

Rakaia, at 2s per 496lb, ex granary, and Hunter's white wheat, ex Rakaia, at 28s per 496lb, ex granary.

Sydney, April 26.—Wheat: Chick, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; milling, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. Flour, L6 10s to L6 15s; Manitoban, L9 10s to L9 15s. Oats: Feeding, 1s 8d to 1s 10d; milling, 2s; seeding (Tartarian), 2s to 2s 3d. Barley: Cape, 2s 6d; Chevalier, 3s 3d to 3s 6d. Peas: Prussian blue, 3s 6d to 3s 9d. Maize, heavy supplies new, 2s 6d. Bran, 8d to 8½d. Pollard, 9d. Potatoes: Circular Heads and New Zealand, L2 15s to L3. Onions: Victorian, L2 10s to L3; New Zealand, L3 to L3 5s. Butter: Dairy, 10d to 10½d; factory, 11d. Cheese: Large, 3d; loaf, 5½d to 6d. Bacon, 6½d to 8d.

Melbourne, April 26.—Wheat, firm, 2s 7½d to 2s 8d. Oats: Some large lots of New Zealand white sold for export at 1s 8d to 1s 8½d (f.o.b.); local feeding, 1s 5½d; Algerian, milling, 1s 8d. Barley: Chevalier, 1s 9d. Maize, 3s 1d to 3s 3d. Bran, 7½d. Pollard, 8½d. Potatoes, L2 5s to L2 10s. Onions, L2 5s to L2 12s 6d.

Adelaide, April 26.—Wheat, 2s 6d to 2s 7d. Flour, L6 5s to L6 10s. Oats: Stout, 2s to 2s 6d; dun and Algerian, 1s 6d to 1s 8d. Bran and pollard, 8½d.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale—Butter, fresh, 7d; eggs, 1s 6d per doz; cheese, farm, 3½d; bacon, farm, 7d; bacon (rolled), farm, 6d; hams, s 1; potatoes, 30s per ton; fowl wheat, 2s; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; chaff, L2; flour, L8; oatmeal, L9 to L10; bran, L2 10s, including bags; pollard, L3. Retail—Fresh butter, 9d; eggs, 1s 9d per doz; cheese, 6d; bacon (rolled) 8d; sliced, 9d; hams, 10d; potatoes, 50s per ton; flour, 200lbs, 17s; 50lbs, 4s 9d; 25lbs, 2s 6d; oatmeal, 50lbs, 5s; 25lbs, 2s 9d; pollard, 1s 9d per bag; bran, 3s 6d per bag; chaff, L2 10s per ton; fowls' feed, 2s 3d per bushel.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report as follows:—

OATS—We offered a quantity of medium to good feed. There was a large attendance of buyers, and, under moderate competition, the catalogue was cleared at prices on a par with last week's values. We quote: Seed lines, long Tartars, duns, etc., 1s 4½d to 1s 6d; prime milling, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; good to best feed, 1s 3d to 1s 3½d; medium, 1s 2d to 1s 2½d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT—No change to report. Prime milling is saleable at late quotations, buyers having a preference for choice lines. We quote: Prime milling velvet, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; Tuscan, etc., 2s 3d to 2s 5d; medium to good, 2s 1½d to 2s 3d; fowl wheat, whole, 1s 11d to 2s; broken and damaged, 1s 8d to 1s 10d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES—We submitted a quantity of good to prime Derwents, both Northern and Southern. Supplies being somewhat in excess of the demand competition was not strong, and best Derwents were quoted at 35s to 37s 6d; medium, 30s to 32s 6d per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF—We catalogued a large quantity, mostly good to prime quality. The local market is at present quite glutted, and consignors having further supplies would do well to hold them over until stocks become reduced. Prices to-day suffered a drop of fully 5s per ton. We sold: Best old chaff, L2 7s 6d to L2 10s; best new chaff, L2 to L2 5s; medium (which is extremely difficult to place), at L1 12s 6d to L1 17s 6d per ton (bags extra).

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

WHEAT—The market remains unchanged, the demand being mostly confined to prime samples. Quotations: Prime milling velvet, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; Tuscan, etc., 2s 3d to 2s 5d; medium, 2s 1½d to 2s 3d; fowl wheat, 1s 8d to 2s per bushel (sacks in, terms).

OATS—Market unchanged. Quotations: Seed lines, duns, etc., 1s 4½d to 1s 6d; milling, 1s 4d to 1s 5d; good to best feed, 1s 3d to 1s 3½d per bushel (sacks extra).

BARLEY—Demand dull. Prime malting, 2s 9d to 3s 4d, milling, 1s 9d to 2s; feed, 1s 6d to 1s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

CHAFF—Market over supplied, and prices slightly lower. Prime oatens sheaf, L2 to L2 5s; medium, L1 15s to L1 17s 6d per ton (bags extra).

POTATOES—Prices again show a slight decline, the best price to-day being 37s 6d per ton (bags in).

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, April 26.—At the Tallow sales 673 casks were offered, and 30 sold. Prices for all sorts are unchanged.

London, April 28.—The Bradford wool market is quiet. Tops, common sixties, 21½d; do, superior, 23½d.

