LOSS IN THE VISIBLE

CHICAGO WHEAT BRACED BY A SHRINKAGE IN THE WORLD'S SUPPLY.

PRICE WAS BELOW EIGHTY.

ON THE REACTION MAY CLOSED WITH A FRACTIONAL NET GAIN.

OPENING TRADES HEAVY IN TONE.

Weak Cables Largely Influential in Shaping the Early Sentiment of the Pit.

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—Wheat was today converted from an apparently hopelessly weak market to a strong oe by the largen world's visible supply decrease. May closed ¼@⅜c higher than yesterday's final figures, after having sold over a cent below that. Corn advanced 1⅛c, and oats did not change, provisions advancing 2½@5c. May opened at from ⅜c to ⅝c below the price it closed at the day before. The opening range of prices, simultaneously paid in different parts of the pit was from 80c to 80¼c, with the bulk of the transactions at the lower figures. The opening London and Liverpool markets were heavy in tone at somewhat reduced prices, and these were the chief sources of the weak feeling which started trading here. The fact that stocks in Europe and afloat increased over 10,000,000 bushels last month was also a factor, and the decline which started with the opening continued till May touched 79½c. When the sentiment changed, and the tone of the market gradually improved up to the time of the receipt of Bradstreet's visible supply statement, which was expected to be bullish and justified such anticipations. The day's statistics also furnished some encouragement. The Chicago receipts were 53 cars, compared with 207 on the corresponding day of last year; Minneapolis and Duluth got 482 cars, against 1,239 a year ago. The Atlantic port clearances of wheat and flour were equal to 475,000 bushels. A telegram from St. Louis said that one-fifth of all the No. 2 red wheat there had been sold in the last twenty-four hours. The Bradstreet's figures were a total decrease in world's stocks of 4,947,000. On receipt of that the price, which meanwhile had crept up to 80⅜c, rose to 80⅝@80¾c, and after a slight reaction to 80½c, it took a second spurt as high as 81c before the effect of the big reduction in the world's visible exhausted itself. Closing cables showed general declines. The market, however, held its advance well. May finally closed steady at 80¾@80⅞c.

There was an ususually large trade in corn. It was accompanied by no excitement and prices kept within a narrow range, being governed almost entirely by the variations in wheat. May started ⅛c lower, at 26c. It sold between 26¼c and 25⅞c, and closed steady at 26⅛@26¼c. At the opening oats were steady and remained so until the professional talent from wheat and corn came into the market, and by free selling caused prices to decline, and a weak feeling to exist. Later, however, under liberal buying, and to some extent through sympathy with wheat there occurred a reaction, which recovered the early loss a slight fraction in the bargain. May opened a shade lower at 21¼c, declined to 21c, recovered to 21⅜c, closing steady at 21¼@21⅜c. Trading in provisions as usual was quiet, but prices were steady and changed but little, opening prices being slightly higher, helped by a firm live stock market. This was also the incentive for the good buying which followed, and which held prices steady throughout the session. May pork closed 5c higher at $7.95. May lard 2½c higher at $4.10. May ribs 2½c higher, at $4.02½. Estimates: Wheat, 18; corn, 250; oats, 207; hogs, 38,000.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Wheat—				
December	77	77¾	76½	77½
May	80¼	81	79½	80⅞
July	74¼	75⅛	74	75⅛
Corn—				
December	22⅞	22⅞	22⅞	22⅞
January	23¼	23¼	23⅛	23¼
May	26	26¼	25⅞	26¼
Oats—				
December	18⅛	18⅛	18⅛	18⅛
May	21¼	21¾	21	21⅜
Pork—				
December	6 75	6 80	6 75	6 80
January	7 60	7 62½	7 57½	7 62½
May	7 95	7 95	7 87½	7 95
Lard—				
December	.....	.....	.....	3 72½
January	3 57½	3 87½	3 85	3 87½
May	4 10	4 10	4 05	4 10
Ribs—				
December	.....	.....	.....	3 87½
January	3 87½	3 87½	3 82½	3 87½
May	4 00	4 05	3 97½	4 02½

