

Lordship will perceive when this address is read to you, we have avoided any reference to the progress made in this district of Church matters. For the Catholics this does not matter much, but I do think our worthy priest Father Keenan deserves great credit for his energy since he came amongst us."

In the evening his Lordship delivered a most edifying exhortation on the devotion to our Blessed Lady.

Commercial.

Mr. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending May 23, as follows:—

Store Sheep.—The market does not now display very much animation, while any suitable lots offering do not fail to find buyers. At auction, sales have been effected at prices fully equal to late rates.

Wool.—It must be satisfactory to notice from reports by private telegrams, of a further rise in the value of wool at the Antwerp sales now in progress, prices obtained as compared with closing rates of last London wool sales, being $\frac{1}{4}$ d to $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. higher.

Sheepskins.—We had a very full attendance of buyers on Monday, our regular weekly sale day, when we offered a moderate catalogue chiefly green skins only a few dry, all offered were in good demand, and competition active, especially for large coarse-woolled green crossbreds, also for the same quality of lambskins, prices obtained for the best of these two sorts topping last week's advanced rates, in fact prices all round were in favour of sellers, several buyers not being able to get a skin. Country dry crossbreds, inferior to medium, are worth 1s 3d to 3s 6d; do do merino, 1s 1d to 2s 6d; medium to full-woolled crossbreds; 3s 9d to 5s 3d; do do merino, 2s 9d to 4s 3d; dry pelts, 3d to 1s. Butchers' green crossbreds brought for best, 4s 4d, 4s 2d, 4s, 3s 9d, 3s 6d; medium, 3s 4d 3s 2d, 3s, 2s 9d, 2s 6d, 2s 4d; green merinos, 1s 10d, 1s 11d, 2s, 2s 1d; lambskins, 4s 7d, 4s 3d, 4s, 3s 9d, 3s 6d, 3s 4d, 3s, 2s 10d; two lots very small 2s.

Rabbit Skins.—The number coming to market still continues limited. A steady demand exists, and a very much larger business could be put through if supplies were at hand. On Monday we offered at auction the few consignments reaching us during the week, when all the buyers in the trade were in attendance and competed with spirit for every lot offered, prices realised being quite up to late rates, which evidently continue firm. We give marks and prices:—B1 bag autumn, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; DMC 9 do do, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; ZO 2 bags spring and autumn, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; DN 1 bag mixed, 7d; DMC 1 do light summers, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ l per lb.

Hides.—This market is without material alteration. A good demand continues to be experienced, especially for well tanned and properly flayed heavy weights, medium and light weights although not commanding the same attention, are in fair request, and prices about equal to late rates are readily obtained, we quote heavy weights, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ l to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; pickled, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; medium, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ l to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; light, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ l to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ l; interior and bulls, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ l to 2l per lb.

Tallow.—Private, and also public press telegrams report the London market slightly easier, and prices have suffered to a certain extent. Notwithstanding this there is a good demand for all available in this market, chiefly for local requirements, every description is readily placed and at late rates which continue firm. We quote prime mutton, 19s to 20s, medium to good, 16s to 18s; inferior, 13s to 15s 6d. Rough fat commands more attention, and realises slightly higher prices. For inferior, 7s 6d to 8s 6d; medium to good, 9s to 11d; best mutton tallow, 11s 6d to 13s per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat: The market shows no improvement for the better, a few sales are being made, but buyers continue to purchase only such quantities as are necessary to satisfy actual requirements. The only demand for milling is confined to the very best quality, and in small quantities, to come in immediately, particular kinds are required for mixing. Prices for this quality are unaltered. Medium descriptions are slow of sale, except at almost the price of fowl feed, which has a fair demand, but values are hardly maintained and only for small parcels are late rates obtainable. The quantity of soft wheat now being put on the market from fear of heating has caused a weakening tendency. We quote prime milling, red straw, Hunters' white, pearl velvet, and Tuscan, 3s 1d to 3s 3d; medium, almost unsaleable, 2s 6d to 2s 9; inferior to good fowl wheat, 1s 6d to 2s 4d, (ex store, sacks weighed in, terms).—Oats: Owing to the continued favourable weather for threshing and carting deliveries have been heavy, and stock now a massing large dimensions, a considerable portion of which have changed hands, and mostly still in store waiting shipment. The market this week's not so active buyers seeing no abatement in the quantity still coming to hand are beginning to ease off somewhat, and while late prices can be got for prime bright sorts, discoloured and weather stained are lower and more difficult to place. Danish have all along been dull of sale and are still hard to dispose of at satisfactory prices. We quote prime milling 1s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ s to 1s 9d; very few of these now come to hand. The most, in fact nearly all being dark sparrowbills and short tartarians, for which we quote, 1s 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ l to 1s 8d; medium and danish, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; inferior 1s 3d to 1s 5d; (ex store, sacks weighed in, net cash).—Barley: There is no new feature to be noted in the aspect of the market, prime malting samples are scarce and would command full rates, while medium and inferior has very little attention, even millers are now less anxious to purchase. We quote prime prime malting 4s 3d to 4s 6d; medium 3s 9d to 4s; milling, 3s 6d to 3s 9d, feed, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; (ex store sacks per agreement terms).

GRAIN AND SEED REPORT.

