

straights, 5.25 to 5.75; clears, 5.00 to 5.50; Hinkle's Gold Dust, 6.40; do, Inland, 5.25, steady.

CHICAGO.

Tuesday's market opened considerably lower in wheat than the closing figures of Monday, but a firmer feeling ensued. Corn and oats were both weak, and pork suffered a slight decline after a firm opening. Closing quotations were:

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|------------------------|---------------|
| Wheat, December, 94½c, | January, 95½c |
| Corn, " 53½c, | " 52½c |
| Oats, " 36½c, | " 36½c |
| Pork, " 25, | " 17.37½ |
| Lard, " 10.57½, | " 10.57½ |

Wednesday's market was a weak one both in wheat and corn, oats being the only grain that showed any firmness. Pork was also weak and lard was unchanged. Closing prices were as follows:

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| Wheat December, 93½c, | January, 94½c |
| Corn, " 52½c, | " 52½c |
| Oats, " 36½c, | " 36½c |
| Pork, " 17.30, | " 17.27½ |
| Lard, " 10.50, | " 10.52½ |

There was very little change in affairs on Thursday. Wheat prices remained substantially the same as on Wednesday, but corn declined about one cent. Oats were unchanged, while pork showed some firmness, and advanced slightly. Closing quotations were as follows:

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|------------------------|---------------|
| Wheat, December, 93½c, | January, 94½c |
| Corn, " 52c, | " 51½c |
| Oats, " 37½c, | " 36½c |
| Pork, " 17.35, | " 17.47½ |
| Lard, " 10.52½, | " 10.55 |

On Friday there was a general decline in all products, and the market was an exceedingly weak one all over. Closing quotations were as follows:

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|------------------------|---------------|
| Wheat, December, 93½c, | January, 93½c |
| Corn, " 51½c, | " 50½c |
| Oats, " 35½c, | " 36½c |
| Pork, " 17.10, | " 17.25 |
| Lard, " 10.37½, | " 10.32½ |

Saturday's Market was a weak one all round in grain, and in pork another marked decline. Closing quotations were:

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|-----------------------|---------------|
| Wheat, December 91½c, | January, 92c. |
| Corn, " 53½c, | " 49½c. |
| Oats, " 37½c, | " 36½c. |
| Pork, " \$16.94, | " \$17.10. |
| Lard, " \$10.22, | " \$10.27½. |

TORONTO

STOCKS.

Bank stocks have suffered very much during the past week, and in several instances a very rapid decline has taken place. The heavy break of Monday was followed by a weak opening on Tuesday, but towards afternoon a recovery set in and a much firmer feeling was developed. Closing quotations on that day were as follows: Montreal, 200 and 199, sales at 199; Ontario, 113½ and 113, sales at 115; Toronto, 171 and 170½, sales at 171; Merchants 120; Commerce 134 and 133½, sales at 133½; Imperial, 141 and 140½, sales at 141; Federal, 156 and 155½, sales at 156; Dominion, 155½ and 155½; Standard 117½ and 117½, sales at 117½.

On Wednesday a general weakness set in and a decline ensued. Montreal and Ontario suffering most. The closing was weak all round and a depressing feeling pervaded the market. Closing quotations were: Montreal 197½ and 197½, sale at 197½; Ontario, 110½ and 110, sales at 112½; Toronto, 171 and 170½, sales at 170½; Merchants wanted at 119; Commerce, 134 and 133½, sales at 133½; Imperial, 139½ and 139½, sales at 139½; Federal, 155½ and 155, sales at 155½; Standard, 117½ and 117, sales at 117; Dominion 195 and 194½, sales at 194½.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

There has been a weak feeling in grain during the week, and a growing feeling of reconciliation to low prices is apparent. The receipts of grain have been liberal, and the transactions on change have not been heavy. On Tuesday's board 98½c was bid for No. 2 fall wheat, and \$1.02 for No. 1 spring, May delivery. Extra No. 3 barley was offered at 62c with 60c bid. In the street fall wheat ranged from 90c to 99c; spring 90c to 96c, and 80c to 82c for goose. Barley sold as low as 47c, 71c being the highest sales. Peas sold from 73c to 75c; rye 49c to 61c. The butter market was firm in choice lots, ranging from 20 to 22c. Poorer qualities were not much wanted. Meats were becoming more plentiful, and are quoted, long clear smoked, 12c; Cumberland cut, 10½c. Eggs were very scarce and sold at 25c to 26c.

On Wednesday there was no transactions worthy of note on the board. The street market was a fair one, but prices differed but little from those of Tuesday. Spring wheat sold from 90c to \$1, and goose 80c to 82c. Oats sold 40c to 41c. There was no change in the produce market worthy of note. Flour sold, superior-extra, \$4.40 to \$4.45.