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour—June, 10c lower. Wheat—No. 2 spring, 77½@77¾c; No. 2 red, 89¾@90¼c. Corn—No. 2, 23½@23¼c. Oats—No. 2, 18½c; No. 2 white, f. o. b., 22@22½c; No. 3 white, 18@19½c. Rye—No. 2, 39c. Barley—No. 2, nominal; No. 3, f. o. b., 25@35c; No. 4, f. o. b., 23@27c. Flaxseed—No. 1, 77@79c. Timothy Seed—Prime, $2.60. Mess Pork—Per bbl, $6.85@6.90. Lard—Per 100 lbs, $3.77@3.80. Short Ribs—Sides (loose), $3.73@3.95. Shoulders—Dry salted (boxed), 4¼@4½c. Sides—Short clear (boxed), 4@4½c. Whisky—Distillers' finished goods, per gal, $1.18. Receipts—Flour, 10,000 bbls; wheat, 20,000 bu; corn, 207,000 bu; oats, 334,000 bu; rye, 5,000 bu; barley, 88,000 bu. Shipments—Flour, 7,000 bbls; wheat, 131,000 bu; corn, 37,000 bu; rye, 202,000 bu; rye, 1,000 bu; barley, 27,000 bu. On the produce exchange today the butter market was steady; creamery, 15@23c; dairy, 10@19c. Cheese steady, 8½@9c. Eggs steady; fresh, 22c.

MINNEAPOLIS GRAIN.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—The weakness shown in wheat in Liverpool and London was not a surprise to local operators this morning. They came down prepared for it and felt rather disappointed because cables were no weaker after our pronounced weakness of yesterday. First prices for May were off ⅜c to ½c, as compared with yesterday, and proved to be the top price for the morning session. Trading was rather light, and so far as could be learned purely local in character, with operators following the ups and downs recorded in Chicago and New York.

The bull feeling is gradually oozing out, and those who were bullish at 5c higher are now talking of another decline of 5c before Christmas. The domestic cash demand is moderating and foreign demand very light and likely to be till after the advent of the new year. Foreigners have bought enormous quantities to go forward and generally feel that wants are fully cared for, for the next month or six weeks at least. The news of the day was generally bearish in tone save the large clearances from the seaboard and Argentine advices regarding a poor yield and a very light surplus for export. Advices from India are a trifle more favorable for the growing crops. It is said, however, that speculation still continues there and prices appreciating daily, thus aggravating the situation there. San Francisco reports that prices are declining there owing to a more moderate demand, but that two cargoes have been worked for Australia at the decline; also that one cargo which cleared for India had received orders to proceed to Chili instead. Among other statistics this morning we find that the amount of wheat and flour in Europe afloat and in this country is practically the same as last year, viz.: 89,000,000 bushels. New York advised that houses having English and continental connections were free sellers of futures this morning, and that Liverpool longs were also unloading upon their fellows. The world's visible is expected to show a decrease of 1,500,000 bushels today. Last year the decrease was only 475,000 bushels.

Clearances from the Atlantic seaboard today aggregated 519,000 bushels, largely composed of flour. This makes a little over two million bushels for the past three days from the four ports alone. It also points to a very large total for the week and a corresponding large decrease in our visible.

May wheat opened at 79c, against 79¾-⅛c yesterday's close, sold at 78⅝-¾, firmed up to 78⅞c, declined to 78½c, gained ⅛c, lost ¼c, advanced to 78⅝-¾c, sold down to 78⅜c, firmed up to 78½-⅝c, again sold at 78⅜-½c, advanced to 78¾c, lost ⅛c, firmed up to 79c and lost ⅛c by noon.

The demand for cash wheat was very good, but at prices not quite satisfactory to holders. Buyers were inclined to force the price down to 1½c under May price, whereas for some days past the difference has been only ¾ to 1c. Holders, however, were firm and as far as could be learned very little of any actually sold at the difference asked. Sales were made as per statement below. Receipts here were 306 cars; shipments, 44 cars.

Bradstreet's report showing a decrease of 4,947,000 bushels in the world's visible supply caused the market to rally a little shortly after 12 o'clock. Liverpool reported January wheat a little stronger; balance unchanged. Australian government asking California the price of seed wheat is the latest. December wheat closed at 77½c and May at 79¾@79½.

RANGE OF PRICE.

Wheat—	Opening.	High-est.	Low-est.	Closing Yes.	Closing Mon.
May	79	79½	78⅝	79½	79½
December	76⅝	77½	76⅝	77½	77½

On Track—No. 1 hard, 79c; No. 1 northern, 77¾c; No. 2 northern, 76¼c; December oats, 18c; flaxseed, 72c.

Curb on May wheat	79⅜
Puts on May wheat	78¾
Calls on May wheat	80⅜

SAMPLE SALES.

