

Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending October 12, as follows:—

Store Cattle.—There is a steady demand for all lots offering. We do not hear of any transactions of magnitude. Prices should continue firm as the season advances.

Store Sheep.—There is nothing doing meantime.

Wool.—During the week we have received cable advice of the closing of the fourth series of the London sales; and from the continued adverse reports received during the continuance of the sales, one might almost have feared the final results would have been worse than our London manager records them to be. Long staple Merino, light in grease, has advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb during the sales. For coarse greasy crossbred and crossbred lambs the market is easier; all other sorts mark a decline ranging $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 2d per lb., faulty scoured having suffered the greatest fall. The absence of a strong Continental demand has evidently induced the drop in prices; this, no doubt, being caused, partly at least, by the fear of possible European complications. From our London circular of 26th August, to hand yesterday, we gather that stocks in English manufacturers; hands were small, and, in view of the favourable prognostications of an improved trade in the Home country, we are inclined to take a hopeful view of the position. The coming clip from all the Australian colonies will doubtless be a very heavy one. It is too soon to venture an opinion how far this will affect prices in London; but we would fain hope that the present moderate scale of prices for wool will be maintained in the near future.

Sheepskins.—We submitted on Monday a varied catalogue of skins to a large number of buyers, when, notwithstanding the falling market for wool, prices of the former week were fairly maintained. Country dry cross-breds realised 1s 3d to 3s 2d; merinos, fair to good, 1s 8d to 2s 11d; butchers' green cross-breds, 3s 6d, 3s 9d, 3s 11d; 4s 2d, 4s 3d, 4s 4d, 4s 6d, 4s 7d, 4s 9d, 4s 10d, 5s; butchers' merino skins, 3s 8d, 3s 9d, 4s; lambskins, 6d and 7d. We have sold several lots of freezing skins during the week at 4s 4d, 4s 6d, 4s 9d, 5s 1d, 5s 8d.

Rabbit-skins.—There was a full attendance of the trade at our usual weekly sale on Monday, and a steady inquiry for good winter skins exists, although rates still remain low, prices obtained being much the same as last week.

Hides.—There is no alteration to record in the market. We repeat our last week's quotations.

Tallow.—There is an active demand for all lots offering locally, at late rates. We have inquiry for good mutton tallow for export, but none is offering at the moment.

Grain.—Wheat: There is no improvement in the market, and business is nominal. The English market is firmer, with prices a shade higher than have lately ruled, but no improvement can be looked for locally. For the few parcels of provincial grown still on hand, there is no inquiry at the moment. In Canterbury, however, there are still large quantities to be dealt with, and with no inducement to export and an exceedingly restricted demand from millers. Agents have considerable difficulty in making sales. Our quotations are—for prime milling, 3s 9d to 3s 10d; medium, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; inferior, 3s to 3s 5d (ex store, bags weighed in), with a decided tendency to lower prices. Fowl wheat, of which the market is almost entirely bare, is readily saleable at relatively high prices.—Oats: A fair amount of business is passing in this cereal, and prices have been, on the whole, well maintained. There is a fair demand for shipment to Australia, especially for the bright heavy feed, and as the bulk of this description of oats has now changed hands any lots offering are readily competed for, though buyers as yet show no disposition to give enhanced prices. There are still however, large parcels of medium and inferior oats for sale, giving a generally depressing tone to the market. We quote prime milling, 1s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1s 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; short bright feed, 1s 8d to 1s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d (latter being a full price); medium, 1s 7d to 1s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; inferior, difficult to place at 1s 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1s 7d (ex store, bags weighed in).—Barley: The market is quite bare, and any small parcels coming to hand, especially of fair to prime lots malting, find ready sale at 4s 3d to 4s 6d. Brewers are, for the present, fairly well supplied; but in order to provide for their probable early requirements several orders have been forwarded to California during the past week. The samples offered, which were very prime, can be landed here at a price not greatly in excess of our above quotations.

Ryegrass seed continues almost unsaleable, with apparently no prospect of early improvement. Our nominal quotations remain as before. Cocksfoot is in slightly better demand at from 4d to 5d per lb. for medium to best.

Potatoes.—The market continues wretchedly dull, and sales are difficult to make at even the rates recently ruling, disappointing alike to producers and agents.

Land.—There is a fair demand for small farms in good situations at moderate prices. We have considerable inquiry for the few remaining sections of the well-known Merino Downs Estate, and purpose offering some of the land adjacent to Pukerua railway station in small farms early in November upon the usual favourable terms.

GRAIN AND SEED REPORT.

