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TORONTO MARKET REVIEW

AND WEEKLY PRICE CURRENT.

VOL. III.

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T. G. M. COPPELL,

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57, FRONT STREET,
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COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

TORONTO. Thursday, Dec. 9, 1858.

To say that business generally, throughout the country, is in a depressed condition has been our task for a year or more, and we have not yet to change the tenor of our remarks. It is true there are individual instances of activity, even at this usually dull period of the year, but, as a whole, inactivity is the ruling characteristic of the times, and we fail yet to notice any decided improvement. There are, however, many indications pointing towards the desirable consummation. Our condition, as compared with that of this day twelve months is favourable, and instead of feeling disappointed or despairing we have rather cause for cheerfulness and congratulation that so terrible an experience has been so bravely borne, and that the crisis in the affairs of the country, which had become inevitable, has passed without much further injury. The past year has been one of trial and embarrassment, but its troubles are nearly over. The lessons that have been taught cannot be without a good effect; the present is not without its pleasant aspects, and the future looks promising. The trade of the country has come through a storm; the affairs of many have been in a dangerous condition, and nearly all engaged in trade have had a precarious year, and although we have not yet recovered we certainly are recovering from the disasters. The up moves slow—very slow, indeed—but the slowness is rather the result of the costly experiment of going too fast, than the lack of real energy or power. It is impossible to stand still; there must be a movement in some direction, and many circumstances indicate that the present direction is that towards improvement. The light importations of foreign merchandise this year is among the most favourable circumstances, and the general desire which has been evinced to live economically, is a still more pleasing indication. Many, too, are learning the lesson that there is more money made by keeping down expenses, than by selling largely with heavy expenditures. The check given to the credit system, and the general disposition manifested to sell and buy for cash, or to induce a very necessary degree of promptitude in the payment of liabilities, is also of importance. But there is nothing more promising than the gradual return of confidence; the manifest desire for the investment of money by capitalists and the general inclination to extend legitimate business. The restoration of confidence in the solvency and even honesty of business men, was the severest blow our commerce could receive, and nothing has so much contributed to the disasters of the year than this. It is peculiarly so in Canada where the trade is in such larger proportion to the capital, where the most important transactions are carried on at credit and where even the currency of the

country partakes of the same character. No more unfortunate event could occur than to destroy confidence, and nothing of greater importance can happen, than its gradual return. For not only will our own capitalists bring the powerful influence of their money to bear upon the general weal, and the banks become more liberal of their favours, but foreigners will be induced to invest their money here. The rates of interest current within the past year have been too high; an impression has been conveyed, that something must be radically wrong in the condition of the country where such enormous charges were submitted to,—enormous and exorbitant to those who had been accustomed in older countries to regard six per cent as an extreme limit, and anything beyond that unusual and wrong. If the poverty of the Province was to be all evidenced by the value of money, no country in the world could be poorer than Canada, and there were many circumstances unexplained and imaginary to those who regarded us from a distance, and who were unacquainted with the general condition of the Province, which had the effect of presenting this as an unfavourable field for the investment of capital. It has taken time to remove this impression, and it is only now that returning confidence both here and abroad, will result in placing us in the proper position—causing an enquiry to be instituted into the wealth and prospects of the country, and ultimately raising us in the estimation of those who desire to invest money. On the other hand, the large accumulation of money at all the great mercantile centres of the world, and the impossibility of investment at home, is an additional incentive to place money where it will command such rates as it will command here, provided that they can be persuaded that it can be done with safety. From these and other circumstances, it appears very probable that the growing tendency of the money market towards ease and plenty will soon, greatly accelerated by the addition of foreign capital, and that the whole condition of trade and commerce must, in consequence, undergo a great change for the better, until once more prosperity and wealth are the ruling features of our country.