No. 1 northern, 38 cars	77¼
No. 1 northern, 9 cars	77
No. 1 northern, 17 cars	77⅛
No. 1 northern, 15 cars	77½
No. 1 northern, 4,200 bu, to arrive	77½
No. 1 northern, 600 bu, to arrive	77
No. 1 northern, 600 bu, to arrive	77½
No. 1 northern, 700 bu, to arrive	77⅝
No. 2 northern, 21 cars	75¾
No. 2 northern, 7 cars	76
No. 2 northern, 4 cars	75½
No. 2 northern, 2 cars	75⅝
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	74¾
No. 3 wheat, 1 car, choice	74½
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	70
No. 3 wheat, 2 cars	70
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	72
No 3 wheat, 1 car	72
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	72
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	73
No. 3 wheat, 1 car	71
Rejected wheat, 1 car, 2 lbs off	73½
Rejected wheat, 1 car, 2 lbs off	65
Rejected wheat, 1 car, 2 lbs off	62
Rejected wheat, 1 car, 2 lbs off, frosted	57
Rejected wheat, 1 car, 2 lbs off, frosted	58
No grade wheat, 2 cars, 2 lbs off	73
No grade wheat, 1 car, 2 lbs off	73½
No grade wheat, 1 car, 2 lbs off	75
No grade wheat, 1 car, 5 lbs off	72
No grade wheat, 1 car, 3 lbs off	70
No. 3 yellow corn, 1 car	21
No grade corn, 2 cars, wet	19
No. 3 oats, 4 cars	17
No. 3 oats, 5 cars	17¼
No. 3 white oats, 1 car	17¼
No. 3 white oats, 2 cars	17½
No. 2 rye, 1 car, to arrive	35½
No. 3 rye, 1 car	33½
No. 3 rye, 1 car	34½
No. 3 barley, 1 car	23½

FLOUR.

Flour—The flour market showed a little better tone today, the demand being better. The enormous shipments from the seaboard also helped to inspire a hope for better inquiry.

First patents	$4.40@4.60
Second patents	3.70@4.20
First clears	2.00@3.00
Second clears	2.25@....
Export bakers	2.75@2.95
Second export bakers	2.40@2.50
Red dog, per ton, 140 lbs, jute	10.00@10.50

Following quotations are in cotton sacks, 98 and 49 lbs:

Rye flour, per bbl, pure	$2.15 2.35
Rye flour, XXX, per bbl	2.00@2.10
Rye flour, standard, per bbl	1.90@2.00
Buckwheat flour, per bbl	3.25@3.50
Graham, flour, per bbl	2.00@2.85

BRAN, SHORTS AND COARSE GRAINS.

Washburn, Crosby & Co. quote as follows today:

Bran in bulk	$4.50@ 5.00
Bran in bulk, 200-lb sacks	5.50@ 6.00
Bran in bulk, 100-lb sacks	6.00@ 6.50
Shorts in bulk	4.75@ 5.00
Middlings in bulk	7.75@ 8.00
Red dog, in 40-lb sacks	11.25@11.50

Domestic markets continue very quiet. The East refuses to buy at the advanced prices, caused by closed navigation. The Western demand is very limited. This, however, has no influence on prices, as there is a good export trade.

Corn—No. 3 yellow, 21c.	
Oats—No. 2, 17@17¼c; No. 3 white oats quoted at 17½c.	
Rye—Quoted at 35½c for No. 2, and 33½@34½c for No. 3.	
Barley—No. 3 sold at 23½c; No. 4, 20¼@22c	

Feed Reported by the Diamond Elevator and Milling company:

Quiet; little better demand.

Coarse meal and cracked corn, sacks, per ton, sacks extra	$8.75
No. 1 ground feed, 2-3 corn, 1-3 oats, 80-lb sacks	9.00
No. 2 ground feed, ½ corn, ½ oats, 75-lb sacks	9.25
No. 3 ground feed, 2-3 oats, 70-lb sacks	9.50
Spring wheat bran	$5.00@ 5.25

STATE GRAIN INSPECTION.