Markets by Telegraph.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

TORONTO, Dec. 18.—The decline in stocks has been steady for several days, and a very depressed feeling has been general during the week. To-day there was a slight recovery, but the sales have been few, and the anxiety to sell very great. Closing bids were as follows: Montreal, 197½, sales 197½; Ontario 110, sales 110½; Toronto 170, sales 171; Merchants 119, sales 120½; Commerce 141; Imperial 139; Federal 153½; Dominion 194½; Standard 112½; North-west Land Company 46½; Manitoba Loan 118 bid.

Special to The Commercial.

TORONTO, Dec. 18th.—The downward tendency in produce of the past few days ended in a truly sick market to-day. Flour was inactive, dull and lower, Superior Extra being offered at \$4.30. Wheat was decidedly lower and very slow in sale. Closing sales were 90c for No. 2 fall, and No. 2 spring opened at 90c with 88c bid. Oats were quiet with a few sales at 39c to 40c. Barley was inactive, No. 1 spring scarce, 75c bid. Lower grades were not wanted and No. 2 was offered at 68c, extra No. 3 at 57c, and No. 3 at 49c. Peas were nominal at 72c to 73c. Rye was steady at 60c. Butter was firm, choice grades scarce and wanted at 19c to 21c. Medium grades slow and abundant, offerings at 15c to 16c. Eggs scarce and firm at 25c. Meats quiet. Round lots of long clear held at 11½c. Rolls sold at 12½c.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18th.—There was a sick market in grain to-day, and a general decline, corn faring worst. Pork recovered slightly but closed weak. Lard was inactive and lower. Closing quotations were:

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|------------------------|----------------|
| Wheat, December, 91½c, | January, 92½c. |
| Corn, " 48½c, | " 48½c. |
| Oats, " 34½c, | " 34½c. |
| Pork, " \$17.97½, | " \$17.97½. |
| Lard, " \$10.32½, | " \$10.42½. |

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 18.—There was a dull feeling in grain to-day. Buyers were determined on lower figures, while sellers held firm. Very little trading was done, and closing prices were: Wheat, No. 1 hard, 98 to 99c; No. 2 hard 94c to 95c; No. 1 94c to 96c; corn, No. 2 55c to 60c; rejected, 50c to 52c; oats, No. 2 white 36c to 37c; No. 2 mixed 35c to 36c. Flour, patents, \$6 to \$6.40; straights, \$5.25 to \$5.75.

Winnipeg General Hospital.

From the Secretary of the Winnipeg General Hospital has been forwarded to us an appeal to the public for aid for the institution, which we regret that we are unable to publish. There is probably no object in the North-west which calls more urgently for the contributions of the benevolent, and indeed no institution whose support is more necessary in a growing city like Winnipeg. At present the immigrant shed built by the Dominion Government is being used as a temporary hospital, and although it has capacity for only forty-five patients, over sixty are at present in its several wards. There is some difficulty felt in maintaining even this temporary institution, and the fact stares the citizens in the face that a permanent hospital for the city is an absolute necessity. A subscription of \$120 entitles the donor to a life right in the administration of the hospital affairs, and an annual subscription of \$10, confers similar privileges. There are hundreds in the city who could spare the latter sum, and never miss it, while they would have the satisfaction of assisting one of the most benevolent objects within their reach. We hope the appeal will be liberally responded to by the citizens.

On Thursday evening the most disastrous fire of the season took place. It broke out in a tinder-box known as the C. P. R. House, located on Main Street near the corner of Fonseca. The exact origin of the fire is not known, but from appearances it was probably the result of a lamp exploding. A few minutes was sufficient to envelop the building in flames, and the efforts of the Fire Brigade were powerless to save the adjoining building, the Johnson House, a brick vaneer structure. Both were soon reduced to ashes, and several buildings around were more or less damaged. The loss altogether is estimated at about \$30,000, only a small portion of which is covered by insurance.

A representative of the Chicago Times has been in the Lake of the Woods district during the past week looking up mining affairs, and in a conversation with a representative of THE COMMERCIAL, the gentleman in question stated that he would not be astonished if 20,000 men would be at work in mining operations there inside of two years.

A local daily is responsible for the statement that the great dry goods firm of Marshall, Field & Co., of Chicago have some idea of opening out a branch house in the new block opposite the Hudson's Bay stores on Main Street. We are not aware of how much truth there is in the statement, but it is not unlikely that Winnipeg should have attractions for such a firm.

THERE is a threatened trouble over the liquor question in Regina at present. The system of spies has been adopted to detect those selling liquor, and a general feeling of execration of this course is manifested by the residents of the place. This is only another proof of the folly of forcing a prohibitory liquor law upon a community against their will.