

extremely wicked, to look upon her on her arrival here as anything except the victim of troubled times, and deserving of pity and sympathy from all her fellow-country people.

It is reported that the rain has ceased in Canterbury, except between Hinds and Waimate. The injury done to the railway is comparatively light, and it is expected communication between Dunedin and Christchurch will be restored to-morrow night.

A verdict of "Not Guilty" has been returned by the jury in the case of James Fitzharris.

Heavy rain set in last night in Wellington.

THURSDAY.

No tenders have been received by the New Zealand Agent-General for the direct steam service between this Colony and England.

The trial of Edward M'Caffrey for the Phoenix Park murders began yesterday.

Dynamite bombs have been discovered at Smolensk, and a conspiracy is reported to exist for the foundation of a Russian Republic.

The West Coast Railway Commission are busy taking evidence. —They are proceeding from Greymouth to the junction of the Waiau, and the Hope, where they will separate, half going to Reefton direct, via Ada Saddle; the other half proceeding to Ahaura, by the Amuri Saddle. Both parties will meet at Reefton about the 15th inst., where they will take evidence. They will afterwards proceed to Westport, taking evidence there, and return to Christchurch either by Nelson or Hokitika, as opportunity offers.

The Commissioners appointed to inquire into the working of the New South Wales land laws strongly condemn the effect of the Land Acts.

A fatal accident occurred last night at the Dunedin railway station to an engine-driver named Thomas Meek. He was engaged about the engine when he called to the fireman to move it along, and by some mischance got crushed between it and the coaling-stage. —He was terribly injured and died at the hospital a short time afterwards. He leaves a wife and three children.

There has been for some days a strike among the miners at the Walton Park coal mine, and as yet there is no sign of any agreement being come to between the men and the proprietors.

A destructive fire occurred at Kamo, Auckland, yesterday. Munn's Kamo Hotel and Cleary's butcher shop were destroyed. The loss is £3000. The hotel was insured in the Colonial Office for £1000, and £500 was reinsured in the Phoenix. The butcher's shop was also insured, but the office is unknown.

M'Callum's store, at Okato, was burnt down yesterday morning at 5 o'clock. Mrs. M'Callum had a narrow escape of being burned to death. The cause of the accident is not known. The insurance on the building is £200, and on the stock £350. M'Callum estimates his loss at £300 over the insurance. Not even their clothes were saved, Mrs. M'Callum being carried out of the house in her night-dress.

At the meeting of the Otago Land Board yesterday, the applications for licenses made at the last meeting were dealt with, one only being granted—that of Matthew Elliott, section 2, block III, Strath-Taieri. The Board still maintain their determined attitude towards the alleged cases of dummyism.

James Fitzharris will now be tried for conspiracy to murder.

Mr. J. E. REDMOND, M.P.

MR REDMOND has addressed the following letter to the Irishmen of Queensland:—

Fellow-countrymen, —It is to me a matter of very great regret that I cannot visit all portions of Queensland. This regret is intensified by my knowledge of the sterling patriotism and past exertions of this portion of Australia. Nothing but the absolute necessity which exists for a speedy return to my labours in the House of Commons prevents me from visiting you,

I venture to appeal to you, to form as far as you can, in every town, branches of the National League. In the name of Mr. Parnell and his colleagues, I ask my fellow-countrymen to open subscription lists at once, and to forward all accounts to Father Breen of the Australian Office in Brisbane. These funds will be devoted to a double purpose; first, to alleviate the sufferings of the famine-stricken people in the West and North of Ireland, and, secondly, to assist in destroying the cause from which famine has sprung in the past—to root the people as owners on the soil, and to obtain for Ireland the restoration of her undoubted rights of self-government.

In this matter time is of paramount importance. I ask you to set to work at once, and I feel convinced that the result of this appeal will be to prove to Ireland and the world, that the Irishmen of Queensland are still true to the cause for which they have so successfully and generously worked in the past.—I remain, your faithful servant.

J. E. REDMOND.

Messrs. Wood, Scott and Co., Tailors and Clothiers, Princes street, Dunedin, announce the enlargement of their premises, which has been necessitated by the great increase to their business.

In consequence of the dissolution of partnership by Messrs. Saunders and M'Beath, the well-known drapers, Princes st., Dunedin, a clearing sale is being held by the firm, at which immense bargains are to be secured.

Mr. E. B. Bradshaw, Jetty and Crawford streets, Dunedin, offers the most liberal terms for rabbitskins, of which he requires an unlimited supply.

A Ballymote (Mayo) despatch says: "The poor labourers in this district, never very far from the border line dividing them from actual starvation, are at this time worse off than they have been in many years."

Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending 2nd May as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—180 were yarded for to-day's supply. This number not being excessive competition was brisker, and an advance on prices ruling for the last few weeks was obtained. There were a few pens very fair quality, but the greater portion was only medium. Bulls fetched from £4 5s to £11 12s 6d, and cows up to £8 5s. We sold a draft on account of Mr. William Shand, Greytown (light weights), at from £5 5s to £7 5s. We quote prime beef, 22s 6d; medium, 17s 6d to 20s per 100lb.