MESSRS. SAMUEL ORR AND CO., Stafford street, report for the week ending October 12 as follows:—Wheat: The market is completely at a standstill just now, there being no business whatever transacted, as millers' stocks are not in any way decreasing, and it would be folly on their part to purchase on the face of such a depressed state of the market. The market for fowls' wheat, which has kept active throughout the season, has also broke. We give no quotations, as they would only be misleading in the event of constituents sending in to

realise.—Oats: A fair demand has existed during the past week for these, with a tendency, if anything, to better prices, but only for local use and for prime quality. Shipping limits are still low, though latest advices from Sydney indicate better prospects, but we have been so often deceived with such that to make a standpoint of it would in our opinion, be erroneous. There is not the slightest doubt but that prime quality oats will be better, the market being very bare of them, but ordinary, being more plentiful, have not the same chance of higher rates. We quote: Prime milling 1s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, but, if extra choice, 1s 9d might be obtained; medium, 1s 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1s 8d; inferior 1s 5d to 1s 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Barley: The only transactions on the board are for seed requirements.—Chaff: There is a good ordinary demand for tip-top, well-cleaned oaten sheaf, at up to £2 17s 6d, but for low quality the market is glutted, and only 30s to 45s obtainable.—Potatoes: Cheap freight has induced a speculative demand, but only at late prices, which for the grower is simply ruinous. Quotations are from 20s to 30s, according to quality and where grown.—Seeds:—Ryegrass: Demand thoroughly off, while stocks are heavy, and to do any business, low prices have been taken rather than carry over to next year.—Cocksfoot: The sale is now slow; prices remain the same nevertheless.—Clovers: As with grass seeds, the demand is but slight.—Turnips: Inquiries are now on foot for them, and during the past fortnight we placed several tons, and will be pleased to forward samples of all sorts to intending purchasers. The tests this season are exceptionally good.

ALBERT BARNES AND M. HOGAN AND CO., Wanganui, report:—We held our usual monthly sale on Saturday, the 24th inst., and succeeded in placing every lot of wool and skins catalogued, at satisfactory prices. Butchers' skins still continue in good demand, while settlers' longwool fully maintain former quotations. Tallow, for which there is very little offering in the local market, shows no improvement in value. Hides remain at previous quotations. Potatoes, selling freely, but prices are in favour of imported. We quote as follows:—Wool: In bales, 5d per lb.; pieces, 2d per lb.; in bags, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 4d, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 5d, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Sheepskins: Butchers', 3s 1d, 3s 9d, 4s 6d, 4s 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; settlers' longwool, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 4d, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; green lambskins, first of the season, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.—Hides: 2d to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb.—Tallow: In casks, 12s 6d per cwt.; in tins, 1d per lb.—Produce: Potatoes (seed), 2s 10d to 3s per bag; (table), 42s to 55s per ton; carrots, 2s 6d per bag; bacon, 3d per lb.; oats, bran, and pollard remain at former quotations.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports—Wholesale prices, bags included: Oats, medium to prime, 1s 5d to 1s 8d. Wheat: milling, 3s 9d to 4s; fowls', 3s to 3s 6d. Barley: malting, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; milling, 3s 6d; feed, 3s. Chaff: best, £2 10s. Straw, £2; hay, oat, £3; ryegrass, £3. Bran, £2 15s. Pollard, £3 10s. Potatoes: kidneys, £3; Derwents, £1 5s. Butter: fresh, 5d to 9d; salt, nominal, 5d. Cheese, 3d to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Eggs, 7d. Flour: sacks, £9 10s; 50lb, £10. Oatmeal, £8 5s. Roll bacon, 6d; sides, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; hams 8d.

A long felt want supplied.—By an entirely new process M, Armstrong, dentist, is enabled to extract teeth without the slightest pain, or unpleasant after effects. For years past Mr. Armstrong's artificial work has given not only entire satisfaction, but health, comfort, happiness, and beauty. He is now in a position to supply the best American and British dentistry at one half former charges. Preservation of natural teeth a specialty. Note address, 172, Princes street, exactly opposite Cargill's Monument—[ADVT.]

Those requiring the services of a dentist should call on Messrs MYERS and Co., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth gives general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read —[ADVT.]

The Empress of China has presented 600 stanzas of poetry of her own composition to the Hain College, while Prince Chu'un has written a collection of verse in which he has described the novel objects that he saw in his tour through China last year.

The case of Lipski, who was on Saturday, July 30, convicted of the murder of Miriam Angel, is only the second in which a Jew in this country has been sentenced to death for the capital offence (the first being that of Marks, who shot a man named Bernard in 1875). It is perhaps not particularly strange that both culprits should have been natives of Poland, where the harsh treatment of Jews, and the rigorous character of the compulsory military service imposed upon them, invariably force them to leave their homes, to swell the criminal and destitute populations of other lands. The crime of murder has never been committed by an English Jew; and in America where there is a solitary instance of an Israelite (also a Pole) having been condemned to death, the Jewish instincts were so strongly developed, that the criminal embraced Christianity on the eve of his execution, to prevent its being said that a Jew had been hanged for murder.—*Whitehall Review.*

NO MORE HARD TIMES.

If you will stop spending so much on fine clothes, rich food and style, buy good, healthy food, cheaper and better clothing; get more real and substantial things of life every way, and especially stop the foolish habit of employing expensive quack doctors or using so much of the vile humbug medicine that does you only harm, but put your trust in that simple, pure remedy, Dr. Soule's American Hop Bitters; that cures always at a trifling cost, and you will see good times and have good health. "Chronicle."