

# Commercial.

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

**Fat Cattle.**—172 head were penned, and prices realised were no improvement on last week's. Best bullocks brought £9 to £10 17s 6d, a few extra heavy a shade more; medium, £6 to £8 10s; light and inferior, £3 10s to £5 10s.

**Fat Sheep.**—1817 were penned, of which about 160 were merino, the balance crossbreds. We quote—best crossbred wethers in the wool, 15s 6d to 17s; shorn, 7s 9d to 10s 9d.

**Fat Lambs.**—355 were penned, medium to good. Competition was fairly active, the lot being disposed of at from 6s 6s to 12s 6d.

**Pigs.**—138 were penned, and brought, for suckers, 11s to 14s 6d; light stores, 16s to 20s; others, 21s to 25s 6d; porkers, 29s to 32s; baconers, 35s to 48s.

**Store Cattle.**—The backwardness of feed has hindered business, which is generally very active at this season of the year. We sold by auction at Mosgiel yesterday 145 head of cattle, mostly prime forward steers, on account of Messrs. Ross Brothers. Competition was hardly so brisk as at the previous week's sale, but a fair range of prices was secured.

**Wool.**—Shearing is now fairly commencing and will soon be general. Should the weather prove favourable there will be good catalogues to offer at the local sales which will be held early in the coming month. There is a very hopeful feeling for the future of the trade. We offered a small catalogue at our weekly sale on Monday, and sold 19 bales HEKIOT over CT at 8d to 1s 5d, the latter price being paid for 2 bales scoured quarter-bred of choice quality.

**Sheepskins.**—A strong demand exists for all lots offering, and prices are well maintained. We held our usual weekly sales on Monday, when all buyers in the trade were present, and competed spiritedly for each lot on the catalogue. Country dry crossbreds, inferior to medium, brought 1s 11d to 3s 9d; do do merino, 2s 2d to 3s 9d; medium to full-wooled crossbreds from 4s to 6s, according to quality and condition of pelt; do do merino, 4s 1d to 5s 3d, up to 6s being paid for special lines; station skins in bales, both crossbred and merinos, 5d per lb; butchers' green crossbreds sold at fully equal to last week's quotations, quality considered, 5s 2d to 5s 7d for medium to good; 4s 2d to 4s 7d for fair to medium quality; merinos (green) were in short supply, and sold up to 4s 6d; shorn crossbred pelts sold at 10d to 1s; lambskins at 1s 2d to 1s 3d.

**Rabbitskins.**—The offerings at local sales are now small. We sold on Monday 3 bales medium to good winters, 20, at 15d. Other nominal quotations are unchanged.

**Hides.**—This market remains without quotable change.

**Tallow and Fat.**—The demand previously referred to still continues, prices in a measure being regulated by those advised from London. In quoting for prime mutton and for beef our London office advised us, under date 9th inst., that the demand was largely a speculative one. Locally quotations are, good mutton, 22s to 22s 6d; medium, 19s to 21s; best caul fat, 15s to 15s 6d; butchers' rough fat, 13s to 15s.

**Grain.**—Wheat: Market remains very firm. With very few exceptions millers are not operating, having yet considerable stocks, but shippers are operating to some extent for prime parcels. Medium milling is not much sought after. Fowls' wheat is in strong demand, and apparently stocks are now in comparatively small compass. We quote prime milling, 3s 10d to 4s (f.o.b.); medium milling, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; fowls', 3s to 3s 5d for good whole wheat; 2s to 2s 9d for inferior.—Oats: Early forecasts of this market are now being realised, and prices are advancing, as it is now certain that supplies to come in from the country will be very largely below last year's figures. Milling sorts are especially short. We have sold several lines (large for the present season) at 2s 7d for medium milling, very little prime is offering. Good, heavy feed has been sold for 2s 7d; and medium is worth 2s 5d to 2s 6d; inferior and musty are worth 2s 2d to 2s 4d. Those quotations are ex store, sacks weighed in.—Barley:—Malsters are for the most part fully supplied, and the business passing is unimportant.

**Grass Seed.**—There is only a limited business passing, and previous nominal quotations are unchanged.

**Butter.**—Prime salted is worth up to 8d, but factory makes could be sold for considerably more.

**Cheese.**—A good enquiry exists for prime factory make. We have sold 80 tons during the week at highly satisfactory prices.

**Property.**—There is a steadily growing enquiry for good country properties, this, together with the rise in value of produce, being the most hopeful feature of the times. We have sold during the week 200 acres, portion of the Merino Downs Estate, and have enquiries for nearly all the unsold sections—in all some 1,600 acres. Investors are evidently realising that land can hardly again be cheaper.

## GRAIN AND SEED REPORT.

MESSRS SAMUEL ORR and Co., Stafford street, report for the week ending November 14 as follows:—

**Wheat.**—All classes have been saleable this week, which had not been the case for some considerable time. Locally the millers are operating more freely, more especially for prime Tuscan, which up North still commands the premier position, and for which as high as 4s 2d, sacks extra, nett, has been asked; and for which in the meantime out of the way, but still we have no doubt that it will be obtained, and before the end of the year, too. We quote prime Tuscan up to 4s 2d; velvet and red straw, 4s; medium, 3s 6d to 3s 11d; inferior and fowls' feed, 2s 6d to 3s 4d.