Fat Calves.—46 were penned, and found buyers at from 15s to 27s each.

Fat Sheep.—2024 were penned, about half being merinos. Both cross-breeds and merinos of indifferent quality were lower and hard to quit, but good quality was higher, best cross-breeds realising from 13s 6d to 16s 3d; medium do., 11s to 12s 6d; merinos, 6s to 9s. We sold, on account of Messrs. Wilson Bros., 75 cross-breeds at 11s; the New Zealand Agricultural Company, 172 merinos at 8s 3d to 9s; Messrs. A. and T. Little, Mount Stewart, 30 cross-breeds, 16s 3d. We quote mutton 2d to 2½d per lb.

Fat Lambs.—Only 26 forward, which brought 7s 9d to 10s 6d, each.

Pigs.—57 were penned, and sold freely. Competition being active, sold at from 28s to 53s each.

Store Sheep.—The demand for these is not so brisk, except to a certain extent for cross-breeds, which could still be placed if they could be purchased at prices to leave a margin for fattening.

Sheepskins.—We offered a large catalogue on Monday last. The attendance was good, and with spirited competition every lot was speedily cleared at prices slightly in advance of those obtained last week. Nearly all the lots were butchers' skins, which fetched—for green cross-breeds, 1s 6d to 2s 10d; do. merinos, 1s 7d to 2s; dry pelts, 5d to 1s 4d; lambskins, up to 2s 6d.

Rabbitskins.—We offered and sold 6 bales and 2 bags. Suckers and inferiors brought 4d to 6½d; fairly well-saved summer skins 10½d to 1s 1½d.

Hides.—There is no alteration in values. The demand continues good, more especially for heavy parcels, which command up to 4½d per lb.

Tallow.—The demand is equal to the supply, and there is no trouble in placing for local requirements all coming to hand. We sold on Monday: inferior, at 22s 6d to 54s 6d; medium, 31s to 32s 6d; prime is worth 33s 6d to 34s; and rough fat, 23s to 24s per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat in good condition is easily disposed of, but prices are not quite so firm. Prime samples of Tuscan are worth 4s 3d; white velvet, 4s 2d; red straw, 4s to 4s 1d; medium, 3s 6d to 3s 9d; inferior and fowls' wheat, 2s 6d to 3s 3d.—Oats are not moving off quite so speedily as we would wish. There are, however, some lots picked up for shipment occasionally, which relieve us; and although stocks are increasing, prices remain about the same as last week—say, for stout bright milling, 1s 10d; do. feed, 1s 9d; Danish and discoloured, 1s 7d to 1s 8d.—Barley: Malting samples are inquired for, but very few good lots come to hand. Any such could be disposed of at from 4s 9d to 5s.

Ryegrass seed continues dull of sale.

PRODUCE MARKET—MAY 3, 1883.

MR. F. MEENAN, Great King street, reports:—Wholesale prices: Oats, 1s 7d to 1s 10d per bushel; milling wheat, 4s to 4s 6d per bushel; fowls' feed, 2s to 3s 3d; barley, malting, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; milling, 3s 6d; feeding, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; hay, new, £4 per ton; hay chaff, £4; straw, £2 10s; bran, £4; pollard, £4 10s; potatoes, £2 5s; oatmeal, £12 10s; flour, £10 10s to £11; butter, medium to prime, 10d to 1s 1d per lb.; salt, 10d per lb.; eggs, 2s 3d per dozen; bacon, sides, 8½d per lb.; rolls, 8d; hams, 10d; pork, 6d; old cheese 8d to 9d, new 5d.

MESSRS. MERCER BROTHERS, Princes street, report:—Fresh butter (in ½-lb. and 1lb. prints), best quality, 1s 2d per lb.; ordinary butter, 1s per lb.; eggs, 2s 6d per dozen; roll bacon, 7½d per lb. good salt butter, in kegs, 10½d per lb.; cheese 6d per lb.

LABOUR MARKET.—MAY 2, 1883.

P. M. GRANT AND Co., Labour Agents, report for the week ending 2nd May as follows:—Business has been very slow this week, owing to the inclement weather preventing all kinds of out-door work. Threshing, ploughing, bush, and contract works are entirely stopped, and in consequence a number of men are waiting engagements, especially general hands, rabbiters, and couples with families. For good ploughmen the demand is good; couples (no encumbrance), wanted; female servants, suitable for country service, hard to procure in sufficient numbers to meet orders: girls evidently prefer remaining at work in factories in town to the country, even when offered high wages. Current rates of wages for couples, £60 to £75; shepherds, £60; ploughmen, £50 to £60; gardeners, £65 per annum and found; general hands, milkers and grooms, 15s, 20s; boys, youths, 5s, 15s; station cooks, carpenters and blacksmiths, 25s, 30s; hotelmen, 16s, 20s; cooks, barmen, 25s, 50s per week and found; day labour—road, rail, and bush, 6s, 8s per day. Tradesmen seem fairly employed at satisfactory wages. Wages for female servants, good; housemaids, laundresses, waitresses, general servants for town hotels, 12s, 15s; cooks, barmans, 20s, 30s per week; useful girls for stations, farms, country, £30 to £52 per annum.