

The Bradford wool market is improving.

Mutton—Crossbred wethers and maiden ewes : Canterbury, 3½d per lb ; Dunedin and Southland, 2 13-16d ; North Island, 2 11-16d.

Lamb—Prime Canterbury, 6½d. A fair average, including Dunedin, Southland, Wellington, and secondary Canterbury, is selling at 5 11-16d.

River Plate crossbreds or merino wethers—heavy, 2½d ; light 2½d.

### STOCK EXCHANGE.

(SPECIAL TO THE NEW ZEALAND TABLET.)

Wednesday, February 23.

BANKS.—National. Buyers, 2¼/- ; Sellers, 2½/-. New South Wales, B., 34/-/- ; S., 31/10/-. Union of Australia, Ltd. (ex div.), B., 27/-/- ; S., 27/10/-.  
INSURANCE.—National, B., 16/- ; S., 16/6. New Zealand, B., 3/7/6 ; S., 3/10/-. South British, B., 2/9/6 ; S., 2/10/6. Standard, B., 12/9 ; S., 13/-.

SHIPPING.—New Zealand Shipping, B., 4/-/- ; S., 1/5/-. Union Steam, B., 9/-/- ; S., 9/5/-.

COAL.—Kaitangata (old), B., 21/-/- ; S., 2 1/4/-. Do (new), B., 2/9/- ; S., 2/11/-. Westport (ex div.), B., 2/11/6 ; S., 2/15/6.

LOAN AND AGENCY.—Commercial Property Company (10/-), B., 4/9 ; S., 5/6. National Mortgage (cum. div.), B., 10/9 ; S., 11/3. Perpetual Trustees, B., 10/6 ; S., 11/-. Trustees and Executors, B., 1/11/- ; S., 1/13/-.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Colonial Sugar Refining Co. (£20), B., 28/-/- ; S., 29/10/-. Kaiapoi Woolen Co., B., 6/-/- ; S., 6/5/-. Milburn Lime and Cement, B., (ex rights) 1/7/6 ; S., 1/8/6 ; do., new issue, B., 2/- ; S., 2/9. Mornington Tramway, B., 1/5/4 ; S., 16/-, premium. Mosgiel Woollen, B., 4/6/- ; S., 4/7/-. New Zealand Drug (2/-/- paid), B., 2/7/3 ; S., 2/8/-. New Zealand Drug (30/-/- paid), B., 1/11/6 ; S., 1/15/6. Otago Daily Times, B., 11/2/6 ; S., 11/10/-. Emu Bay Railway, B., 7/6 ; S., 8/6.

GOLDFIELDS.—Reefton : Big River Extended, B., 10/- ; S., 11/-. Cumberland Extended, B., 1/3 ; S., 1/6. Dillon Extended, B., 2/- ; S., 2/6. Keep-it-Dark, B., 16/- ; S., 17/-. Alpine Extended, B., 5/- ; S., 5/9. Welcome Co. (Ltd.), B., 3/- ; S., 3/6. Crusus (Paparua), B., 10/6 ; S., 11/6. Auckland.—Banker's Hill, B., 1/2 ; S., 1/4. Waihi Silverton, B., 7/6 ; S., 10/-. Otago.—Morning Star (A issue), B., 16/- ; S., 17/-. Ophir Deep Lead, B., 10/- ; S., 12/.

DREDGING COMPANIES.—Buller, B., 5/- ; S., 6/-. Clyde, B., 2/10/- ; S., 2/13/-. Enterprise, 2/12/6 ; S., 2/15/-. Golden Beach (par), B., — ; S., —. Golden Gate, B., 1/8/- ; S., 1/9/-. Golden Run, B., 1/-/- ; S., 1/1/-. Golden Treasure, B., 2/19/6 ; S., 3/1/-. Golden Terrace, B., 11/6 ; S., 12/6. Jutland Flat (paid), B., 7/6 ; S., 8/-. Lion Rock, B., 1/2/6 ; S., 1/3/3. Molyneux Hydraulic Co. Dredge (B issue), B., 1/5/- ; S., 1/7/-. Nevis, B., 18/- ; S., 1/-/- Otago B., 1/9/6 ; S., 1/11/-. Upper Waipori (contrib.), B., 2/- ; S., 2/6.

