



Commercial.

MARKET REPORT.

PRODUCE MARKET.

These quotations are for Portland. The following represent wholesale rates from producers or first hands. WHEAT—Valley, \$1.05; Valley, \$1.04 1/2 per cental. FLOUR—\$4.25 to \$4.30, standard; superfine, \$5.

BARLEY—\$1.10 @ 1.20. OATS—30 @ 35. CRACKONS—7 1/2 to \$1 per cwt. MIDDLES—\$20 to 23; shorts, \$18. HAY—\$14 to 16. BACON—Sides, firm 14 @ 15; Hams 14 @ 15; Shoulders, 10 @ 11 1/2. LARD—Eastern, 11 1/2 @ 12; Oregon, in tins, 12 @ 13; in half barrels, 12 @ 13. CHEESE—Cal., 16; Oregon, 17 @ 18. HONEY—In comb, 18 @ 20; strained, in 5 lb tins, 10 @ 11.

APPLES—25 @ 40 per box. DRIED FRUITS—Apples, sun dried quartered, 8; sliced, 14; machine dried, firm, 10; Pears, machine dried, 10; Plums, sun dried, 8; and machine dried, 13. EGGS—35. POULTRY—Chickens, \$2.50 to 3.00; turkeys, 13 to 14, live weight. POTATOES—30 @ 75c per cwt. BUTTER—23 @ 30c. HOGS—Live weight, 5 1/2; ditto fat, 6 1/2; dressed, 6 @ 7.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE. RICE—China No. 2, 5 1/2; Sandwich Islands, 4 @ 6 1/2. TEAS—Japan, 36 @ 40; Black, 40 @ 75c. COFFEE—Costa Rica 12 @ 15c; Java, 20 @ 25. SUGARS—Crushed A 9 1/2 @ 10 1/2; C & S, in barrels, 8 1/2 in halves; Dry Granulated 9 @ 9 1/2. SYRUP—Five gallons 70c. RAISINS—California, \$2.75 @ \$3.25 @ 25 lb box. CANDLES—12 @ 15c. SOAPS—Good, 75 @ 8 1/2.

COMMERCIAL.

PORTLAND, Nov. 20th, 1884. The weather has been rather pleasant for November. The rains of last week interfere some with farm work but there has not yet been rain enough to soak the sub-soil and fill up wells dug on the upland. The wheat market slowly goes down with no show for immediate improvement. The highest figure for our wheat is 32s 6d for Walla Walla and 34s to 34s 6d for valley, on English orders, which is lower than ever was known and a decline of 2s per quarter of 500 pounds since October 1st. Fortunately, tonnage has become cheaper to correspond. A month or six weeks ago, good iron vessels were held at 50c per ton; now they can be chartered at 40s, which is no doubt less than cost for them. Wheat was as low as it could go when the English markets dropped tonnage had to come down to make the difference. It seems as if the bottom has dropped out of the wheat market, and, unhappily, there is no indication that matters will soon improve. When we were East, in Dakota, Minnesota and Illinois, two weeks ago, we learned that prices at Chicago and this side of there correspond almost exactly with quotations at Portland and the interior. Corn sustains a fair price and pays this year much better than wheat in those States. The present quotations for wheat at Portland are \$1.10 to \$1.12 per cental for valley and \$1.02 to \$1.05 for Walla Walla, being the same rates as have prevailed. Oats command 30 to 35 cents per bushel according to quality. Potatoes are very abundant at 25 cents per bushel. Onions are 75c to \$1.00 per cwt, and sell by the jobbers at \$1.25 per sack of 110 to 115 pounds. Cabbage is no sale, we cannot get a quotation named because the country is overstocked at the present time. Apples are worth 25c to 40c per bushel and the buyer furnishes the box. Boxes containing 60 to 65 pounds sell for 75c. Lady apples are 50 to 75c per bushel, boxed. Pears are worth 50 to 60c per bushel and Mr. E. S. Larson informs us he sells choice at 75c to \$1.25 per box.