Railroads.	No. 1 hd.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	Rjd.	NG
	Northern.					
G. N.—B. Div.	..	121	16	3	8	4
G. N.—F F Div	..	7	2	1	1	..
C., M. & St. P.	..	275	83	3	2	14
M. & St. L.	..	95	4	1	1	9
Sco Line	1	77	2	..	..	..
Nor. Pacific	..	13	1	..	..	..
C. S. P. M. & O.	..	109	40	5	7	17
Total	1	697	148	13	19	44

Other Grains—No. 3 corn, 8 cars; No. 4 corn, 10 cars; no grade corn, 10 cars; No. 2 oats, 1 car; No. 3 oats, 58 cars; no grade oats, 1 car; No. 2 rye, 6 cars; No. 3 rye, 5 cars; No. 3 barley, 2 cars; No. 4 barley, 10 cars; no grade barley, 1 car; No. 1 flax, 12 cars; rejected flax, 4 cars; no grade flax, 2 cars.

Cars Inspected Out—Wheat, No. 1 northern, 161 cars; No. 2 northern, 8 cars; rejected, 2 cars; No. 2 rye, 2 cars.

WHEAT MOVEMENT.

	Receipts.	Shipments.
New York	42,550	17,970
Philadelphia	4,160	27,307
Baltimore	63,237	121,600
Toledo	175,227	4,700
Detroit	10,541	837
St. Louis	13,701	78,340
Boston	26,460	55,930
Chicago	20,150	131,237
Milwaukee	49,050	4,975
Duluth	57,462	86,256
Minneapolis	226,440	29,900
Kansas City	14,400	10,800

RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.

Receipts—Wheat, 226,440 bu; corn, 2,520 bu; oats, 26,750 bu; barley, 1,460 bu; rye, 1,300 bu; flax, 3,900 bu; flour, 560 bbls; millstuffs, 10 tons; hay, 126 tons; fruit, 228,870 lbs. merchandise, 1,705,210 lbs; lumber, 14 cars; barrel stock, 8 cars; machinery, 88,400 lbs; coal, 2,005 tons; wood, 716 cords; brick, 32,000; live stock, 2 cars; dressed meats, 71,980 lbs; hides, 45,370 lbs; sundries, 12 cars; car lots, 752.

Shipments—Wheat, 29,920 bu; oats, 9,680 bu; rye, 1,680 bu; flax, 680 bu; flour, 43,533 bbls; millstuffs, 1,325 tons; fruit, 280,800 lbs; merchandise, 1,425,440 lbs; lumber, 29 cars; barrel stock, 2 cars; coal, 15 tons; railroad materials, 5 cars; sundries, 10 cars; car lots, 599.

DULUTH GRAIN.

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 8.—The mills at the head of the lakes produced 83,215 bbls of flour last week and shipped 80,445, leaving the stocks on hand 39,250. Every mill is shut down now, and they are not likely to start up before the holidays, although one or two might possibly make a few days' run. The railroad stocks are exhausted. They received 26,200 bu last week and shipped 115,785 bu.

The market opened today at 81c on lower cables and sold down to 80⅝c. Bradstreet's report a little later gave it strength and it advanced to 81½c, closing with that price bid. Cash sales were 40,000 bu, the mills taking 20,000 bu.

The close: Cash No. 1 hard, 80c; No. 1 northern, 78½c; No. 2 northern, 76c; No. 3 spring, 72¼@73¼c; rejected, 60@70c. To arrive: No. 1 hard, 80c; No. 1 northern, 78½c. December, No. 1 hard, 80c; No. 1 northern, 78½c; May No. 1 northern, 81½c bid.

Receipts wheat, 57,462 bu; shipments, 86,256 bu. Cars inspected, 176; last year, 799. Receipts—Corn, none; oats, 18,518 bu; rye, 9,123 bu; barley, 14,244 bu; flax, 5,611 bu. Oats close, 19½@18c; rye, 37c; flax, 75½c; May, 80c.

Cash sales were as follows: 2 cars No. 1 hard, 79½c; 1 car No. 1 northern, 79⅜c; 15,000 bu No. 1 northern, 78⅝c; 8,500 bu No. 1 northern, 78¾c; 7,500 bu No. 1 northern, 78½c; 5 cars No. 1 northern, 78c; 1 car No. 1 northern, 77¾c; 1 car No. 2 northern, 76¾c; 2 cars No. 2 northern, 75½c; 2,400 bu No. 3 spring, 72c; 1 car No. 3 spring, 71¾c; 1 car barley, 26c; 1 car barley, 23½c; 2,000 bu May flax, 80c; 4 cars flax, 75½c; 3 cars flax, 75c; 1 car flax, 71½c; 1 car flax, 70c; 1 car flax, 69½c.

SUPERIOR GRAIN.

