

Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending February 22, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—The moderate supply of 205 head (of which 82 were stores) was forward at the yards to-day. Prices, however, showed no improvement on those lately ruling. Bullocks realised from L5 to L10 2s 6d, and cows L3 to L6 17s 6d. We quote, as last week, 20s per 100lb.

Fat Calves.—Four were sold at 23s per head.

Fat Sheep.—The pens contained 1,852 head, 200 being merinos and stores. This being less than an average supply the demand resulted in an improvement of 1s 3d to 1s 6d per head. Crossbreds sold at from 8s 9d to 12s 6d, and merinos 5s 3d to 6s. We sold drafts of crossbreds on account of Messrs John Duncan at 9s to 10s, and Ross Brothers at 12s to 12s 6d per head. Quotation for best mutton, 2d per lb.

Fat Lambs.—249 penned, and realised from 7s 9d up to 12s 6d each.

Fat Pigs.—Forty-five sold at from 6s to 16s.

Store Sheep.—Crossbreds continue in fair demand, but the inquiry for merinos is less active.

Sheepskins.—We offer a good catalogue on Monday. The attendance was satisfactory, and biddings spirited, prices showing a rise of 4d to 6d per skin on last week's values. The following quotations were obtained:—Crossbreds, 4s to 6s 8d; merinos, 2s 11d to 5s 3d; lambskins, 10d to 1s 10d; and butchers' pelts, 9d to 1s 8d each.

Hides.—We sold all forward at last reported prices, say 4d per lb for heavy and well-conditioned, and 3d to 3½ for light and inferior. We would again remind our constituents that it is absolutely necessary that hides be trimmed from shanks, ears, and cheeks before being submitted for sale, and recommend that this be done before despatching them.

Grain.—Wheat: There is no change to report, 4s 6d being about the price obtainable for prime milling, 4s 6d being about the price obtainable for prime milling 4s to 4s 4d for medium, and 2s to 3s 6d for inferior and fowl feed. Some samples of the new crop are to hand, and have found buyers at about equal to those quotations. Oats: The inquiry continues good, and prices are gradually advancing. We quote 2s 4½d for milling and 2s 3½d for bright feed oats. Barley: Market at a standstill.

LABOUR MARKET.—FEB. 22, 1882.

P. M. GRANT, Universal Labour Exchange, reports:—The stormy weather during the past week has greatly retarded harvest work, and crops are ripening slower than was expected. The extremely unfavourable weather has completely damped the spirits of farmers, and prevented them from employing so many hands as they would otherwise have done, but still work is plenty and the wages fair in country districts, and it is to be regretted that men are either unable or unwilling to go, or pay their fare to the works. A great number prefer staying in town, where they filter away their wages (in most cases small), and just manage to live, instead of going to the country, where they could make a good cheque, thus enabling them to lay up something for a rainy day. Tradesmen are in good demand, especially blacksmiths; hotel hands all busy—more wanted for race week. The cry about the scarcity of domestic servants has been so often repeated that no notice is taken of the matter, and the Government allows mistresses to suffer and complain (not without cause), but does not use any means to relieve them by carrying out the system of nominated immigration they promised some time ago. I think a deputation of ladies should wait on the Government to urge on them the necessity of taking immediate action, and carry out the system of nominated immigration for domestic servants (assisted or otherwise). A deputation of this kind would be of more service to the colony than a great number of the deputations *à* this and that trivial matter, which occupies so much of the time of the members of the Government. Current rates of wages—very little alteration from last week.

