

EXPORT OF PRODUCE.

During the last month produce and meat of the following value were exported from the Colony:—Butter, L6325; cheese, L2965; beef, L13,432; mutton, L90,094; lamb, L37,999. The figures for the corresponding month of 1898 were butter, L1622; cheese, L3914; beef, L6986; mutton, L90,738; lamb, L25,204.

AN AUSTRALIAN MEAT COMPANY.

Mr. John Cooke, the Victorian meat expert, has formed the Austral Meat Company, with a capital of £100,000. The company have purchased five meat works from stock owners and the meat company in New South Wales.

THE PRICE OF CHEESE.

The Wyndham Farmer learns that the Mataura dairy factory has disposed of the season's output of cheese at 4 5-16d per lb on trucks (which is one-sixteenth of a penny better price than that of Wyndham), the buyers being a well known Invercargill firm; while Otago D.F. has sold at 4½d on trucks at Waimahaka, and Tokonui also at a good price. As instancing the effect of these enhanced prices, it may be said that the difference between what was paid for the Wyndham output last season as against this, will mean a gain, approximately, of over £700 to that factory alone.

THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE DAIRY INDUSTRY.

In the course of a lecture delivered at Nelson the other day, Mr. Ruddick, Chief Dairy Commissioner, gave some interesting particulars with regard to the dairying industry. He believed that no country in the world was so well suited for successful dairying as New Zealand. Milk could be produced cheaply, and at the same time butter and cheese of first quality could be manufactured. At this period, however, dairying was a comparatively small business compared with other countries, as, for instance, Denmark, which with one-seventh the area of New Zealand, exported to Great Britain last year 60,000 tons of butter, while the production of New Zealand for the year ending June 30th last, was 5,469 tons of butter and 3,110 tons of cheese. In the same time Canada exported to England 75,000 tons of cheese, and the production of Great Britain itself was 150,000 tons of butter and 87,000 tons of cheese. These figures showed that there were great possibilities for the development of the dairying business, when it was considered that New Zealand was most favourably situated to take advantage of the immense market of the northern hemisphere.

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: feed, medium to prime, 1s 2d to 1s 4d; milling, 1s 4½d to 1s 5d. Wheat: plentiful: milling, 2s 3d to 2s 6d; fowls, 1s 6d to 2s. Chaff: L1 15s to L2 7s 6d according to quality, bare. Ryegrass and clover hay: L3 to L3 5s. Straw: loose, 2s; pressed, 2s 3d per ton. Potatoes: 2s to 2s 6d. Market overstocked. Flour: L6 10s to L7. Oatmeal: in 25lb bags, L8. Butter: dairy, 6d to 8d; fresh factory, 11d to 1s. Eggs: 8d. Bran: L2 15s. Pollard: L3 5s. Onions: L3 10s per ton best; 'Frisco, £17.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, September 6.—Tallow sales: 1,400 casks were offered and 1,100 sold. Mutton: Fine, 27s and 6d; medium, 25s 6d. Beef: Fine, 25s 9d; medium, 24s 6d.

London, September 7d.—Bradford Wool Market—Common sixties, 27½d; supers, 29d.

Dalgaty and Co. are in receipt of the following cable, dated London, 8th inst.:—'At the Liverpool sales of River Plate wool prices, compared with the closing rates of last London wool sales, were 1d to 1½d per lb. higher for medium to good crossbreds, and ½d per lb. higher for coarse crossbreds.'

London, September 10.—Wool—There is a brisk inquiry, and several large sales are reported. It is anticipated there will be a considerable advance in prices when the fifth series of colonial sales open on the 19th inst.

Messrs Dalgaty and Co. have received the following cable from their London office, dated 11th inst.:—'The list of arrivals of wool for sales opening on 19th inst. has closed, there being 190,000 bales available, compared with 230,000 bales for corresponding series last year.'

Messrs. Stronach Bros and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS—We offered a fair catalogue on Monday when prices again showed a decline of about ½d per lb. Winter greys, 1s 3½d to 1s 4½d; medium, 1s 1½d to 1s 3d; autumns, 9½d to 1s 1d; summers, 5d to 9d; blacks, up to 2s 1½d per lb.

SHEEPSKINS—The market remains very firm and prices this week were fully equal to late quotations. Best dry crossbreds, 4s to 5s 6d; medium, 2s 6d to 3s 9d; best dry halfbreds and merinos, 4s 6d to 6s 6d; medium, 3s to 4s 3d; butchers' green skins, 4s to 5s 4d each.

HIDES—In good demand. Prime heavy ox, 3½d to 4½; medium to good, 3d to 3½d; light and inferior, 1½d to 2½d per lb.

TALLOW—Market firm. Best rendered mutton, 15s to 17s; medium, 13s to 14s 6d; rough fat, 10s to 11s 6d per cwt.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

The entries at Addington were fairly large in all departments of stock, but more especially in fats, and a good demand existed for fat sheep and pigs. The entries comprised 5820 fat sheep, 3000 store sheep, 437 head cattle, and 366 pigs.

FAT CATTLE—The 247 fat cattle were mostly light sorts, 31 from the North Island being below the quality usually coming from there, and selling at from L6 17s 6d to L8 2s 6d. For bullocks the bidding was dull, and last week's rates were barely maintained. Of the local cattle good steers brought L7 to L8 5s; lighter sorts, L4 17s 6d to L6 10s; heifers L3 15s to L6 15s; and cows, L3 15s to L6 2s 6d. The stores and dairies were a very poor lot, and no quotable business was done.