So far as regards the present condition of the money market here, there is quite a change for the better. There is a large amount seeking investment, and although great caution is yet observed, there is a growing disposition to put it into circulation. Mortgages on city property, of the first class, and likely to be promptly paid, are sought for at ten per cent per annum. Mortgages on country property, farm, &c., cleared and improved, with good men, will find purchasers at 10 to 12 per cent per annum. Second-class mortgages, either in town or country, are freely offered, but do not meet ready buyers. Commercial paper, of undoubted character, and of short dates, is in demand at one and a-half and two per cent, per month. Stocks and securities are in good demand, and, within the past week, several descriptions have materially advanced in price. There is not, however, much disposition to sell, and higher rates only will induce transactions. Bank of Upper Canada stock has free buyers at 6 to 6 per cent discount; Toronto Gas Stock is sold at par; Gore Bank, 1½ discount; Bank of Toronto, 15 discount, at which there are buyers; City of Toronto debentures, ten years to run, ten per cent per annum discount. The books of the Commercial Bank are closed, and no transactions have taken place during the week. The Bank of Upper Canada declared a dividend of eight per cent yesterday.

The following are the winter rates of freight from Toronto to the points named per the Grand Trunk Railway:

	Flour, &c.,	Wheat,
From Toronto to	per barrel	per bushel.
Montreal.....	60c	1½c
Prescott.....	40c	12c
Quebec.....	90c	2½c
Portland.....	\$1.00	30c
Boston.....	\$1.05	3½c

THE PRODUCE TRADE.

TORONTO, Wednesday, December 8, 1858.

The Produce market during this week has not presented any new features. The supplies of produce have not been very large, but quite sufficient to fill the demand, which has not been brisk. The weather has been somewhat unsettled, and the state of the country roads has prevented many from coming to market. Prices generally have remained steady. For grain for exportation the market has not been very firm, and in the expectation of the close of navigation, buyers have not been anxious to buy. For articles of home use the usual demand has existed, with steady prices. Should clearing set in, or the roads at all improve, we might anticipate large supplies, which it is probable would have the effect of lowering prices.

WHEAT.—The demand for good wheat has been moderately brisk, and between buyers the competition has not been very active, sufficient, however, to keep prices up a good limit, without causing them to be exorbitant. There has not been, however, much firmness, and the demand has been a good deal regulated by the state of the weather, and the probable close of navigation. While we write the weather is mild, and there is but little prospect of immediate frost. Prices are consequently a shade firmer, but there is no knowing how long they may continue to rule as at present. Farmers must therefore depend on realizing present quotations, and we give them only to afford an indication of the market in its present condition. For good to prime shipping Fall wheat \$1 to \$1.15 (\$5.01 to \$5.93) per bushel is about the current figure, the latter being only paid in a few instances. On one occasion yesterday as high as \$1.20 was paid, but it is no criterion of the market. For ordinary and medium samples \$1.10 (\$5.60 to \$6.60) is paid, while for inferior \$50 a \$50 (\$5.30 to \$5.93) are the ruling rates. The average price for the whole deliveries of Tuesday would not be over \$1.09 (\$5.40) per bushel. The demand is still to supply orders from millers on the other side of the line, while a few purchases are made on speculation. There is no indication as to prices after the close of navigation, and dealers themselves do not yet appear to have made up their minds as to what course to adopt. One thing is pretty certain, that to pay the increased freights, or if they store, to remunerate them for the risk they run, and to afford a margin of profit in other markets, prices will have to touch a lower level, unless a very decided change takes place in the aspect of foreign markets, such as to warrant buyers to venture on the purchase of grain—an event which from present appearances does not seem at all probable. In the spring a different state of affairs may be presented, and farmers may possibly realize better prices, by holding their grain during the winter, but it is a great risk to run; and unless the owner is in a position independent of others, and risks no other interest beyond his own, it should not be incurred. Every man must, however, act for himself, and be guided by his own circumstances. We may rest assured that a remunerative price will be realized, and that for the whole crop, the producer of this year, the prices realized have been very favourable.

FLOUR.—The market for flour is essentially unchanged. The demand is perhaps more buoyant than last week, but the small supplies prevent transaction, and quotations remain nominal. Superfine \$1.25 to \$1.50, fancy \$1.75 to \$2, and extra \$5.10 to \$5.60 per barrel. On the whole the market is better and on side quotations, especially for superfine might be more easily realized for desirable lots.

STRONG WHEAT is in moderate request at 80c to 90c (\$4 to \$4.60) per bushel, with an unsold demand. Good supplies easily command the inside figure.