OTAGO LAND BOARD.—At the sitting of the Board held on Wednesday, the application of B. Naylor, senr., and B. Naylor, junr., for a reduction of rent on deferred-payment license, sections 17 and 18, block III., Lauder district, after a long discussion as to grievance suffered by the applicants, was allowed to go on to the Government without a recommendation. The following petition, with 140 signatures, mostly of miners, attached to it, was presented by Mr. J. C. Brown:—"We, the undersigned residents of Waipori, in the Tuapeka County, most respectfully request that you will set apart for a commonage certain lands comprising the following: All that portion bounded by the Waipori river to the junction or mouth of Stoney creek; from thence in a direct line to Trig Station northerly; from thence in a direct line to Trig Station at Mile Rocks, as far as the Lammerlaw creek, following the same downwards to the boundary line of and including also what was always considered to be the old commonage." The matter was referred to the Government. A petition from residents at Catlins river, asking to have the Ferry Reserve subdivided and opened for sale on village deferred payment, was referred to the Ranger to report on the railway survey. On the report of the Warden at Lawrence that sections 25 and 86, block II., Table Hill, were no longer required for mining, it was resolved to advertise them for agricultural leasing. The Board regretted that, owing to the lateness of the memorial they were unable to recommend the Government to comply with the petition of residents at Kawaru that Run 245 D be withdrawn from pastoral leasing and opened under agricultural lease. J. A. Mooney's application to purchase section 25, Block VII., Crookston, was declined on the Education Board's refusing to consent. The application of G. T. Thorp to have the transfer of a deferred-payment license in the Macrewhenua district transferred to G. Campbell, was ordered to be advertised. The application of Wm. Fenwick to purchase 570 acres on Run 217 A, Otepopo, and 20 acres on another part of the run, was declined.

SATURDAY, 4TH MARCH,
At 2 o'clock sharp.

At Watsons' Hotel, Dunedin.

GREAT SALE OF FREEHOLD SECTIONS
In the Townships of South Dunedin, Forbury, and St. Kilda.

Valuable Business and Villa Sites.

THE SPECULATION OF THE DAY.

Terms to suit everybody.

DONALD REID AND CO.
have received instructions from Mr. Wm. Hutchings to sell by auction, at Watsons' Hotel, Dunedin, on Saturday, the 4th March, at two o'clock sharp.

28 valuable sections in the Township of South Dunedin.

17 sections in the township of Forbury, fronting Richmond road and the Main District road;

And

2 valuable corner sections in the Township of St. Kilda, fronting Lambert and Larkworthy streets.

Purchasers in any of the blocks will have the privilege of taking a number of sections together if desired.

Tram-cars run regularly, affording comfortable and cheap means of access to the City and suburbs at all hours.

Terms: £5 per section deposit; one-fourth in three months; balance in one, two, and three years, bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum; or the full amount may be paid at any time at the option of the purchaser.

Lithograph plans will soon be ready.

Wait for the GREAT LAND SALE, South Dunedin, Forbury, and St. Kilda.

Terms to suit everybody.

THE CATHOLIC BOOK DEPOT

(Opposite the Catholic Church),

BARBADOES STREET, CHRISTCHURCH,

Is the only establishment in the colony confined exclusively to Catholic Literature, Devotional objects, and School Requisites, and under the direct auspices and patronage of the Hierarchy and Clergy.

Christian Brothers' Reading Books always in Stock.

Special allowance made to Clergymen, Committees, and those in the trade.

ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

E. O'CONNOR

IF this should meet the eye of ROSE McALISTER,

Native of the County Antrim, Ireland, she can write to her

Brother CHARLES McALISTEE, Ross, West Coast, New Zealand.

When last heard of was in State of California, in the year 1854 served

with the Honourable Judge William Elsworth, State of New York.

Any one communicating her whereabouts, dead or alive, will be

thankfully received. American, Australian, and New Zealand papers

please copy.

Ross, 11th Feb., 1882.

WANTED Teacher (Male or Female) for St. Patrick's

School, Arrow. Applications, with Testimonials, to be forwarded

to

REV. JOHN MACKAY.

WANTED, Female Teacher, for Roman Catholic School,

Naseby; Salary £80, with furnished residence. Apply to Rev.

Father Sheenan, Ophir.