

twelve months ago, he was questioned so closely and so skillfully, that emboldened by his large majority at the last election, he blurted out the plain truth. He then declared that he never sympathised with the claims of Catholics for justice, and he never would. We should never have known the truth from his own lips, if the reluctant admission had not been drawn from him by persistent badgering.

The present opponent of our late member is Mr. James Bennet, an old settler in the district. Without waiting to be questioned, he has boldly and honestly announced his readiness to vote for Catholic schools. What ought we to do in these circumstances? Our plain duty is to vote for Bennet and punish Brown for his treachery. Any man who is still so infatuated as to support Mr. Brown cannot be regarded as the true friend of public honesty and Catholic education.—I am, etc,

P. O'LEARY.

PRESENTATION TO THE MOST REV. DR. MORAN.

TO THE EDITOR N.Z. TABLET.

SIR,—As I have not received a circular from the committee engaged in promoting the testimonial to Dr. Moran, I am desirous of knowing whether I may act without an invitation. I am most anxious to see the matter a success, and would willingly do my best to forward its interests.—I am, etc.,

VOLENS.

Kaikorai, September 14.

[It is impossible that the committee can send a circular to everyone, but we can answer for it that they will most thankfully accept all aid given to them. What has appeared in our columns should be sufficient, indeed, apart from any circular.—ED. N. Z. TABLET.]

Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending September 14, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—A medium supply was yarded to-day, viz., 193 head, one half of which were heifers and light weight bullocks, the balance good to prime quality, including a pen or two heavy weights. Although the market last week was only moderately supplied, prices obtained to-day showed no improvement, in fact last week's quotations were barely maintained. Best bullocks brought £7 5s to £8 17s 6d; extra heavy, £9 10s to £10 10s; light and medium, £4 7s 6d to £6 17s 6d; cows in proportion.

Fat Sheep.—To-day's market was supplied by 250 merino wethers, good to prime, and 2,409 crossbreds. The greater portion of these were prime, and included some heavy weights. The attendance at the yards to-day was under the average, and competition all through less animate. There was a moderate demand for export, best wethers realising nearly up to last week's, while medium quality receded 1s to 1s 6d per head; best crossbred wethers brought 11s 6d to 14s; one pen 15s; medium to good, 7s 6d to 11s; best do ewes, 8s 9d to 10s 9d; ordinary, 5s 9d to 8s 6d; merino wethers, 7s 6d to 9s 6d. We sold on account of Kuriwao Estate and other vendors crossbred wethers to 11s.

Lambs.—60 penned, of these only two or three were what might be termed prime, for which there was good competition; all the rest were small, but realised satisfactory prices. Best sold at up to 13s 9d; others at from 4s 9d to 8s. We sold on account of Mr. William Shand, Keith Hall, 12 at 7s 6d.

Pigs.—274 were penned, chiefly porkers and baconers, which sold under good competition at about equal to late rates. Light stores brought 11s to 15s; porkers, 24s to 30s; baconers, 32s to 48s. We sold on account of Mr. Joseph Grimsey, Orari, light stores at 11s to 15s; porkers at 24s; baconers to 37s.

Store Cattle.—The business done in these is still limited, and the market not particularly active. At the same time there is some inquiry for almost all sorts, but graziers' experience of the fat stock market being rather disappointing, they are not in the meantime, inclined to meet sellers' views with respect to price.

Store Sheep.—There are hardly any offering now, the demand is also unimportant, consequently the business done may be considered exceedingly small.

Sheepskins.—Owing to the broken weather of the last few days combined with the uncertainty as to the immediate future of the wool market, buyers on Monday (our regular weekly sale day) operated with more caution. The attendance was good and competition spirited up to certain levels, every lot on the lengthy catalogue offered being disposed of, but at prices slightly lower than those being previously obtained. Country dry crossbreds, low to medium, brought 10d to 3s 3d; good to best, 3s 6d to 5s; dry merinos, low to medium, 9d to 2s 3d; good to best, 2s 6d to 4s; dry pelts, 3d to 8d; butchers' green crossbreds, 3s, 3s 3d, 3s 6d, 3s 9d, 4s, 4s 3d, 4s 6d, 4s 8d, 4s 10s; do do merino, 2s 9d, 3s, 3s 3d, 3s 6d, 3s 9d, 3s 10d, 3s 11d.

Rabbitskins.—A brisk demand continues to be experienced, all descriptions being easily disposed of. The supply so far this season has been considerably heavier, and the market continues so firm that holders would do well to forward their collections, and avail themselves of the opportunity at present offering for realising satisfactory prices. On Monday we offered a moderate catalogue, when all the buyers were in attendance, and the eagerness displayed in bidding, especially for choice lots, was most remarkable, resulting in very satisfactory prices being obtained as compared with those of previous sales. We sold 19 bales and 11 bags. The following are the marks with prices:—F1, 3 bales extra prime winter greys, 22d; SP, do do, 21½d; JG Co., 3 do do 21d; Z, 3 bags do do, 21½d; F1, 1 do

do, 20½d; FSG, 10 bales northern skins, medium, 18½d; OP over 4 in diamond, 1 bale medium greys, 18d; MS, 1 do do, mixed, 13d; F1, 2 bags mixed, 16d; do, 1 do do, 13½d; do, 1 do do, 12d; CP over 4 in diamond, 13½d; Z, 1 do do, 13½d.

Hides.—There being no incitement for buyers to ship the consequence is that business is confined to local trade, and, competition being limited, we have no improvement to report for this week. There has been some inquiry during the week for shipment, but no business as far has resulted. We quote inferior a d bulls, 1½d to 2½; light, 2½ to 2½; medium, 2½ to 3½; heavy, 3½ to 3½—subject to a reasonable allowance in weights for offal, chucks, and shanks.