WEST SUPERIOR, Wis., Dec. 8.—Close—No. 1 hard, 81c; No. 1 northern, 79½c; No. 2 northern, 77¼c; No. 3 northern, 75¼c; rejected, 72¼c. Cash flax, 75½c. The receipts of wheat were 39,494 bu; shipments, none.

ST. PAUL GRAIN.

Quotations on hay, grain, feed, etc., furnished by Griggs Bros., commission merchants:

Wheat—No. 1 northern, 77@78c; No. 2 northern, 75½@76¾c.

Oats—No. 3 white, 17½@18c; No. 3, 16½@17¼c.

Corn—No. 3 yellow, 23@24c; No. 3, 22@22½c.

Barley and Rye—Sample barley, 22@26c; No. 2 rye, 35@36c; No. 3 rye, 34@35c.

Seeds—No. 1 flax, 75@76c; timothy, 90@$1.20; clover, $4@4.50.

Ground Feed and Millstuffs—No. 1 feed, 2 bu corn to 1 bu oats, $9.50@10; No. 2 feed, 1 bu corn to 1 bu oats, $10.25@10.50; No. 3 feed, ground, 1 bu corn to 2 bu oats, $10.75@11; cornmeal, bolted, $13@14; cornmeal, unbolted, $9@9.50; bran, bulk, $5.25@5.75.

Hay—Receipts heavier; market lower; fancy upland, $6.50@7; good to choice wild and upland, $5.25@6; fair qualities, $4@5; good to choice timothy, $7@8.

Straw—Scarce and wanted; oat straw, $3.25@3.75; rye straw, $3.75@4.25.

OTHER GRAIN MARKETS.

ST. LOUIS GRAIN.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 8.—Wheat higher; No. 2 red, elevator, 90c bid; track, 92@92½c; No. 2 hard cash, 78c bid; December, 90c; nominal; May, 90⅝@90½c; July, 79⅝c bid. Corn firmer; No. 2 cash, 21½c; December, 21c bid; May, 23⅝@23¾c bid. Oats easy; No. 2 cash, 20c bid; May, 22¼c asked. Rye firm, 37c track. Flax seed firm; 76½c. Lead dull, $2.72½@2 75.

MILWAUKEE.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 8.—Flour—Steady and quiet. Wheat—Lower; No. 2 spring, 79c; No. 1 northern, 83c; May, 80½c. Corn—Quiet and steady; No. 3, 23c. Oats—Dull and weak; No. 2 white, 19½@21c. Barley—Dull and weak; No. 2, 34c; sample, 23@34c. Rye—Lower and dull; No. 1, 40½c. Provisions—Firmer; pork, $6.75; lard, $3.70.

NEW YORK GRAIN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Flour—Receipts, 31,500 bbls; exports, 48,287 bbls; market ruled dull and easy; closing a shade steadier with wheat. Minnesota patents, $4.60@4.80; Minnesota bakers, $3.05@4.25. Rye flour, steady. Buckwheat, quiet. Cornmeal, steady. Rye, nominal. Barley, steady. Barley malt, nominal. Wheat—Receipts 42,600 bu; exports, 17,970 bu; spot, inactive; No. 1 hard, 93½c; options, weak, and, after declining sharply on lower cables and general liquidation, recovered on the unexpectedly large decrease in Bradstreet's world's supply and buying by shorts; closed ⅛@¼c net decline; No. 2 red May, 85½@86½c; closed 86⅜c; December, 86¾@87⅞c; closed 87½c. Corn—Receipts 116,200 bu; exports, 210,723 bu; spot, dull; No. 2, 29c; options firm all day on light receipts, closed ⅛@¼c net higher. May, 31 11-16@32c; closed, 32c; December, 29c. Oats—Receipts 21,000; exports, 375,000; spot, dull; No. 2, 23½c; options dull but steady; closing unchanged.

LIVERPOOL GRAIN.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 8.—Wheat, spot, dull; featureless. Futures steady, December, 6s 7½d, ½d lower; January, 6s 8d, unchanged; February, 6s 8d, unchanged. Maize—Spot steady; futures steady; December, 2s 10¾d, ¼d lower; January, 2s 10d, unchanged; February, 2s 10d, unchanged.

WHEAT AVAILABLE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Special cable and telegraphic dispatches to Bradstreet's covering the principal points of accumulation indicate the following changes in available supplies of grain Saturday, December 3, as compared with the preceding Saturday: Wheat—United States and Canada, east of Rockies, decrease, 2,447,000 bu; afloat for and in Europe, decrease, 2,544,000; total decrease world's available, 4,991,000 bu. Corn—United States and Canada, east of the Rockies, decrease, 958,000 bu. Oats—United States and Canada, east of the Rockies, decrease, 346,000 bu.