As showing the rise in the value of store sheep that has taken place during the past two months, it may be mentioned (says the Christchurch Press) that a line of 900 two-tooth half-bred wethers that were bought for 10s 8d at the Starborough sale in March changed hands at Addington yesterday at 14s 6d to 14s 8d, while 1000 four-tooth ewes that cost 10s 3d at the Waitakahi sale early in April were sold at Ashburton on Tuesday at 13s.

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

RABBITSKINS—Last week's high values were fully maintained at Monday's sale, the demand for all classes of skins being very keen.

SHEEPSKINS—There was a good attendance of buyers at Tuesday's sale, and prices remained firm.

HIDES—In good demand. Prime heavy ox, 3½d to 4d; medium, 3d to 3½d; light, 2½d to 2¾d; inferior, 1½d to 2d per lb.

TALLOW—Market firm. Best rendered mutton, 14s to 15s 6d; medium, 11s 6d to 13s 6d; inferior, 9s 6d to 11s. Rough fat, 8s 6d to 11s per cwt.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: feed, medium to prime, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; milling, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d. Wheat: plentiful: milling, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; fowls', 1s. 6d to 2s.

Chaff: L2 5s to L2 12s 6d according to quality, plentiful. Ryegrass and clover hay: L3 to L3 5s. Straw: bare, loose, 28s; pressed, 27s per ton. Potatoes: L1 15s to L2. Market overstocked. Flour: L7 to L7 10s. Oatmeal: in 25lb bags, L8. Butter: dairy, 6d to 8d; fresh factory, 9d to 10d. Eggs: 1s 7d. Bran: L2 10s. Pollard: L3 10s. Onions: L3 10s to L3 15s per ton.

What the Cables Say.

It is announced that the Imperial Government has decided to contribute to the Pacific cable, England's contribution will take the shape of a yearly subsidy of the amount of the guarantee recommended in the report of the commission of 1896. The cable is to be laid between Vancouver, Fanning Island, Fiji, Norfolk Island, Queensland, and New Zealand.

Russia will adopt the Gregorian Calendar from the beginning of 1900.

Lynching is spreading in Georgia. The newspapers are clamouring for the emigration of the negroes.

A Manila cable says that further fierce fighting has taken place at Calompit, one of the Luzon Islands. The Filipinos, after losing heavily, were driven from their entrenchments and fled to the hills. Eight Americans were killed. A later message is to the effect that the Filipinos have asked for an armistice for the purpose of holding a native congress with a view to arrange a peace settlement. General Otis demands their complete surrender.

An amalgamated copper company has been formed at New Jersey with a capital of 74,000,000dols. (nearly fifteen millions sterling). The Standard Oil and the Morgan Trusts have a controlling influence in the new 'combine,' the capital of which will probably be raised to 400,000,000dols. (eighty millions sterling).

A message from St. Petersburg states that the Siberian Railway has been opened to Irkutsk. In a recent issue of the N. Z. TABLET there appeared an article, which dealt with the history of this vast undertaking, the difficulties met with in the course of construction, and the many advantages, in a commercial sense, which would result from its completion.

Count Hatzfeld, the German Ambassador to England, has invited the Australasian Governments to send representatives to a congress to be held in Berlin on May 24 to discuss the prevention of the epidemic of tuberculosis.

RUDYARD KIPLING AND IRISH MELODIES.

It is an interesting fact that Rudyard Kipling has found inspiration for some of his finest ballads in the old Irish airs. Some people sneer at Irish melodies and Irish music, but they are Kipling's favourites. In an interview with Mr. William Strang, who has made a famous etching of Kipling, the poet said:

'Well, do you know, I cannot write unless I hum a tune. I get inspiration from these fine old melodies. Tom Moore, you know, hunted up all the old Irish melodies he could and then wrote lines to fit them. I do not do that, but I take up for example, "The wearing of the green" and I hum it over and over, and the spirit moves me to write. I do not depend entirely upon Irish melodies, but I must say they are my favourites.

'Take my "Shillin' a Day," if you please. How could I ever have written it but for the fine old Irish melody that I hummed as a prelude?

'Oh, I tell you,' continued Kipling, after he had recited these lines of his popular poem, 'I've turned off many a stanza with the help of an Irish melody, and "The wearing of the green" is one of my preferred creditors.'

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give 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 Shillin's, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—*.*

The attention of farmers and agriculturists generally is directed to the advertisement of Messrs. Reid and Gray, the well known implement makers, which appears elsewhere in this issue. This old-established and up-to-date firm has an established reputation as makers of all kinds of agricultural implements—a reputation which extends to the other colonies. Their 'Champion' double furrow plough has long been recognised as one of the best on the market. Messrs. Reid and Gray are also makers of 2, 3, and 4-furrow stubble ploughs, steel and wood frame disc harrows, combined grain, turnip, and manure drills, chaff-cutters, and baggers, all of which are held in high repute, and have, from time to time, gained special prizes and awards at agricultural shows. Messrs. Reid and Gray are agents for the Peering harvesters and binders, horse rakes, and mowers, and the Rudge-Whitworth and Yellow Fellow bicycle. —*.*

The Waverley Bicycle. Send for beautiful illustrated Catalogue and learn all about this handsome and easy-running wheel. WAVERLEY CYCLE DEPOT, 217 Colombo St., Christchurch and John Orr and Co., Ashburton.