

EGGS.

Receipts in limited quantities and prices unchanged. Pickled sold at from 17 to 18c in case lots.

BUTTER.

This trade remains quiet and in very much the same condition as for the past few weeks. Choice qualities are firm and the supply not excessive, while medium grades are, as usual, coming in freely. Prices have not materially changed, quotations being from 16 to 17c for choice; 12 to 13c for medium, and inferior qualities at 10c.

CHEESE.

Steady and unchanged. Choice is quoted at 9 to 9½c and medium at 7 to 8c.

PORK.

Offerings have been light and prices about nominal. The ruling quotation is still \$13.

HAMS.

The demand has been light and prices are unchanged. The ruling quotation is 11c, with some small lots sold at 11½c.

BACON.

This market still remains quiet and prices are easy. Long clear, in car lots, was worth about 6½c. Cases have sold slowly at 6½ to 7c. Cumberland nominal at 6½c. Rolls easy at 8½ to 9c, and bellies at 10 to 11c.

LARD.

Steady and unchanged. Tinnets and pails are quoted at 9 to 9½c, and tierces at 8½c.

APPLES.

Nothing doing in car lots. On the street prices ranged from \$1.50 to \$2.25 per bbl.

POULTRY.

Offerings have been small but quite sufficient to meet all wants. Prices are: turkeys 8 to 9c per lb; geese 6 to 6½c; ducks 50 to 60c per pair, and chickens 25 to 35c per pair.

General Notes.

THE bulls have dropped \$300,000 or \$400,000 in the Duluth wheat market the past week.

THE Bank of Devil's Lake, Dak., has suspended. The deposits were only about \$20,000.

ICE is now sold by the cord or sleigh load in Birtle and is piled up to be melted for domestic purposes.

THE Birtle Indian Agency is establishing a sheep rancho for the benefit of the Indians and for the purpose of instructing them in sheep farming.

THERE are seventeen salmon canneries on the Fraser River in British Columbia. Next season large numbers of salmon will be brought east on the cars.

THE last Manitoba Gazette contains a notice of an application to the legislature, for an act in incorporating the Limited Fire Insurance Company of Manitoba.

The decline in boxwood follows the decline in the rollerskating craze. High prices for the wood marked the culmination of the mania, and fancy prices have vanished like the unsubstantial fabric of a dream.

THE export of oats from the United States increased from 2,714,000 bushels in 1884 to 8,630,000 bushels in 1885, a large portion of which went to Scotland and England to be converted into oatmeal.

A COMPANY of eastern capitalists is about to be organized for the purpose of erecting elevators along the various lines of railroad in north Dakota, which will be conducted on an entirely new plan. They propose to furnish to each

farmer a separate bin in which to store wheat, and in this way, when he is ready to sell, he can always get the identical wheat which he delivered. They also propose to loan money at 7 per cent. interest, to be secured by wheat in store. The gentleman who is working the matter has spent much time in Dakota, and is said to be quite confident of the success of his scheme. Just when they will begin building operations is not known, but it will probably be early in the spring.

THE *Alaskan* of a recent issue speaking of the timber supply of that remote section of Uncle Sam's dominion says: "There is a diversity of opinion regarding the timber resources of the territory, though it is generally conceded there are immense forests of spruce and hemlock, with scattered groves of yellow cedar, which last is very valuable. The spruce grows to enormous size, and corresponds in most respects to the Oregon fir. It is of the white variety, and valuable not only for the excellent quality of lumber it will furnish, but as the best known material for the manufacture of wood pulp. Aside from the yellow cedar, however, which is already in eager demand, though limited in quantity, the timber interests are not likely to assume other than a local importance until a partial exhaustion, at least, of the Oregon and Washington forests shall pave the way to a ready and profitable market."

To make Real and Imitation Corks.

Besides the usual double soles for winter wear there are also, it is well known, those with inserted cork sole. This cork is worked in between the outer and inner sole, with, of course, a covering of leather at the sides. Usually the cork is laid only on the fore part of the sole. They are cut at the same time as the leather soles, made even, and thinned off backward to the instep. The leather sides are then cut out and fitted; they must be of hard leather and of quite equal thickness. These leather strips are then put in in the same style as the coverings to wooden heels. The cork soles are then measured, adjusted somewhat, if necessary, for the sewing, and then attached with pitch to the under sole. The same is then done with the cork sole that lies over the cork sole, which is then stitched to it. This upper sole, as commonly happens has to be ranged in. From the stitching process onward the work on the sole differs little from the ordinary system of making. With cork soles, even more than with others, it is necessary that everything be "tight." The trimming of the cork soles is done with a special cutting iron for that purpose.

It is, however, often preferred to give ordinary soles the appearance of those with the cork sole; for the most part this is sought to be effected by stamping the sides of the soles deeply with a special iron. Here another procedure is suggested, by which the cork sole border may be imitated by a thick strip of pigskin.

Similar to the double rim on which the cork sole is sewed, a strip of somewhat thick pigskin is cut, on the one side a little shaved off, and then stitched with the double border.

There is thus a two-fold border for stitching, of which the thicker is turned to the upper leather, and has to represent the cork sole border, while on the thinner the sole is usually doubled. In this way a very thick cut is obtained, which, however, can later, after the cutting, be worked in the fashion of the cork border by means of the specially formed iron. The durability by this process is undoubted, especially for the finer and lighter shoes, and it may therefore, be recommended on its own merits.—*Leipziger Schumacher Zeitung*.

Commercial Summary.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* report a check in the distribution of merchandise throughout the country during the earlier portion of the past week, caused by the severe storm of snow and wind which has been general. This appears to have been universally recognized as a temporary obstruction, and the feeling among leading bankers and merchants at almost all points continues one of confidence in the prospects of business for an improvement early in the current year. As an outgrowth of the conditions noted it is added that country collections in many cases are reported slow, though this is said to be due to some extent to holding back of produce on the part of farmers or to low prices received therefor when sold. The demand for funds at many of the larger interior cities is smaller than in recent weeks. Dry goods prices are unchanged, though the total quantity shipped has been materially lessened. Larger orders for prints are expected. The price of flax is now 3½c., having had an upward tendency for ten days past. Brown and bleached cotton goods are quiet but steady. At some points the retail demand is reported better. The jobbing trade at Chicago is not expected to improve materially until milder weather sets in. Wool is firm and prices are well held, owing to light interior stocks and relatively small supplies at the seaboard markets. At the latter the weekly sales are moderately large. Cotton is firmer, spots being ½c. and futures about 10 points higher. This is based apparently on the renewed short-crop talk, backed by decreased port and interior town receipts and by stronger Liverpool and Manchester cables. Wheat has had to suffer another season of shrinkage in prices, due in great part to a fuller comprehension of the enormous supplies in sight at leading markets on both sides of the Atlantic. The slight gain in exports based on the decline did not serve to stiffen prices, as English quotations went off in the fear, apparently, that America was about to unload its surplus wheat. The decreased deliveries at western primary markets on account of snow and storm, and the decline of about 700,000 bushels in the weekly visible supply, failed to sustain the market, which has been more active at the decline. There appears to be less confidence in permanently higher prices for wheat than before. Other grains have sympathized with the depression in wheat. Hog products, too, went off in price, but subsequently rallied on increased speculative buying. The movement of grocery staples is restricted, and there is no change respecting dairy products. Iron continues quiet. The advance in