PASTRY is wanted at 70c to 75c (\$3.60 to \$3.90) per bushel, but very little is coming in.

Hay is in demand for the local distilleries at 70c to 75c (2s 6d to 3s 9d) per bushel. The supply is very limited.

Oats are very steady at 40c (2s) per bushel. Sometimes a slightly higher figure is realized, but this is about the current rate.

Pars are not much enquired for, and do not find a very ready sale at 55c to 60c (3s 9d to 4s) per bushel.

POTATOES are scarce, and good varieties bring 75c (2s 9d) per bushel; common 60c (3s 6d). The supply on some days is very small; and occasionally 60c (3s) has been realized, but this is the exception.

Apples.—Common up to 75c to \$1 (3s 9d to 5s) per bushel. By the barrel, very medium lots are paid at \$3 to \$3 50 per barrel.

BUTTER.—Fresh butter is more plentiful, and prices are lower, ranging from 17c to 20c (10d to 1s) per lb., with occasionally higher rates. Tub, of real No. 1 quality, is worth 16c (9d) per lb.—if No. 2 there is a large stock at 12c to 14c (7d to 8d) per lb.

CHEESE.—American Cheese is firm at 8c to 10c per lb., wholesale.

Eggs are scarce, and worth from 20c to 25c (1s to 1s 3d) per dozen.

POULTRY.—There continues to be a good supply of poultry, although not much in excess of the demand. Prices are steady at 1s 3d a 1s 6d per pair for Chickens, 1s 10d a 2s for Ducks. For plucked Geese 1s 10d a 2s each, and for Turkeys 2s 6d a 3s each are the current figures.

PORK.—For dressed pork there has been a very active demand; both for packing for home use and for shipment to Montreal. Prices have run high, and the market is very buoyant. For medium weights, say 20 lbs. \$5 a \$5 50 per 100 lbs. is paid and for very prime \$8 a \$8 25. In one or two instances as high as \$6 60 was paid, but the operation could not be repeated. The quality brought in thus far has been good, and we anticipate a good business in this department during the next few weeks. The freight to Montreal on dressed hogs is 40c per 100 lbs.

BEEF.—Slaughtered beef from farmers' wagons brings \$4 a \$4 75 per 100 lbs. for hind quarters, and \$3 for fore quarters. On foot there is but a small business doing in cattle, butchers buying very low, and reserving their funds for Christmas beef. First-class cattle are worth \$6, medium \$4, and inferior \$3 a \$3 50 per 100 lbs., allowing one-third for shrinkage.

Sheep are in good supply at \$3 a \$3 50 each. Lambs \$1 50 to \$2 each.

HAY is plentiful at \$9 a \$11 per ton. Straw \$7 a \$10 per ton, for the best.

Two 21c (1s 1d) per lb., with very little doing. Sheep Skins, fresh slaughtered \$1 a \$1 12s each. Beef Hides \$6 25 per 100 lbs. Calf Skins 6d per lb.

WOOD.—The supply on the market continues abundant. From \$3 to \$3 75 are the current rates for loads of hard wood. From the woodyards medium and good wood is delivered at \$4 25 a \$4 50 per cord.

The western markets for Pork have been very buoyant for some weeks past, and high rates are current. In Cincinnati hogs weighing from 150 to 200 lbs. are firm at \$6 25 a \$6 75 per 100 lbs., and for heavier \$7 and even \$7 25 has been paid. The most during operation of the past week was the purchase of 10,000 dressed hogs at \$6 75 per 100 lbs., to be delivered the first two weeks in January, averaging 200 lbs. In New York, corn-fed hogs are in brisk demand at \$7 25 a \$7 50, or 100 lbs.

The Grocery market at this point is without a change. Business is only moderate, and prices remain very steady. The salt purchases are about over and, except during the holidays, a quiet demand for all kinds of goods is anticipated. The New York Sugar market is slightly depressed, and prices slightly lower for some grades, but steady for Porto Rico and Cuba. The fruit market, especially for Malvern Raisins, continues firm but without material change in price. In other articles there is no change.