Beans range from 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c for the different varieties. Chickens are much lower than formerly, probably because of the low price of wheat. Anyhow they sell in Portland at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per dozen. Turkeys bring 13c to 14c per pound live weight. Clover seed 15 to 16c; timothy, 4 to 5c. Butter—Choice dairy rolls bring 30c and ordinary farm product ranges from 15 to 25c per lb. Quality tells very exactly in regard to butter. Eggs are rather firm at 35c and 37 1/2c has been paid of late for some lots. Pork—Good hogs have sold at 6 to 7c. Bacon sides, choice, 14c; country cured hams, 14 to 15c; ditto shoulders, 10 to 11c; lard, 11 1/2 to 12c.

The Salem markets are as follows: Oats, 25 @ 28c; wheat, white, 52 1/2c; red, 50c per bushel; potatoes 20 @ 25c per bushel; butter, 20 @ 25c; eggs, 30c and upward, scarce; chickens, \$3 @ \$4, and full supply; fresh pork, 5 @ 6c; net weight; hams, 13 @ 14c; shoulders, 8 @ 9c; lard, 13 @ 14c.

The Hop Market.

The California Grocer and Canner reviews this question carefully and takes the ground that the producer is being ill used by the buyer and is not receiving anything like a fair price for his product. It asserts that the harvested crop in England is only half a fair yield, and 120,000 cwt. short of last year. Last year it was said Germany would have 50,000 bales for export, but had only 10,000, and will not have more this year. New York has 45,000 bales short of last year. The Pacific coast was put down at 75,000 bales, but owing to various causes thousands of bales were spoiled in Oregon and Washington, so the crop cannot exceed 60,000 bales. For twenty-five years back stocks of yearlings have never been so short as now. While this is true, misstatements are being made against growers, stating that hops are plenty and prices must rule lower. Dealers want to buy the crop at prices far below value. This statement is plain, and if the figures given are correct, its conclusions cannot be denied. If hop growers have not yet sold their crop it will be worth their while to hold on to it and see what the result will be.

We quote above what they say about hops. They assert that the world is short of hops and that the scarcity will insure a good price before the season is much older. This week we visited the warehouse of Messrs. Pope & Redding, this city; they have a thousand bales stored and expect to have five hundred more soon. These gentlemen have taken great interest in the hop trade and intend in future to devote themselves more especially to it. We are surprised to learn that not over 500 bales of Oregon hops have yet been sold, and the same is true of Washington Territory. This season has witnessed heavy yields being very propitious until rains came in picking time and caused both loss and damage. Lane county only saved 1,000 out of 1,400 in her hop yards, because help could not be had to pick them before they spoiled. The yield has been large, some yards in Marion county, near Butteville, gave 3,000 lbs per acre, and some yards in Lane county gave 2,800 lbs to the acre. The average yield in Lane county was 1,500 lbs and at Butteville, Marion county, 1,600 was realized per acre. The total yield of hops on this coast was for 1884, about as follows: Oregon, (bales)..... 10,000 Washington, (bales)..... 10,000 California, (bales)..... 30,000

California grows the best article as her Russian river hops are equal to the very best known in Europe. The product of the coast stands well, though only one-half of the crop of Oregon and Washington ranks as choice with fifteen per cent. good, fifteen per cent. fair, and one-fifth of all are inferior. Choice hops should be worth 18c to 19c; good, 17c to 18c; fair, 16 to 16 1/2c; and inferior will range from 10c to 15c, less cost of storage and 5 per cent. commission. The market is dull and prices nominal; there was a slight improvement early in November that is now lost, but may be regained any day. The highest offering price is 15c to 16c and only nominal, but those well posted assert that choice hops should bring 17 to 18c. The trouble is that buyers know that many growers are embarrassed and must soon pay back advances they have received and they wait to take advantage of the needs of such men. The fact of the matter is that while there is no actual scarcity to the extent some assert England will require 150,000 to 200,000 bales. While those interested and well informed do not look for any great advance they think the

present offering price below the actual value of the crop. It is said that a shrewd buyer from Milwaukee came to Oregon and made his way to the hop yards up the valley and by placing the prospects of the trade in a serious light secured some large lots from growers at 15c. This set a value which has not since been improved. We have found it very difficult to procure reliable information concerning the hop market and have this week taken pains to gather up all the points we could for the benefit of our friends in the trade. As the old stocks and the nearest of the new stocks wear off we may look for improvement in prices.

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