Tallow.—Stocks on hand are not by any means heavy, and the supply coming forward being no more than is necessary for local requirements, this market continues extremely steady. The fluctuations of the Home market have no apparent effect on this. We have no alteration to make in quotations, which are as follows, viz., for inferior and mixed, 10s to 13s; medium to good, 14s to 16s; best mutton 17s to 18s; rough fat, inferior, 7s to 8s, medium to good 9s to 10s; best caul, 11s to 11s 6d per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat: There is no improvement in the tone of the market for this cereal if anything there is less demand than there was even manifested last week. Northern millers are displaying more eagerness to push the trade in flour and at reduced prices, which will no doubt materially effect the business done by our local millers, and to maintain their present ground a reduction in price must be the inevitable result and does not argue well for the future of the wheat market. Some sorts, such as choice Tuscan and red straw, which have been in better demand all the season in small lots, still realise equal to late rates; while velvet could not be placed at 2d to 3d under the prices ruling a few weeks since. Fowls' wheat is more plentiful and also easier in price. We quote prime milling, red straw and Tuscan, 4s to 4s 2d; and then on rare occasions lines could not be placed at these figures. Best white velvet, 3s 9d to 3s 10; medium to good, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; inferior, 3s 3d to 3s 7d (ex store, bags weighed in).—Oats: The demand is not by any means active, still there is always a moderate amount of business passing. Small sales are daily being made, chiefly of bright-coloured short descriptions at prices about equal to last week's quotations. The demand for discoloured sorts is not improving, and, although quite as good for all practical purposes as the former except in appearance, they are difficult to place except at very unsatisfactory prices to the grower. We quote prime milling, 1s 8d to 1s 8½d; best bright short feed, 1s 7½d to 1s 8d; medium, 1s 6d to 1s 7d. Long oats are not easily moved in lines. Small lots occasionally are disposed of for seed at 1s 9d to 2s (ex store, bags weighed in).—Barley: There is nothing doing in this cereal, chiefly owing to the want of supplies, but the demand is not pressing. We quote prime maling, 4s 1d to 4s 4d; medium, 3s 9d to 4d; feed and milling, 3s to 3s 8d (ex store).

Ryegrass Seed.—The position of the market is much about the same as last week; no sales of any consequence effected. We quote machine-dressed, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; undressed, 2s to 2s 9d. Cocksfoot is having a little more attention. The demand is only for thoroughly clean seed, at from 4½d to 5d; medium, 3½d to 4d.

Potatoes still continue in over-supply, and without any improvement in price.

GRAIN AND SEED REPORT.

Messrs. Samuel Orr and Co., Stafford street, report for the week ending September 13 as follows:—Wheat: The market for this cereal shows no change whatever, millers still evincing no desire to buy more than they actually require for present purposes. Prices in consequence are unaltered. We quote: For extra prime milling, up to 4s 2d; good, 4s to 4s 1d; ordinary, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; and fowls' feed, 3s 6d to 3s 9d.—Oats: There has been a slight demand for this product during the last week, but advices from the other side are still discouraging, showing a decline in prices, which no doubt will tend to still further depreciate values here. We quote: Prime bright heavy milling from 1s 8d to 1s 8½d; good heavy feed, 1s 7½d; ordinary, 1s 7d; and discoloured 1s 6d to 1s 6½d.—Barley: There is hardly any offering, prices being purely nominal, viz.:—Maling 4s to 4s 1d; milling and feed, 3s 6d.—Chaff: There is no improvement to report in this, the market being flooded with inferior and discoloured quality.—Seeds: Ryegrass: This seed is in good demand at late quotations, Poverty Bay and old pasture seed being principally inquired for. Cocksfoot is in very large demand; and stocks being comparatively low, prices will no doubt advance. Clovers are also in good demand, prices being unchanged.

ALBERT BARNES AND M. HOGAN AND CO., Wanganui, report:—At our usual monthly sale, held on Saturday, the 27th ult., we had a very fair attendance, and the bidding for each lot submitted was sufficiently brisk to secure satisfactory prices to vendors. Butchers' skins, good averages, showed a steady advance; settlers' skins maintaining former quotations. For hides and tallow there is at present very little inquiry, unless they are obtained at a low figure. The following are the prices realised:—Wool: In bags, 5d to 6d per lb; pieces, 3d per lb.—Sheepskins: Settlers' long wool, 3d, 3½d, 3¾d, 4d, 4½d, 4¾d lb; butchers' 2s 6d, 3s 3d, 3s 11d, 4s 1d, 4s 3d; settlers' pelts, 1s to 1s 5d.—Hides: 2d to 2½d per lb; bulls' and faulty, 1d to 1½d.—Tallow: In casks, 12s 6s to 15s per cwt.—Produce: Potatoes (seed), 6s to 6s 3d per bag; carrots, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per bag; bran, 3s 6d per bag; pollard, £5 per ton; cheese, 4d per lb; salt butter, 3d.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports—Wholesale prices, bags included: Oats, medium to prime, 1s 6d to 1s 9d. Wheat: milling, 3s 9d to 4s 3d; fowls', 3s 3d to 3s 8d. Barley: maling, 3s 3d to 3s 6d; milling, 3s 6d; feed, 3s. Chaff: best, £2 15s; straw chaff, dull of sale, nominal. Straw, £2; bay, new oat, £3; ryegrass (new), £3. Bran, £3. Pollard, £4. Potatoes: kidney, £3; Derwents, £1 5s. Butter: fresh, 6d to 10d; salt, no usual, 6d. Cheese, 3d to 5d. Eggs, 7d. Flour: sacks, £10; 50lb, £10 10s. Oatmeal, £8 5s. Roll bacon, 6½d; sides, 6½d; hams, 9d.