

English feed, 2s 4d. Maize, 2s 9d to 2s 11d. Bran, 8d. Pollard, 8 1/2d. Potatoes, L2 to L2 2s 6d. Onions, L2 5s to L2 10s.

Adelaide, May 3.—Wheat, 2s 7d to 2s 9d Flour, L6 10s. Oats: Dun an Algerian, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; stout, 2s to 2s 6d. Bran and pollard, 9d.

The Christchurch Press of Thursday of last week, commenting on the agricultural and pastoral outlook, says:—Prime Canterbury is now worth over 4d per lb in London, and lamb is up to 5d. On Wednesday, at Addington, the export buyers showed their confidence in the market by giving 16s to 18s 8d for freezing sheep, and over 15s for fat lambs. Wool is also rising at Home, and altogether the prospects of the sheep farmer have not been so satisfactory for years.

INVERCARGILL PRODUCE MARKET.

Wheat: Prices unchanged, only local buyers operating. Oats Values have gone down, and the best price obtainable is 1s 4 1/2d, sacks in, f.o.b. Bluff. Local merchants have given farmers from 1s 0 1/2d to 1s 1 1/2d, sacks extra, at up-country stations. These prices being very full value when compared with f.o.b. prices obtainable for orders from over sea, and unless values improve in the outside markets, it is evident that prices ruling locally must come down. The low value has induced some to try the London market, and shipments have been made by the Indramayo and Morayshire. Wheat: Good milling is worth from 2s 2d to 2s 3d, sacks extra, up-country stations. Ryegrass: Farmers' parceller find ready sale at 1s to 1s 3d, sacks extra. There is no outside demand. Barley: Good malting samples are saleable at 3s to 3s 3d to local brewers. The outside demand is poor.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale—Butter, fresh, 7d; eggs, 1s 6d per doz; cheese, farm, 3 1/2d; bacon, farm, 7d; bacon (rolled), farm, 6d; hams, 8d; 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, 1s 9d; 25lbs, 2s 6d; oatmeal, 50lbs, 5s; 25lbs, 2s 9d; pollard, 5s 9d per bag; bran, 3s 6d per bag; chaff, L2 10s per ton; fowls' feed, 2s 3d per bushel.

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

WHEAT—There is inquiry for prime milling and fowl wheat, but there is no change in values. Best milling, 2s 1d to 2s 6d; medium do., 2s 2d to 2s 4d; fowl wheat, 1s 11d to 2s for best broken and inferior, 1s 6d to 1s 9d (sacks in, terms).

OATS—Values are unchanged. There are numerous inquiries, but very little is offering in the meantime. Quotations are hard to get either here or at the Bluff. 1s 3d Dunedin (sacks extra) is the figure at which most sales are made for B. grade sorts.

BARLEY—The best price obtained recently was 3s 7d Dunedin for a splendid sample of Lakes barley. Sales of coastal sorts are made at 2s 3d and 2s 4d for ordinary medium quality.

CHAFF—Market overstocked and consignments difficult to place. Prime, L2 2s 6d to L2 5s; medium, L1 15s to L2; inferior unsaleable.

POTATOES—Best derwents, 37s 6d per ton. Supplies heavy.

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

OATS—We catalogued medium to best feed, Danish and sparrowbills. There was a good attendance of buyers, but bidding was not animated. The lots sold, however, show last week's values to be fairly well maintained. Good to best feed sold at 1s 3d to 1s 3 1/2d; medium, 1s 2d to 1s 2 1/2d; inferior, 1s 1d to 1s 1 1/2d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT—The market for milling quality is unchanged. All sorts in good condition are saleable at late values, buyers evincing a preference for choice samples. Fowl wheat is offering more freely, and sells at: For good whole wheat, 1s 11d to 2s; medium, 1s 9d to 1s 10 1/2d; broken and damaged, 1s 6d to 1s 8d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES—The supply coming forward is somewhat in excess of the demand, and sales at top prices are difficult to effect. We quote: Best Derwents, 37s to 37s 6d; medium, 30s to 32s 6d per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF—The market is still over-supplied, and to-day's prices show no improvement upon those of last week. Our catalogue comprised over 50 tons of varying qualities. Best oatens sheaf sold at L2 5s to L2 7s 6d; medium to good, L2 to L2 2s 6d; inferior, L1 10s to L1 17s 6d per ton (bags extra).

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, May 2.—The wool sales opened to-day with an excited tone, prices showing an advance of from 15 to 20 per cent. compared with the closing sales of the last series.

London, May 3.—Messrs. Buxton, Balme, and Jacob's joint catalogue comprised 11,323 bales. A splendid selection, especially of merinos, was offered. There was a record attendance of Home and Continental buyers. No Americans were present. There was fierce competition for merinos, which went 15 to 20 per cent., and occasionally more, above the best rates realised at the March sales. Crossbreds were in brisk demand. Fine advanced 10 per cent.; medium, 7 1/2 per cent.; and low, 5 per cent. The rise exceeded all anticipations, and is due to the short supply and bare stocks. There is a strong demand for fine wools.

London, May 2.—The quantity of tallow in stock is 13,915 casks. The imports last month amounted to 2265 casks; the deliveries to 3776 casks.