FAT SHEEP—The bulk of the fat sheep were good wethers and a large yarding of butchers' ewes of good quality, with an unusual proportion of secondary merino wethers. Freezing buyers operated freely, and this class remains very firm, and, considering the quality, the prices in many cases advanced. Butchers' ewes were much firmer, but there were too many merinos in for trade purposes, and none being taken for export caused a slight weakening. Prime heavy-weight merinos brought 19s to 21s 6d; freezing quality and prime mixed sexes 16s to 18s 6d; unfinished sorts, 15s to 15s 9d; prime ewes, 16s to 18s 6d; good do, 14s to 15s 6d; best merino wethers, 14s to 15s 10d; others, down to 10s.

STORE SHEEP—A good many of the store sheep were North Islanders, and all sorts met a good demand, but several lines of wethers were withdrawn, the owners asking too high prices for them. Wethers brought 13s 5d to 15s 8d; others being withdrawn at from 13s 3d to 15s 4d. Mixed two-tooths sold at 13s 10d to 14s 5d; breeding ewes, 14s 1d to 14s 7d; hoggets, 12s 5d to 13s 4d for good sorts; and 9s 7d to 11s 7d for backward sorts; merino wethers, 10s 6d.

PIGS—With the exception of baconers, which were slightly easier, all pigs met with a good demand. Baconers brought 35s to 45s, or 3d to 3½d per lb; porkers, 30s to 37s, or 4½d to 4½d per lb; large stores, 24s to 30s; smaller do, 18s to 23s; weaners, 13s to 17s; and suckers, 10s to 11s.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson, and Co. report as follows:—

There was only a limited number of draught horses at our sale on Saturday, but the bulk of the entries were useful sorts, and, with a fair attendance of both town and country buyers, there was brisk trade from start to finish, and a total clearance was effected at very satisfactory prices. We have numerous inquiries for all classes of horses, and have disposed of a large number privately during the past week. Inferior and weedy light sorts are the only class that are hard to place. We beg to draw attention to the very important sale to be held at Mr. Wilson Hall's farm, near Riversdale, on the 14th of this month, where 62 first-class draught horses will be offered for absolute sale; also harness for 12 teams, cattle, implements, etc. We quote: First-class young draught mares and geldings, at from L40 to L45; extra good, heavy lorry horses at a pound or two more; good useful farm horses, at from L35 to L40; medium, L30 to L35; aged, L20 to L28; strong young carriage horses, L15 to L25; medium, L10 to L15; good, sound, young spring-cart horses, L20 to L28; light hacks, L7 10s to L9; inferior and weedy sorts, L2 to L5.

THE WEEK'S DREDGING RETURNS.

During the week ending Monday, 11th inst. (says the *Otago Daily Times*) returns have been reported from the following 27 dredges, the total gold yield being 1147oz 15dwt 18gr, or an average of over 42oz per dredge:—

Hartley and Riley (Cromwell), 470oz 7dwt; Matau (Clyde), 60oz; Vincent (Clyde), 130 hours, 53oz 10dwt; Chaito Creeek (Manuherikia), about 3 days, 40oz; Molyneux Hydraulic (Alexandra), 38oz; Golden Beach (Alexandra), 122½ hours, 32oz 9dwt; Golden Point (Alexandra), week, 32oz; Golden Treasure (Miller's Flat), week, 29oz 5dwt; Success (Waipori), 136 hours, 23oz 1dwt; Enterprise (Alexandra), 92 hours, 26oz 3dwt 9gr; Clyde (Alexandra), 26oz; Evans Flat (Tuapeka), 23oz 16dwt; Nil Desperandum (Manuherikia), 22oz 10dwt; Unity (Clyde), 22oz 10dwt; Manorburn (Manuherikia), 113 hours, 21oz 5dwt; Maori (Lowburn, Cromwell), week, 20oz 1dwt; Sunlight (Beaumont), 135 hours, 20oz; Golden Terrace (Lower Shotover), 19oz 18dwt 21gr; Golden Gate (Island Block), 5 days, 19oz 6dwt; Empire (Waipori), 18oz 12dwt 12gr; Inch Valley (near Palmerston), week, 18oz; Waimumu (near Gore), 126 hours, 18oz; Ophir (Blacks), 17oz 9dwt; Otago (Miller's Flat), week, 13oz 10gr; Mount Ida (Kyeburn), 12oz 10gr; Tuapeka (Tuapeka Flat), week, 12oz; Galtee More, (Manuherikia), 11oz. Total, 1147oz 15dwt 18gr.

LATE BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

(SPECIAL TO N.Z. TABLET.)

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

Wednesday, 5 p.m.

FAT CATTLE—265 yarded. Prices showed no improvement on last week's rates. Best bellocks, L7 5s to L8 12s 6d; medium, L5 10s to L7; best cows and heifers, L5 to L6 10s; medium, L3 10s to L4 15s.

SHEEP—2887 penned, prices about same as last week. Best crossbred wethers, 15s 6d to 16s 6d; extra good, 17s 6d to 19s 3d; medium, 14s to 15s 3d; best ewes, 14s 3d to 15s 3d; medium, 12s 9d to 14s; merino wethers, 12s to 15s 6d.

PIGS—138 offered, all meeting with a steady demand. Suckers, 11s to 16s; slips, 17s to 20s; stores, 21s to 26s; porkers, 32s to 40s; baconers, 42s to 50s; heavy pigs, 60s.