SLUICING COMPANIES.—Moonlight Sluicing (contrib.) B., 1/16/- ; S., 1/19/-. Roxburgh Amalgamated (contrib.), B., 6/- ; S., 6/9. Deep Stream, B., 19/6 ; S., 1/-/- Bakery Flat, B., 14/- ; S., 15/-.

### MARRIAGES.

MR. ALBERT HART, second son of Mr. B. Hart, Wetherstones, was married to Miss Mary Airey, at St. Patrick's Church, Lawrence. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father O'Leary assisted by the Rev. Father Delany. The church was well filled by the friends of the bride and bridegroom, the marriage ceremony following at the conclusion of the nuptial Mass. Miss Kate Airey, sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid, and the duties of best man were discharged by Mr. Fred Hart, of Wellington. The presents to the bride were numerous and costly, both from friends in the district, Dunedin and other places. A large company subsequently assembled at Mrs. Airey's, where a sumptuous wedding breakfast was partaken of, during which the usual toasts to the bride and bridegroom were duly honoured. At a later hour the newly married pair, attended by a large number of their friends, were driven to Waitahuna, whence they took the train for Christchurch, where they will spend the honeymoon. In the evening the event was honoured by a dance in the Wetherstones schoolhouse at which a large party attended. On the day preceding Mr. Hart was made the recipient of a beautiful marble clock, appropriately inscribed, from the employes of the firm of Messrs. Simpson and Hart and a number of his Wetherstones friends.

A quiet but interesting wedding took place at St. Mary's Christchurch, on Tuesday morning last, when Miss Annie Cullen, third daughter of the late Mr. John Cullen, of Akaroa, and Mr. Patrick Grealy, of Winchmore, Ashburton, were united in matrimony. The bride, who looked very pretty in a beautiful white-vested brown dress, trimmed with Maltese lace, was given away by her brother, Mr. John Cullen, and a promising member of the legal profession in Christchurch. Mr. A. J. O'Malley, was the best man. The bridesmaid was Miss Mary Cullen, a sister of the bride. The Rev. Father Marnane performed the ceremony and said the Nuptial Mass, at which both bride and bridegroom approached holy communion. From the church the bridal party drove to the residence of the bride's brother-in-law, Mr. F. K. Cooper, of Cooper's road, St. Albans, where a very enjoyable marriage breakfast was held. The Rev. Father Marnane presided, and proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom, which was duly honoured. The Rev. Father Goggan was also present at the repast for a time, but Mr. O'Malley, from having to conduct a case in the Magistrate's Court, was unavoidably absent. After spending a very pleasant day with Mr. and Mrs. Cooper and friends, the newly-married couple left by the express in the evening for their home at Ashburton. The wedding presents were numerous, valuable, and useful.

A quiet but pretty wedding was celebrated at St. Mary of the Angel's, Wellington, on Wednesday, 9th February, and although confined to the members of the bride and bridegroom's family, considerable interest was taken by a great number of parishioners. The bridegroom was Mr. C. E. Aldridge, fourth son of J. Aldridge, Esq., Oxford, Canterbury. The bride was Miss Agnes Teresa McParland, second daughter of Frank McParland, Esq., J.P., late of the West Coast, and now of Wellington. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Ainsworth, S.M., assisted by the Rev. Father Carew, Greymouth. The bride, who was given away by her father, was handsomely attired in white, with the customary veil and orange blossom, and carried an elegant shower bouquet, the gift of Mr. Ross of the Gardens, Lower Hutt. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Kate McParland, who acted as bridesmaid, and was handsomely attired. Mr. Thomas Hunter of Christchurch acted as best man, whilst Mr. George Aldridge, brother of the bridegroom, acted as groomsmen. There were also present, in rich costumes suited to the occasion, Miss McParland (sister of the bride), and Mrs. McParland (her mother), Misses Mary and Maggie McArdle, Mrs. Baker (Greymouth) cousins to the bride, Mrs. Minogue, and Mrs. Short (Nelson). At the conclusion of the ceremony the party were driven to the residence of the bride's parents amidst showers of rice and good wishes from the crowd assembled. They were entertained with a sumptuous breakfast. Amongst the guests were the Rev. Father Ainsworth and Rev. Father Carew. Various toasts were given, and a couple of hours were pleasantly passed, when the happy pair left by steamer to spend their honeymoon in Christchurch, en route for their new home in Dunedin. Their young friends held a pleasant social and dance in Speller's Hall. The gifts of the bridegroom to the bride was a handsome diamond ring and gold cable bangle, to the bridesmaid a gold brooch with sapphires and diamonds. There was a magnificent display of costly gifts from a wide circle of friends.