London, May 4.—At the wool sales competition was animated. Prices show a hardening tendency.

At the wool sales the Okiri clip realised 6 1/2d per lb.

Melbourne, May 4.—Competition at the wool sales was exceedingly brisk. Merinos, both greasy and scoured, showed an advance of from 15 to 20 per cent. compared with last month's prices. Up to 20 1/2d was paid for scoureds, which is a record for the season.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. (Limited) received the following cable from their London office under date May 2:—The wool sales have opened with a fair selection and a large attendance of buyers, competition being very animated. Merino wools are higher by 15 to 20 per cent.: fine crossbreds, 10 to 12 1/2d per cent.; and coarse breds, 5 to 7 1/2d per cent. compared with closing rates of last series.

The New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company received the following London cable message, dated May 2:—'Wool—The sales opened at an average advance of about 15 per cent. on last sales' closing rates for merino and fine crossbred, and 7 1/2 per cent. for medium and coarse crossbred. Attendance of both Home and foreign buyers is good, and the buyers are operating with spirit.

London, May 5.—The wool sales are very spirited. Prices are firmer. At Bradford: Common sixties, 24 1/2d; supers, 25d.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. received the following cable from their London office dated 3rd inst. —Wool sales continue firm and lately reported rates are fully maintained. Nearly everybody is buying at present prices, American buyers excepted. French buyers are the principal operators.

London, May 6.—At the wool sales competition was spirited. Merinos showed an upward tendency. Low crossbreds have advanced 1/2d. The total catalogued for the present series up to date is 52,272 bales, and the total sold 51,763 bales.

London, May 7.—At the wool sales the Mount Vernon clip (Mr. J. Harding's, Hawke's Bay) realised 9 1/2d, and the Tekoa clip 10 1/2d.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. received the following cable dated 5th May from their London office:—Wool sales continue very animated; prices have gained further ground. Prospects are good.

Sydney, May 9.—The local wool sales show an advance of 7 1/2 to 10 per cent. Portion of a fine clip realised 1s 9 1/2d, the balance passing in at 1s 11d. Greasy realised up to 1s 0 1/2d.

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

SHEEPSKINS—In sympathy with recent wool cables the sheepskin market is active, and all offering meet with ready sale at values showing some improvement. We submitted a large catalogue yesterday and cleared everything at very satisfactory figures.

RABBITSKINS—Supplies are on a comparatively small scale, and auctions have been held fortnightly in consequence. This is no doubt owing to the large trade done by exporters. On Monday we offered a good catalogue which met with excellent competition. Summers made 15 1/2d, autumns 19d, with other sorts in proportion.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street reports:—Wholesale price only—

Oats: feed, medium to prime, 1s 3d to 1s 4d; milling, 1s 5d 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, 2s; pressed, 2 1/2s per ton. Potatoes: L1 12s 6d to L1 15s. Market overstocked. Flour: 17 to L7 10s. Oatmeal: in 25lb bags, L8. Butter: dairy, 6d to 8d; fresh factory, 9d to 10d. Eggs: 1s 8d. Bran: L2 10s. Pollard: L3 10s. Onions: L3 10s to L3 15s per ton.

Such has been the rush for the new Multiflex Dunlop tyres in England that the Home company for a time were quite unable to compete with the demand. Orders for no less than a quarter of a million of tyres were placed with the big company within one week, so that there is hardly any wonder that things are humming in the company's factories. The Australian factory is also working at high pressure, trying to get out the new tyres on order, which orders are now pouring in from all quarters of Australasia.—* * *

Mr. Gawne, of Dunedin (says the Southland Times of April 13, 1891), has just been on a visit to Invercargill to push business a little. Not that it wants much canvassing, for since he commenced the manufacture of his Worcestershire Sauce, the demand has kept pace with his capacity to supply it. He makes a really good thing, indistinguishable from the famous Lea and Perrins, which he places upon one's table at a much lower price, and trusts to that to secure a steadily growing trade. Those who have not yet tried the colonial article should put their prejudice aside for a time and test the question with a bottle or two.—* * *

The Paris papers are telling an interesting story of a newly-elected member of the French Senate. M. Bassinet, like many of his colleagues, is a self-made man, and began life as a journeyman mason. In that capacity he was employed to renovate the sculptural facade of the Luxembourg Palace, when the architect, noting his skill and industry, said to him by way of encouragement, 'Why, you couldn't be making a better job of it if it was your own house.' The young workman smiled, and is said to have answered, 'One never knows what the future may bring forth.' He had at the time no political aspirations, but all the same he now sits as a Senator in the building he helped to adorn.

Mr. Swinburne has just lost a sister, Miss Charlotte Jane Swinburne, who died at her house in Onslow square. Admiral and Lady Jane Swinburne had six children in all, four daughters and two sons, of whom the eldest, the poet, was born in the year Queen Victoria began to reign. His only brother, who married a lady of Berlin, died eight years ago, and another of his sisters, Alice, has been dead for nearly 40 years. Among Mr. Swinburne's near relations are, strange to say, certain Roman Catholic priests—Father Sebastian Bowden, of the Oratory, and his brother being the poet's first cousins. Another first cousin, the Earl of Ashburnham, is a convert to the Roman Catholic religion—a religion which all the Swinburnes professed until the beginning of this century.

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