There was a large decrease in stocks of available wheat at Fort William last week, nearly 600,000 bushels. Most of the other decreases not covered in official visible supply statement were small. The most important of the corresponding increases was that at Cleveland 289,000 bushels, the next largest being 93,000 bushels at Kingston.

LIVERPOOL RECEIPTS.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 8.—The receipts of American corn during the past three days were 187,250 centals. Weather fine. The receipts of wheat for three days, 322,000 centals, including 204,000 American.

LIVERPOOL GRAIN.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 8.—Wheat—Spot, demand, poor; No. 2 red spring, 6s 10d; do California, 7s 4d. Futures, steady, near and distant positions ½d lower; closed steady, with December 1d lower and other months ½d lower; business heaviest on middle positions; December, 6s 7¼d; January and February, 6s 8d; May, 6s 8½d; April, nominal; May, 6s 8¼d. Corn—Spot, quiet; American mixed new, 2s 10¼d; futures opened quiet with near and distant positions ¼d lower; closed quiet with December 1d lower and other months ¼d lower. Flour, firm; demand poor; St. Louis fancy winter, 9s 3d.

CROP MOVEMENT.

(Market Record.)

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal spring wheat markets from the beginning of the crop year, Aug. 1, 1896, to date, and for the same time a year ago:

	This Crop. Bushels.	Last Crop. Bushels.
Minneapolis	33,163,770	41,062,480
Milwaukee	4,756,610	4,739,770
Duluth	29,459,150	32,875,504
Chicago	12,429,684	15,028,408
Total	79,809,214	93,706,157

The following table gives the receipts of wheat at the four principal winter wheat markets from the beginning of the crop movement, July 1, 1896, to date, and for the same time a year ago:

	This Crop. Bushels.	Last Crop. Bushels.
Toledo	5,518,272	4,361,336
St. Louis	9,080,772	8,461,587
Detroit	2,567,244	1,555,776
Kansas City	4,890,600	5,203,000
Total	22,076,988	19,581,699

GRAIN GOSSIP.

Gossip by private wire to C. H. F. Smith & Co., St. Paul, members of New York stock exchange and Chicago board of trade:

Private Liverpool cables: Wheat dull, with no demand, at ½d lower. Berlin—December wheat quiet at ½ mark higher.

If the Manitoba government's estimate of the wheat crop is approximately accurate there is very little wheat remaining in farmers' hands for sale. The estimate of the crop was 14,500,000 bu. Of this 6,500,000 bu has been shipped out, and 4,500,000 bu is in store at Keewatin and west of there, leaving only 3,500,000 bu held by farmers.

Board Cables—Liverpool—Spot wheat quiet, ½d lower. Corn quiet, ½d lower. Future wheat steady, ½d lower. Future corn quiet, ¼d lower. London—Cargoes on passage, wheat buyers indifferent. Corn quiet. Wheat partially 3d lower. Country Markets—English quiet; French quiet; Berlin, December, ½d higher; May, unchanged.

The Liverpool Corn Trade News cabled the Chicago Trade Bulletin that European wheat stocks on Dec. 1 were 54,800,000 bu, against 46,400,000 bu on Nov. 1, and 62,200,000 bu on Dec. 1, 1895. The Russian stock is 31,000,000 bu, an increase of 2,900,000 bu for the month.

Chicago closing a year ago today: May wheat, 62c; corn, 28⅜c; oats, 19¾c; pork, $8.82; lard, $5.50; ribs, $4.50.

Four ports cleared 222,809 bu wheat; 56,476 bbls flour; equal in wheat, 477,000 bu. Primary receipts, 552,000 bu; shipments, 337,000 bu; shipments, 133,500 bbls flour.

St. Louis—There are two or three parties here from Southern Illinois, who report wheat badly hurt by late frost; they say the roots are killed.

PRODUCE MARKETS.

ST. PAUL MARKET.

Note—The quotations which follow are for goods which change hands in lots in the open market. In filling orders in order to secure best goods for shipping and to cover cost incurred, an advance over jobbing prices has to be paid.

Butter—Market firm on creameries; dairies in good demand.

Creameries—	
Extras	.22½
Firsts	.20 @.21
Seconds	.17 @.18
Hand separator	.20 @.21
Dairies—	
Extras	.18 @.19
Firsts	.16 @.17
Ladies—	
Extras	.13 @.14
Firsts	.11 @.12
Packing stock	.07
Grease	.03 @.04

Cheese—Slow trade on all grades. Stocks liberal and values firm.

