

BARLEY—Brewers are about getting full up, and it won't astonish us if an easier tone takes place from this forward.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: Good demand; feed, 2s 3d to 2s 4d; milling, 2s 4d to 2s 6d. Fowls' wheat, 3s to 4s; milling, 4s 6d to 5s. Chaff, L3 5s to L4, fair supply. Ryegrass and clover hay, L3 5s to L4 5s. Straw, pressed 28s per ton; loose, 28s. Potatoes: Market bare, L6 10. Flour. Roller. L13 to L13 10s. Oatmeal: L13 in 25lbs. Butter: Dairy, 10d to 1s; factory, 1s 3d. Eggs, 1s 8d. Bran, L4. Pollard, L5. Onions, L9 per ton.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS—We offered a large catalogue on Monday, when there was brisk competition and prices were a shade higher than last week. Winter greys fetched 14d to 15½d; autumns, 10d to 13d; summers, 6d to 9d; small, 1½d to 4d; black, up to 17½d per lb.

SHEEPSKINS—There is good competition at the weekly sales at present, and prices remain firm. Best dry crossbreds, 1s to 5s 6d; medium, 3s to 3s 9d; inferior, 1s 9d to 2s 10d; pelts, 6d to 1s 6d; best merinos, 3s 3d to 4s 6d; medium, 2s 3d to 3s; inferior, 1s 4d to 2s; pelts, 3d to 1s 3d; green crossbreds 2s 6d to 3s 3d; do lambskins, 2s 6d to 2s 9d.

HIDES—Market firm. Prime heavy ox, 3½d to 4d; medium 2½d to 3d; light and inferior, 1½d to 2½d per lb.

TALLOW—Demand good and prices firm. Best rendered mutton, 13s 6d to 15s; medium, 11s 6d to 13s; rough fat, 8s 6d to 11s per cwt.

Messrs. Edward Thomas and Co., Bond street, Dunedin, Wool, Skin, Hair, and Hide Merchants, report:—

RABBITSKINS—Some 40 bales were catalogued for Monday's sales and were sold well. Winter prime reached 15½d; medium grades were somewhat erratic, while lower sorts remained firm at recent rulings. The following are the values this week:—Winters, 11d to 15½d; early winter, 13d to 14d; incomings, 12d to 13d; autumns, 9d to 11d; summers, 1d to 7d; inferior and small, 1d to 4d.

HORSEHAIRS—Best clean tail, 15d; medium, 14½d; inferior 12d to 13d.

HIDES—Good firm market all coming forward find a ready sale at advanced rates.

SHEEPSKINS—No material alteration to report, prices at present remaining firm.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A line of crossbred wethers from the Oamaru district brought from 11s 7s to 15s 7d at Addington market on Wednesday.

The value of certain exports from the Colony for May was:—Butter, L31,489; cheese, L9998; frozen beef, L12,784; mutton, L64,039; lamb, L89,021.

The number of bicycles imported into the Colony during the March quarter of 1898 was 1955, of the total value of L19,563. The materials imported were of the value of L18,155, and the duty paid amounted to L5803. For the corresponding quarter of 1897 the figures were:—Machines 3438, value L38,838; materials L15,424, duty paid L8116. The figures for the past six months for Wellington are:—Machines 2104, value, L20,687; materials L6870, duty paid L1718.

L A T E C O M M E R C I A L .

BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

(SPECIAL TO N.Z. TABLET.)

(Per favour Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris.)

Wednesday, June 15, 5 p.m.

CATTLE—160 yarded, prices showing an advance on last week's rates. Fat bullocks fetched from L8 to L9 6s; medium, L6 10s to L7 17s 6d; inferior, L4 to L5 15s; fat cows, L5 to L6 10s; medium, L3 15s to L4 17s 6d; aged, from L1 10s to L3.

SHEEP—2820 penned. Prices fully 1s lower than last week. Fat wethers, 14s to 15s; medium, 12s to 13s 6d; light wethers, 10s 6d to 11s 9d. Best ewes, 11s 6d to 13s; medium, 9s to 11s 6d; others, 5s 6d to 8s.

LAMBS—107 penned. A good demand for freezing lambs; these showed an advance of 1s on last week's rates. Others sold at prices equal to last week's rates. Good freezing lambs, 9s to 10s; best butchers', 7s to 8s 6d; others, 1s to 6s 3d.

PIGS—59 penned. Suckers, 6s to 10s; slips, 11s to 15s; porkers, 25s to 32s; baconers, 15s to 58s. There were no heavy pigs. There was a good demand for good porkers and baconers; a poor demand for all other sorts.

Our readers are referred to an advertisement which appears elsewhere in this issue regarding Shacklock's celebrated Orion ranges. A Shacklock range is nowadays an indispensable adjunct in a well-appointed house. *

Messrs. Purdie and Co. have commenced business as cordial and aerated water manufacturers in Great King street, Dunedin. They are the sole makers of the celebrated Fizzola. *

WEDDING BELLS.