MESSERS. SAMUEL ORR AND CO., Stafford street, report for the week ending May 23, as follows:—

Wheat: The demand for this cereal during the past week has been a lively one, and transactions are on a limited scale indeed, and what business has transpired has only been for tip-top quality, of

which there is but little about. Large quantities are going into store, but the principal of it is of medium and inferior quality, and what is going to be done with it is a mystery, as it is out of all proportion in comparison to former years. We quote:—Prime milling, Tuscan or Velvet, up to 3s 2d; red straw, 3s 3d; medium (nominal), 2s 6d to 2s 10d; fowl feed, 1s 8d to 2s 6d.

Oats.—The demand as lately reported by us has somewhat subsided, as advices from Melbourne are anything but encouraging. Consequently speculators are chary of going in for any now to hold, while freight by steamer has advanced, all of course tending to keep prices here down, and retarding business. Shipments from the South to Melbourne are still large, so that no improvement can be expected, from there for a little time notwithstanding all these drawbacks, we sold during the week for J. Anderson, Waiwera, at 1s 9d; T. O. Bishop, Hillend, 1s 9d; D. B. tie, Kaiti, 1s 9d; D. McGougan, Heriot, 1s 9d. We quote prime milling up to 1s 9d; short heavy bright feed, 1s 3d to 1s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; sparrowbills clean and bright, 1s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1s 9d; ordinary feed, 1s 2d, to 1s 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; dark and discoloured, 1s 6d to 1s 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Grass Seeds.—We sold a parcel of 100 sacks ryegrass during the week, but prices are without improvement and but little business may be anticipated in either this or cocksfoot till Spring, though by then prices for the latter may be firmer.

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices, bags included: Oats, medium to prime, 1s 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1s 9d. Wheat: milling, 3s to 3s 3d; fowls' plentiful, 1s 9d to 2s 3d. Barley: malting, 4s to 4s 6d; milling, 3s 6d; feed, 3s 0d. Chaff: best, £2 15s; medium, £2; Hay: oat, £3; ryegrass, £3. Bran, £3. Pollard, £3 10s. Potatoes: Northern, £2 10s; Southern, £2 6s. Butter: fresh, 6d to 10d; salt, good demand, prime, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. Cheese, 3d to 4d. Eggs, 1s 8d. Flour: roller, £8 10s to £9; in 50lb, £8 to £8 10s. Oatmeal, £8 10s to £8 5s. Koli bacon, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d; sides, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ l; hams, 9d, both scarce.

PRESENTATION TO THE REV. FATHER LYNCH.

As to the great regret of the Dunedin Catholic congregation, the Rev. Father Lynch has been for some time suffering from an affection of the throat, and has been ordered by Dr. Lindo Fergusson to try the effects of a milder climate for a few months, a movement was set on foot a week or two ago to present the rev. gentleman with a testimonial, well deserved by him. The appeal was heartily responded to, and on Friday evening, on the termination of the meeting of the Holy Family in St. Joseph's Cathedral, the presentation was made by a deputation to the vestry. The following address was read by Mr. Bunbury.—Mr. Conway presenting the purse of sovereigns:—

"Dear Rev. Father,—We, the Catholic people of Dunedin, beg to assure you that it was with a feeling of profound regret we learned a few days ago that you had been compelled through illness to rest from the labours of your sacred calling. When we learned in addition that a change of climate for a short time was necessary for you in the interests of health, the desire was unanimous amongst us, to express our heartfelt sympathy and regret in some practical manner. During the years you have spent amongst us, we have learned with good reason to appreciate your labours on our behalf. These labours were not confined to the sphere of one who edifies those around him by the example of a saintly life, improves them by good advice and sound instruction, and administers the consolation of religion to the sick and dying. But in addition to all this, we have had many evidences of your zeal for our spiritual welfare. We have witnessed your efforts in aid of the building fund of our beautiful Cathedral, and for the great success of these efforts we desire to convey to you an expression of our indebtedness.

"We desire, moreover, to mark our admiration for the great zeal and interest you have shown in the establishment and organisation amongst us of the two great confraternities of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour and the Holy Family. These are, beyond a doubt, spiritual movements of faith and pity in our midst. And it was owing to your unflagging energy that they have been a success from the beginning, and that so many of us have to-day the happiness of sharing in the great spiritual advantages derived from them. We wish, dear Father, to express our high appreciation of all that you have done for us, with out saying one half of what we feel. And we desire to take this opportunity of presenting you with a small tribute of our esteem and regard in the shape of a purse containing £141 17s, which we beg you accept and expend as the interests of your health may demand. Whilst we regret deeply the necessity which compels you to leave us for a while, we sincerely hope and pray that the Almighty will grant you a speedy restoration to health and enable you to return soon amongst us. Earnestly desiring to be remembered in your prayers,—We remain, faithfully yours, the Catholic people of Dunedin." Signed on their behalf.

Father Lynch, in reply, said: It is rather embarrassing for me to reply to your address, your too flattering address. I heartily thank the Catholics for their great kindness in word and deed. It has always been a source of pleasure to work for them. When a priest has to deal with a people who possess in a most exalted degree the spirit of faith and generosity, and zealous co-operation, his labour is a labour of love, and it is not difficult to accomplish those things which he is called upon to do. There is one thing in connection with your address which is a source of much satisfaction. It is that you attach great importance to the existence and success of the Confraternities. You have to thank the Redeemptorist Fathers for many things, but you have in the Confraternity of the Holy Family, and that of our Lady of Perpetual Succour, their best legacy. I hope that the interest taken by you in these societies will not diminish. That these societies will increase in numbers and be ever monuments of your piety in a cathedral which is a monument of your faith. Nothing I know of will give your devoted Bishop more pleasure than to have in his cathedral two fervent confraternities. Allow me once more to thank you for your expression of sympathy and your handsome presents.