Twins, fancy full cream, new	.10 @.11
Twins, common to fair	.06 @.07
Full cream, Young America, new	.10 @.11
Swiss cheese	.11 @.12
Brick, No. 1, new	.09 @.10
Brick, No. 2, new	.07 @.08

Eggs—Market firm; receipts light.

No. 1 cold storage	.17 @.18
Candled stock, fresh	.22
Seconds	.09 @.10

Beans—Market quiet; supply moderate.

Fancy navy, per bu	.90 @1.00
Medium, hand-picked, per bu	.70 @ .80
Dirty lot, per bu	.40 @ .50
Yellow peas, bu	.55 @ .70
Green peas, bu	.60 @ .75

Potatoes—Quiet.

Sweet potatoes, Jersey, bbl	2.50@2.75
Sweet potatoes, Muscatine, bbl	1.50@1.75
Vegetables—	
Tomatoes, basket	1.00
Radishes, dozen	.10
Cabbage, per ton	5.00@6.00
Cauliflower, doz	2.50
Beets, bu	.25
Celery, doz	.25
Wax beans, bu	4.00
String beans, bu	3.00
Onions, home grown, bu	.50
Rutabagas, bu	.25
Squash, doz	.75
Turnips, bu	.25
Mint, doz	.30
Carrots, bu	.25
Lettuce	.25 @ .30
Cucumbers, doz	1.00
Spinach, bu	1.00
Miscellaneous—	
Concord grapes, basket	.15 @ .18
Grapes, Catawba, small basket	.15
Malaga, bbl	6.50@7.50
Cranberries, Cape Cod, bbl	6.50@7.50
Cranberries, Bell and Bugle	7.00
Apples—Market weaker; demand good.	
Common, bbl	90@1.00
Cooking, bbl	1.50@1.75
Fancy, eating, bbl	2.25@2.75
Baldwins, choice, bbl	1.50@1.60
Greenings, choice, bbl	1.50@1.60
Spies, choice, bbl	1.50@1.60
Russets, choice, bbl	1.50@1.60
Crabapples, bbl	1.75@2.50
Lemons—	
Fancy Messinas, box	4.25@4.50
Malagas, box	4.25
Oranges—	
Mexicans, box	3.25@3.50
Jamaica, bbl	6.00
Nuts—	
Hickory, bu	1.00
New California walnuts, lb	.09 @.11
Black walnuts, bu	.75
Chestnuts, lb	.10
Peanuts, raw, lb	.04½@.05
Peanuts, roasted, lb	.05½@.06
Brazils, lb	.08 @.10
Pecans, lb	.18 @.20
Filberts, lb	.10 @.12
Hazelnuts, lb	.05
Bananas—Supply large; demand active.	
Choice shipping, bunch	1.75@2.25
Figs and Dates—	
Figs, fancy, five crowns	.12 @.13
Figs, fancy, four crowns	.11 @.12
Hallowee dates, new	.06
Fard dates, 10-lb boxes	.05 @.09
Honey—	
White clover	.12 @.12½
Extracted	.05 @.06
Maple syrup, gallon	1.00
Maple sugar, lb	.10 @.11
Apple Cider—	
Sweet, bbl	3.75@4.00
Sweet, half-barrel	2.00@2.25
Hard, barrel	5.00@7.00
Hard, half-barrel	3.25@4.00

(No charge for package or carriage.)

Dressed Meats—Supply moderate; demand good.

Veal, fancy	.06½@.07
Veal, medium	.06 @.06½
Hogs, country dressed	.03½@.04½
Mutton, country dressed	.04 @.05
Spring lambs, pelt off	.05 @.06
Dressed Poultry—	
Turkeys	.10 @.11
Springs	.07 @.08
Hens	.05½@.06
Ducks	.09 @.09½
Geese	.08 @.09½
Tame pigeons, dozen	.50
Game—	
Partridges, doz	2.25@2.75
Canvasback ducks, doz	6.00@8.00
Mallard ducks, doz	3.00
Teal ducks, doz	1.25@2.00
Common ducks, doz	1.25
Woodcock, doz	4.00@4.50
Jacksnipe, doz	1.25
Venison, saddles, lb	.10@ .12
Venison, whole, lb	.06@ .07
Bear, carcass, hide on, lb	.10@ .12
Antelope, hide on, lb	.15@ .16
Squirrels, doz	1.00
Fish—Good demand.	
Black bass, lb	.08
Pike, lb	.05 @.06
Croppies, lb	.04 @.05
Pickerel, lb	.02 @.03½