A Tuapeka Mouth correspondent sends us an account of the marriage of Mr. Patrick McEvoy and Miss Mary Ann Keenan. The ceremony was performed by the Very Rev. Father O'Leary, of Lawrence, assisted by Father Delancy. The bride was handsomely attired in a fawn coloured serge dress, trimmed with pink satin, with wreath and veil. Miss Katherine Keenan, sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid, the best man being Mr. John Keenan, the bride's brother. The bride was given away by her father. At the conclusion of the ceremony, over forty persons sat down to a sumptuous wedding dinner.

### THE FALLIN' O' THE RAIN.

AN IRISH PALLAD.

Good-bye to County Carlow, 'tis the lonesome place to me ;  
Sure every week is like a month, and every month like three.  
The mist is comin' wet and cold, but now I won't complain,  
I'm goin' home and little reck the fallin' o' the rain.

'Twas foolishness that brought me here, I wonder at it now,  
Too proud was I to work the spade or follow up the plough ;  
But little work and gold galore won't heal the heart o' pain,  
And I'm off to old Kilkenny through the fallin' o' the rain.

'Twas foolishness that brought me here, 'twas madness made me stay,  
With not a hillside slopin' green to rest my eyes all day ;  
But Allen's bog outstretchin' like the level blindin' main,  
And ne'er a burst o' sunshine for the fallin' o' the rain.

A curse upon the landlord crew, they're every where the same ;  
If Ireland's deep in poverty, we know to whom the blame ;  
The devil's in their greedy hearts, they'd rob us root and grain  
God's wrath fall heavy on 'em with the fallin' o' the rain.

he lad's are tall and hearty here, the cailins sweet to see,  
nd God wil I sure reward 'em all their kindness unto me ;  
ut when I joined their merry dance, and heard the pipers play,  
My heart nigh burst with longin' for the faces far away.

I wonder if 'tis but a dream a hundred times a day,  
And draw my hand across my eyes to drive it all away ;  
Then faint and dim I see the hills beyond this weary plain,  
They call my wild heart ever thro' the fallin' o' the rain.

But soon I'll breathe the heather-breath on brown Knock-brackeh's side,  
And see a silver-shining stream across the valleys glide,  
No rest shall taste these weary limbs, or sleep the throbbin' brain,  
Till Suir's flood shows gleamin' thro' the fallin' o' the rain.

Oh, high are Ormonde's castle stones and princely Carragh-More,  
But built are they on Irish bones, and washed with Irish gore.  
Yet surely out from bondage God will lead his own again,  
And dry the tears long fallin' like the fallin' o' the rain.

And then my native Ossory, whose vales now greet my gaze,  
Upon thy hundred mountain peaks the triumph fires shall blaze,  
Thy glory shall be fairer for the waitin' years o' pain,  
As comin' sunshine flashes thro' the fallin' o' the rain.

REV. J. B. DOLLARD (Slav-na-mon).—*Weekly Freeman.*

The essential elements of giving are power and love—activity and affection—and the consciousness of the race testifies that in the high and appropriate exercise of these is a blessedness greater than any other.