trade. Farmers must endeavor to hold on to their stock till the St. Lawrence is open, or, if it should happen that the restrictions should be removed from the trade in American cattle, till the cattle can be shipped by Portland or Boston. The local trade is fair, and the market well supplied with cattle for home consumption. The following are the quotations at the local market:—

Cattle, first-class, \$3 75 to \$4 per 100 lbs. live weight; second-class, \$3 to \$3 50; third-class, \$2 to \$2 50.

Sheep—There is a good demand for local use; first-class, \$4 to \$6; second-class, \$3 to \$3 25; third-class, \$2 to \$2 50.