The Montreal markets are reported as follows:—Flour.—Our market is quite inactive and the holders of good flour are firm at our quotations, yet to make sales of any importance, a decline of 25c to 30c per barrel would have to be submitted to. The navigation is about closed, and the stock of flour is about 75,000 barrels. In wheat, corn, barley and oats, we have no important news to note.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, December 8, 1858.

Groceries.		Drugs—Continued.		Boots and Shoes—Continued.	
BLK.—Fig & lb.	\$0 09	@ \$0 10	Brimstone	190 00	@ \$5 50
Coffee—Java & lb.	0 19	@ 0 20	Bornx, refined	1 29	@ 0 22
Rio	0 00	@ 0 15	Camphor	0 45	@ 0 50
Liquaurya, i.	0 45	@ 0 25	Carb, Ammonia	0 19	@ 0 25
Do. Ronsted	0 19	@ 0 20	Castor Oil	0 23	@ 0 25
CANDLES—Belmont,			Chamomile	0 30	@ 0 40
& lb.	0 27	@ 0 40	Cochineal	1 50	@ 1 60
Belmont Sperin	0 40	@ 0 43	Coppers	2 00	@ 2 25
Adamantine	0 30	@ 0 31	Cream Tartar	0 39	@ 0 41
Wax	0 60	@ 0 63	Epsom Salts	0 04	@ 0 05
Toronto	0 13	@ 0 14	Gum Arabic	0 20	@ 0 50
Fish—Codfish & 100			Gum Benzin	0 60	@ 0 60
lbs.	4 25	@ 4 50	Hyd. Potash, Eng.	5 0	@ 6 00
Herrings, No. 1,			Indigo	0 75	@ 1 10
round	3 50	@ 4 40	Madder	0 16	@ 0 18
Mackerel, No. 3	7 50	@ 9 00	Magnesia	0 20	@ 0 25
Faun—Raisins, Mus-			Magnesia, calcined	0 45	@ 0 70
cate, & box	3 25	@ 3 50	OIL—Bergamot	4 60	@ 4 75
Layers, & box	3 50	@ 3 75	Cussia	6 50	@ 7 00
Valentias, & lb.	0 0	@ 0 12	Lemon	3 00	@ 3 25
Almonds, softs, &			Peppermint	2 50	@ 4 00
lb.	0 14	@ 0 22	Opium—Turkey	7 09	@ 7 50
Currents, & lb.	0 11	@ 0 12	Oxalic Acid	5 00	@ 8 00
Nathus, & lb.	0 12	@ 0 12	Quicksilver	0 90	@ 0 00
Filberts, & lb.	0 10	@ 0 12	Rhubarb	1 50	@ 2 00
INDIGO—Madras,			Salipetre, & cwt.	14 50	@ 15 00
lb.	0 90	@ 1 10	Soda Ash	4 20	@ 0 00
liquors, &c., & gal.			Sal Soda	0 00	@ 3 50
Brandy, Hennessy & 3 75	@ 4 00		Sarsaparilla, & lb.	0 50	@ 0 60
Brutally, Martelli's, 3 75	@ 4 00		Senna, Alex.	0 23	@ 0 30
DeKuyter's Gin	1 60	@ 1 65	Senna, E. I.	0 18	@ 0 20
Jamaica Rum, 16 op.	1 75	@ 1 80	Sugar Lead, & lb.	0 18	@ 0 20
Domestic Whiskey	0 26	@ 0 30	Sulph. Quinine	2 25	@ 2 50
Hug. Porter qt. doz.	2 35	@ 2 65	NAVAL STORES.		
MUSTARD—& gal.	0 37	@ 0 40	Rosin, & brl.	3 50	@ 4 00
Liquerique Syrup	0 42	@ 0 60	Tar	5 00	@ 6 00
MURKIN—Coleman's			Pitch	5 00	@ 5 50
& brl.	0 26	@ 0 27	Manilla, & lb.	0 12	@ 0 00
Toronto, & lb.	0 17	@ 0 24	OILS.		
RICE—East India, &			OIL—Cod, & gal.	0 65	@ 0 70
100 lbs.	4 00	@ 4 25	Olive	1 50	@ 1 60
Carolina	4 50	@ 5 10	Salad, cases, piuts.	4 50	@ 6 00
SPICES—Cussia	0 40	@ 0 45	Do. qnts.	4 25	@ 5 00
Cloves	0 20	@ 0 25	Elephant	1 00	@ 1 05
Nutmegs	0 95	@ 1 10	Whale, Spring	0 95	@ 1 00
Pepp.	0 15	@ 0 16	Whale, Winter	6 00	@ 9 00
Pimento	0 14	@ 0 15	Seal	0 95	@ 1 05
SOAP—Toronto	0 04	@ 0 05	Sperm	2 00	@ 2 20
Liverpool	0 06	@ 0 06	Lard, Winter	1 00	@ 1 30