A VERY pretty but quiet wedding took place at St. John's Church, Parnell, on May 30 last, the contracting parties being Mr. John Kays, J.P., of Auckland, and Miss Rosa Hall, of Newmarket. The Rev. Father Kehoe was the officiating priest. The bride was dressed in a handsomely braided petunia cloth costume, with trimmings of cream satin and lace, hat to match. The bridesmaid, Miss Dorothy Gillett, wore a handsome brown dress, with pink silk trimmings and velvet toque. The bride was given away by Mr. G. M. Reed, of the *Herald*, and Mr. P. Foley acted as groomsman. After the wedding breakfast at the home of the bride's mother, Mr. and Mrs. Kays left by rail for the Waikato. Many handsome presents were given to the happy pair, who are well-known and highly respected in Auckland.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at the Christchurch Cathedral by the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, S.M., Vicar-General, on May 9, when Mr. J. H. Rowe, of the Bank of New South Wales, Inglewood, was united in the holy bonds of matrimony to Miss Mary Alice Baker-Gabb. The bride, who is a daughter of Charles Baker-Gabb, Esq., of Llwyn-du Court, Monmouthshire, is also a niece of the late John Baker-Gabb, Esq., Knight of St. Gregory, Private Chamberlain to his Holiness Pope Leo XIII. and the late Pius IX.; while the bridegroom is a nephew of the Rev. Father H. C. Fletcher, O.P., some time Prior of the Dominican Priory of Holy Cross, Leicester, and now of St. Dominick's Priory, Haverstock Hill, London.

BRITAIN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

A debate took place recently in the House of Commons on the foreign policy of the Government, chiefly directed against Mr. Chamberlain's now famous Birmingham speech. The speech was adversely criticised, Mr. Asquith stating that, Britain and Russia being the dominating forces in Asia, it was of the highest importance that Britain should cease to regard Russia as a perpetually menacing antagonist. Sir W. V. Harcourt demanded to know whether Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Salisbury were the true exponents of the Government policy. Mr. Chamberlain, in his reply, denied that the Cabinet was divided. Had he differed from the Premier he would have resigned. He adhered to his speech at Birmingham. They had sought an alliance with Russia, and, having failed, it would be absurd to enter into fresh negotiations. Mr. Chamberlain further said it was impossible to enforce the policy of an "open door," or to preserve China against the inroads of the great military Powers so long as England was isolated. He would advocate the closer relations of the Anglo-Saxon nations.

The celebrated Massey-Harris wheel is ever to the fore both on the track and the road. One of the big achievements with the Massey-Harris wheel is Ralston's win in the 50 mile Road Race at Christchurch on Canadian tyres. *

Now that coughs and colds are so prevalent in the community, it is of the utmost importance that some efficacious remedy should be available, and therefore it is we draw attention to Kay's compounds for coughs, colds, bronchitis, asthma, influenza, consumption, etc., which appears in this issue. *

The City Boot Palace bears a resemblance to the Corporation Abattoirs, for at the Boot Palace there is a great deal of slaughtering going on daily, and like at the abattoirs, the stock that is being slaughtered is of the best possible description. Anyone that wants a warm, comfortable, stylish, and cheap pair of boots during this sloppy weather cannot do better than go to the City Boot Palace. *

Important additions have been made to the Rink Stables, (Christchurch, by Messrs. Hayward and Sons. On Saturday afternoon they were inspected by a large number of representative gentlemen, who congratulated the proprietors on their enterprise. The health of the firm was drunk by the company, and also the health of the architect and of the contractor. *

Thus the *Otago Daily Times* speaking of W. Gregg and Co's celebrated coffee:—Being the oldest established house dealing in coffee manufacture in Dunedin—having 35 years' experience in the trade—it is not surprising to learn that Messrs. Gregg and Co. do two-thirds of the whole coffee business of the colony. Throughout New Zealand there is scarcely a grocer that does not supply a coffee-drinker who has not sampled, or a connoisseur (so we are told) who does not prefer the "Club" brand coffee by which this firm has gained its well-deserved reputation. To ensure convenient handling and prevent contamination by proximity with other goods in the course of transit from the manufactory to the breakfast table this article is put up in tins, each tin holding exactly 2½lb of coffee, the weight, we are informed, being quite irrespective of the weight of the tins. Other brands of coffee are exhibited, amongst them being the "Eagle," "Crown," "Elephant," "French," and "Arabian," etc., all too well known to require separate description here. The essence of coffee supplied by the firm—made up for the trade in three-dozen cases—is claimed to be the best in the market, and, owing to the very natural feeling that in this class of goods sweetness and freshness are everything, it is not surprising to learn that the local article is fast supplanting the imported, with regard to which it is difficult to disassociate the ideas of age and mustiness. *