**Oats.**—During the week we sold for Messrs. S. and J. McNee, Kelso, 140 sacks seed oats, 2s 6d, (ex store). J. L., Kelso, 400 sacks medium feed, 2s 6d, off truck. J. Tait, Waivera, 3 trucks, 2s 6d, off truck, and J. and M. Hitchon, Hillend, black oats, 2s 6d; while for a

large parcel of Taieri grown we have an offer of about an equivalent to 2s 7d here. For a parcel of milling 2s 9d is wanted, and we have no hesitation in saying we will get it before the end of the month, as the Melbourne market is gradually going up. It is unnecessary for us to give quotations as we usually do, the above speaking for itself.

**Barley.**—A demand for export has sprung up unexpectedly, and during the week we sold a large parcel for Mr. F. McBride, Queenstown, at 4s, sacks 7d, net cash; milling is also in better request, as we sold it too at better prices than were ruling lately.

**Chaff.**—The arrivals for the past week were of a moderate character, and prices were in consequence a little better, as we obtained £3 15 for several trucks oaten sheaf, and quote accordingly for prime, ordinary, £3s 10s to £3 12s 6d

MESSRS. ARTHUR McDONALD AND Co., auctioneers, report for the week ending November 14 as follows:—

**Wool.**—On Monday we submitted a small catalogue. For well-sorted lines of scoured merino, 17d to 18d per lb is obtainable; but to make these prices the wool must be well prepared. We sold medium to good crossbred, in the grease, at 9d to 10d; merino, 8d to 10d, according to quality; pieces in the grease, 5d to 8d.

**Sheepskins.**—We submitted a very large catalogue at our sale on Monday. Butchers' crossbreds sold at for good to prime, 5s 11d to 6s 5d, a few up to 7s; medium butchers' crossbreds, 5s to 5s 6d; do small, 4s 4d to 4s 9d; butchers' merinos, 4s 10d to 5s 4d; pelts, 1s to 1s 4d; lambs, 1s to 1s 6d. Country skins, full woolled, ranged from 4s 6d to 7s 6d.

**Tallow and Rough Fat.**—Inferior butchers' fat, 1s 3d to 13s; good, 14s; picked and dry is worth 16s; small lots of country tallow, 14s to 20s.

**Hides.**—We have no alteration to report. For extra prime heavies in faultless condition, 3d to 3d; prime heavies in sound condition and free from offal, 3d to 3d; medium 2d to 2d; inferior, about 2d.—Calfskins: For carefully flayed lots up to 4d per lb is obtainable.

**Wheat continues to have fair inquiry, We quote: Prime milling at 4s to 4s 1d; medium, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; fowls' feed, in strong enquiry at 2s 9d to 3s 4d, according to quality.**

MR. F. MBENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices, bags included: Oats, 2s 6d to 2s 8d. Wheat: milling, 4s 4s to 4s 4d; fowls', 3s to 3s 6d. Barley: malting, 4s to 4s 6d; milling, 3s 6d; feed, 2s 6d to 3s. Chaff: £3 5s to £3 10s. Hay: oaten, £3 5s; r.g., best, £3. Bran, £4 10s. Pollard, £3 10s. Potatoes: Northern, 50s to 70s; Taieri, £4 10s; Southern, £3. Butter: fresh, 5d to 8d; salt, 6d. Cheese, market bare of factory, and up to 5d obtainable for best brands; medium, 4d. Eggs, plentiful, 7d. Flour, stone, £9 10s to £10; roller, £11 10s to £12 5s. Oatmeal, firm, £13.

## IRELAND AT THE ANTIPODES.

AN Englishman resident in Boston borrowed, the other day, from a journalist of his acquaintance a sheaf of Australian newspapers. He returned them presently, complaining, "I wanted Australian papers; these are all Irish."

He found the *Freeman* of Sydney appealing to a constituency identical apparently with that of its Dublin namesake; the Melbourne *Advocate* and the N.Z. *TABLET* differing little in tone and temper from *United Ireland* and the *Nation*. There was spirited editorial discussion of the murder of Mandeville, the *Times* forgeries against Parnell, the English intrigues at the Vatican. Regular Irish correspondence appeared from Michael Davitt, the Redmonds, and other prominent Nationalists. Local comment and record were largely and necessarily of men of Irish birth or blood; as more than one-third of the European population of the Southern Continent are of Irish origin, and prominent in political life, in professional and business circles. The various accents of the 32 counties of Ireland are heard every day in the great seaport of Sydney. N.S.W.

Elsewhere, our astonished English friend read accounts of enthusiastic meetings and large subscriptions for the Evicted Irish Tenants' Fund all the way from Sydney and Timaru, N.Z. And on other crowded pages still, the old story of Catholic Ireland's church-builders and school-builders winning the new land for the old faith; priests from the Irish missionary colleges constantly landing in the Australian ports, teaching communities, not simply of large Irish membership but of unmixed Irish origin—as the Irish Christian Brothers, Presentation Nuns, and Sisters of Mercy—training the young Australians not only to love their faith and their birthland, but to love and work for Ireland. He noted the prophecy of Archbishop Carr, of Melbourne, that Ireland would have Home Rule within a year or two, and the enthusiasm of the auditors of Dr. O'Reilly, the newly-installed Bishop of Port Augusta, Southern Australia (one of the five Irish bishops appointed to the five newly-created Australian sees) when, following almost on his profession of faith, he made public adhesion to the Irish Home Rule platform.

The Englishman was right. The Australian newspapers are very largely Irish. They must be, would they mirror faithfully the life of the Australian people.—*Pilot*.

MYERS AND Co., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. The 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.]

At Bologna, near the Castle San Pietro, have been found two stones with identical inscriptions, saying that the bridge over the Silaro was built by the Emperor Nerva.