Parson's Palm	0 00	@ 0 05	Lined, Eng.	1 00	@ 1 05
Castle	0 12	@ 0 12	Do. Boiled	1 03	@ 1 10
STARCH—Glenfield	0 00	@ 0 17	Palm, & lb.	0 12	@ 0 13
Toronto	0 09	@ 0 10	PAINTS.		
SUGAR—Porto Rico			White Lead, No. 1,		
bright, & 100 lbs.	9 25	@ 9 60	& cwt.	11 00	@ 12 00
Do. medium	9 10	@ 9 25	White Lead, prime	12 00	@ 12 50
Cuba, bright	9 25	@ 9 50	Red Lead, No. 1,		
Cuba, dark	8 50	@ 8 75	English	10 50	@ 11 00
Yellow Refined	10 00	@ 10 25	Zinc White Paint,		
Lonf, & lb.	0 14	@ 0 15	Am., & 100 lbs.	11 00	@ 12 00
Crushed A, & lb.	0 13	@ 0 13	Whiting	1 25	@ 1 50
Powdered	0 13	@ 0 14	Varnish, furniture, &		
Granulated	0 14	@ 0 14	gal.	2 00	@ 3 00
Yellow Refined X.	0 12	@ 0 13	Varnish, No. 2	2 00	@ 2 50
MANUFACTURED TO-			Do. Coachbody	3 00	@ 5 00
EACCO—No. 1, 5's			Do. Asphaltum	1 75	@ 2 00
and 10's.	0 27	@ 0 30	Do. Damar	2 25	@ 3 00
Medium do.	0 25	@ 0 27	Turpentine	0 80	@ 0 90
Common do.	0 00	@ 0 25	Putty, in bladders, &		
Half pound lumps	0 32	@ 0 40	cwt.	4 50	@ 5 00
Pound lumps	0 40	@ 0 65	Plaster and Lime		
VINEGAR—Bordeaux			Land—Grey, & brl.	1 00	@ 0 00
& gal.	0 53	@ 0 60	White	1 25	@ 0 00
Am. White Wine	0 22	@ 0 25	Boiled Stucco	3 60	@ 4 00
Toronto	0 23	@ 0 25	Lime, common, & brl.	0 40	@ 0 00
HARWARE.			Water Lime	1 50	@ 0 00
Scotch Bar Iron, &			SALT.		
ton.	80 00	@ 0 00	Fine Common, & brl.	1 55	@ 1 60
Scotch Refined	90 00	@ 0 00	Sacks, & 14 lbs.	0 13	@ 0 14
Boiler Plate	100 00	@ 0 00	Fine Dairy salt, & brl.	0 00	@ 3 00
Sheet Iron	1 00	@ 0 00	Leather.		
Hoop	90 00	@ 0 00	Spanish Sole, & 100 lbs.	34 00	@ 35 00
Pig Iron	36 00	@ 0 00	Slaught. Sole	28 00	@ 30 00
Best Spring Steel, &			Harness	27 90	@ 30 00
cwt.	10 00	@ 0 00	Upper, & lb.	0 45	@ 0 50
Charcoal Tin Plates			Calf, Canadian	0 10	@ 0 90
J. C. & box	12 60	@ 0 00	Calf, French	1 00	@ 1 10
Charcoal Tin Plates, I. X.	13 50	@ 0 00	Kip	0 45	@ 0 65
Shoe, & cwt.	9 50	@ 10 00	Skirting, & 100 lbs.	0 60	@ 0 00
Powder, Blasting, &			Hides	6 00	@ 6 25
key.	6 00	@ 0 00	Sheepskins, each	0 65	@ 0 75
Do. FFF	7 00	@ 0 00	Calf-skins, & lb.	0 10	@ 0 00
Sheet Lead	11 00	@ 0 00	Boots and Shoes.		
Axes, & box	11 00	@ 14 00	Men's Thick and Kip		
Canada Plates	5 50	@ 3 00	Boots, & pair	2 50	@ 3 00
Cu Nails, & cwt.	4 30	@ 4 60	Men's Cali Boots	3 00	@ 3 50
Wrought Nails, & lb.	0 09	@ 0 10	Women's Cali Foxed		
Spikes, & kg.	6 50	@ 7 00	Gaiters	1 20	@ 1 40
ALOES—Cape, & lb.	0 20	@ 0 25	Boys' Thick Boots	1 60	@ 2 00
Socotrine	0 60	@ 0 70	Youths' do.	1 20	@ 1 60
Alum	0 01	@ 0 05	Women's Prunella		
Arrowroot, Bermuda	0 53	@ 0 60	Gaiters	1 20	@ 1 50
Aspidoflora	0 35	@ 0 40	Women's Calf & Kip		
Balsam of Capabia	0 70	@ 0 70	Lace Boots	1 15	@ 1 30
Bi-Car. Soda, & cwt.	6 66	@ 7 00	Women's Enamelled		
Bleaching Powder	4 20	@ 0 00	J. L. Boots	1 20	@ 1 30
			Women's Enamelled		
			J. L. Bushbus	0 80	@ 1 20