MINNEAPOLIS PRODUCE.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—The butter market continues to be very firm. Receipts are very light, and dealers find some difficulty in supplying the regular trade with the best grades. The demand for roll butter is good at quotations. Creameries—The market is firm and receipts of fine goods are light and sellers find no difficulty in moving their offerings at quotations, and firsts are cleaning up readily and the lower grades are moving well. Dairies—The market is quotable higher today on fancy makes. Receipts are small and are picked up readily on arrival. Medium and low grades are in good demand at prices quoted. Roll Butter—Receipts are light. There is a good demand for choice goods that are put up in good shape. Fancy is selling at 15@18c and choice sweet at 11@12c. Air struck at 9@9½c. Packing Stock—Common packing stock is selling at 7½c. Fresh goods that are suitable for ladling are bringing a little more.

Eggs—Receipts running very light. Strictly fresh are quickly taken on arrival at top quotations. Quotations are: Strictly fresh laid, cases included, loss off, 20½@21c; seconds, cases included, 10c; cold storage, according to quality, 15@18c; cases returned, ½c off.

Cheese—The market has an easier tone, with holders rather more anxious to sell. Quotations, however, do not show any change. Full Cream—New York, 12c; Wisconsin, 10½@11c. Minnesota—Twins or flats, strictly fancy, 9½@10c; twins or flats, choice, 8@9c; twins or flats, fair to good, 6@7c; twins or flats, sharp, 5@6c.

Dressed Poultry—The market is a little easier, and offerings are liberal. Demand is only moderate. The market is not cleaning up satisfactorily. Turkeys—Market is about steady, but the demand is not so brisk, and some lots were noted that were dragging at 10c. Frozen or poorly dressed stock is low. Chickens—The market is firm. Fancy unfrozen stock is in active demand and bringing full quotations. Receipts are light and market well cleaned up of desirable offerings. Ducks—The market is firm with a good demand for fresh unfrozen stock. Geese—The demand is quiet at the market prices quoted.

Live Poultry—The market did not clean up satisfactory on chickens Saturday. The demand today is rather small and market is easy at quotations. Turkeys are about steady.

NEW YORK PRODUCE.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Hay weak. Hops steady. Hides firm. Leather quiet. Wool quiet. Beef steady. Cut meats quiet. Lard steady. Pork dull. Tallow dull. Cottonseed oil steady. Petroleum dull. Rosin steady. Turpentine steady. Rice quiet. Molasses quiet. Freights to Liverpool weak. Pig iron steady. Copper easy. Lead strong. Spelter quiet. Coffee options opened steady with prices 5@10 points higher, closed steady at 5@20 points advance; sales, 18,250 bags, including December, 9.35@9.45c; March, 9.40@9.50c. Spot coffee, Rio quiet; No. 7, jobbing, 10½c; invoice, 10c. Mild quiet; Cordova, 15½@17c; sales, 1,200 bags washed Caracas, 800 bags Maracaibo. Sugar, raw, steady; refined quiet.

BUTTER AND EGGS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—Butter steady; Western creamery, 14@22c; Elgins, 22½c; factory 7@12c. Cheese quiet; state, large, 7½@10½c; small, 7½@10¼c; part skims, 3½@7c; full skims, 2½@3c. Eggs—Market steady; state and Pennsylvania, 22@26c; Western, 15½@24c.

Chicago, Dec. 8.—Butter steady; creameries, 15@23c; dairies, 10@19c. Eggs steady; fresh, 22c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SEED MARKET.

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—The flaxseed market was a little stronger today, with the general sentiment prevailing that values will go higher later on. Receipts here were 21 cars; 11 cars at Duluth and 6 cars at Minneapolis. The official closing price as reported by the Weare Commission company is as follows: Cash flax at 79c per bu; December at 75c, and May at 80c. Cash timothy seed closed at $2.50 per 100 lbs and March at $2.70. Clover seed closed at $8 per 100 lbs.

Minneapolis flax quoted at 72½c per bu.

MINNEAPOLIS HAY MARKET.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—J. H. Hunt & Co. report a very dull hay market. The demand for all grades is very light, except timothy, which is wanted, and very little of it on the market. We quote:

Choice Iowa upland	$6.00