Boots and Shoes—Continued.	
Women's Kid Slip-	pers
Misses' Calf Lace	90 @ 1 15
Boots	90 @ 1 15
Misses' Enamelled	Polka Boots
Polka Boots	0 80 @ 1 00
Misses' Prunella Gui-	ters
Children's Calf Lace	1 00 @ 1 15
Boots	0 60 @ 0 75
Children's Enamelled	Lace Boots
Lace Boots	0 40 @ 0 70
Men's Rubbers	0 80 @ 0 85
Women's du	0 60 @ 0 65
Children's do	0 45 @ 0 50
Lumber.	
Common, & M.	7 00 @ 9 00
Clear	14 00 @ 16 00
Siding	9 00 @ 10 00
Flooring, dressed	22 00 @ 28 00
Do. rough	10 00 @ 12 00
Joist, 18 feet and up-	wards
wards	8 60 @ 11 00
Oto Rose, & oz.	5 00 @ 8 00
Oxalic Acid, & lb.	0 27 @ 0 00
Quicksilver	0 90 @ 0 00
Magnesia, calcined	0 45 @ 0 70
OIL—Bergamot	4 60 @ 4 75
Cussia	6 50 @ 7 00
Lemon	3 00 @ 3 25
Peppermint	2 50 @ 4 00
Opium—Turkey	7 09 @ 7 50
Oxalic Acid	5 00 @ 8 00
Quicksilver	0 90 @ 0 00
Magnesia, calcined	0 45 @ 0 70
Grain.	
Wheat, Fall, & 60 lbs.	1 00 @ 1 15
Do. Spring	0 65 @ 0 90
Barley, & 48 lbs.	0 70 @ 0 75
Rye, & 60 lbs.	0 70 @ 0 75
Oats, & 34 lbs.	0 40 @ 0 42
Corn, & 56 lbs.	0 65 @ 0 70
Pens, & 60 lbs.	0 65 @ 0 65
Wheat, Fall, & bush 1 12½	@ 1 23
Flour, &c.	
Extra, & brl.	5 00 @ 5 50
Fancy	4 75 @ 5 00
Superfine	4 25 @ 5 00
Oatmeal	5 50 @ 6 00
Cornmeal, No. 1, kilo	
dried	4 00 @ 4 25
Cornmeal, not dried	4 25 @ 5 25
Pot Barley, & brl.	5 25 @ 6 25
Bran, & ton.	10 00 @ 10 50
Shorts, & 100 lbs.	0 80 @ 1 00
Freights.	
BY GRAND TRUNK R.R.	
FLOUR to Montreal, &	0 10