

do, L12 to L16; aged do, L6 to L10; good backs and harness horses, L12 to L16; medium do, L7 to L9; light and inferior do, L2 10s to L5.

MESSRS STRONACH BROS. AND MORRIS report as follows:—

Fat Cattle—110 came forward. Best bullocks sold at L10 10s to L13 5s; do cows up to L9 15s

Fat Sheep—A small entry, only 844 being penned. Best cross-bred wethers brought 17s to 20s; ordinary do, 14s to 16s; ewes up to 19s 9d.

Lambs—88 were penned, which sold under good competition at 7s 6d to 12s.

Store Cattle—These continue very high, all offered finding purchasers at prices perhaps slightly higher than those lately quoted.

Store Sheep—Owing to the good spring the demand for these is increasing, and a rise has taken place in all lines, especially hoggists, for which a fair enquiry exists.

Wool—There is nothing fresh to advise under this heading, shearing, however, has commenced in the north, and a few small lines are coming into store.

Sheepskins—These are still selling well, and, with a better outlook in the wool market, we expect them to continue firm. Country dry crossbreds, medium, 2s to 3s 5d; do merino, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; full-woolled crossbreds, good, 3s 6d to 4s 9d; best, 5s to 5s 10d; extra heavy, 6s to 6s 6d; full-woolled merinos, good to best, 2s 6d to 5s.

Rabbitkins—The number forward has fallen off greatly. Best winter greys, mixed, 1s 2d to 1s 2½d; best does, 1s 3d; extra prime, 1s 3½d; spring 10½d to 13½d; medium, 8½d to 9½d; inferior, 6½d to 8d; suckers and half-grown, 3d to 5½d.

Grain—Wheat is if anything lower than last week. Quotations are best milling, Tuscan and velvet, 2s 9d to 2s 10d; medium to good, 2s 8d to 2s 9d; inferior, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; (ex store, sacks in, terms.)

Oats are much on a par with late quotations. Best milling is worth 2s to 2s 1d; best short feed, 1s 11d to 2s; medium to good, 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 9d to 1s 10½d. Seeds, lots are scarce and bring up to 2s 1d to 2s 3d; (sacks extra, net).

Barley—Very little doing and quotations nominal.

Grass Seed—Sales are falling off, and quotations are about the same as last given.

Potatoes—Prices firm at up to L5 2s 6d for best Derwents.

Chaff—Market is well supplied. Best, L3 to L3 7s 6d; extra prime, L3 10s; medium and inferior in proportion.

LINES FOR LITTLE FOLK.

THERE is a fairy story of a princess who was shut up in a castle, out of which she must make her escape or else be starved to death. After a long search, she found the key of the main door, and it was the same that unlocked the gate at the entrance of the grounds. Escape seemed easy enough now.

The bright sun is shining on the forest in which the castle stands, and the princess joyfully hastens to the door, that she may pass it and be free. Just outside the door a spider's web is hanging from top to bottom. She sweeps it away in a moment, and is going on; when, behold another spider's web is before her, between the trees of the narrow pathway! It is very easy to sweep that too, and she does it. But there is a third; and when that is removed, a fourth; and when that is removed, a fifth; and when that is removed, a sixth; and so again, and again, and again; and at last the poor princess sits down and weeps bitterly, and feels that, though there is only a spider's web between her and liberty, she shall never be free.

Habits are like these spiders' webs. Each single act of a habit—what is easier to be overcome? But it is the constant succession of them, the coming of them one after the other, which except by God's especial assistance, will, in the long run, overcome us.—*Acte Maria.*

The only golden eagle ever seen there is a captive at the residence of Joseph Maynes, at 2016 Walnut Street, Toledo O. A few days ago Mr Maynes, with Peter Barquin, who lives at Page and Walnut streets, went frog fishing in the marshes along Ottawa River. Maynes got after a monster frog in the edge of the marsh along a bluff which is densely wooded. He was about to get the frog when a monstrous eagle swooped down upon him. It seized him between the shoulder blades, its sharp talons piercing through his overcoat, and undercoat, and cutting into the flesh. The bird beat its wings and lifted Maynes from his feet. Maynes weighs 151 pounds and is 23 years old. He says he was terrily frightened and more so when the bird lifted him from his feet a second time.

The burden seemed too great for the bird, and while attempting the third time to get Maynes into the air was struck on the head by him, he managing to twist around enough to strike with his frog spear. He then got one arm around the bird's neck and poured it on the head with the club. He got the bird to the bank and lay on it, while Barquin kicked it into insensibility. While it was in this condition a rope was procured and the bird was tied to a tree. It has been brought to Toledo and was seen on the afternoon of August 7th. It measures 7 feet 6 inches across the wings. It weighs 35 pounds, and stands 3 feet 2 inches high. It is evident that, there being many pin feathers around the neck and on the breast. Old citizens who have lived in the West say the bird is a young mountain eagle, of the golden variety. The plumage is of a dark russet colour,

almost seal brown. The eagle has amons rous head, with a beak four and a half inches long. Its mouth, when stretched wide open, is five inches across. It swallows fifteen sparrows for supper, taking each one down whole.—American paper.

As once the Blessed Lady
Did walk across the land,
The young St. John beside her,
Held close with tender hand.

She sat her by the wayside
To pause awhile and rest
In joy of that Most Fair One
That lay upon her breast

Beside the dusty pathway,
Through harsh and stony ground,
Where not a word of flower or bird
Made glad with sight and sound,

Sat down the Queen of Heaven,
Its King upon her knee;
Nor heeded she the how desolate
That lonely spot might be.

Then John spake out—but softly,
For that his heart was fond—
“Wherefore wait here, thou Mother dear,
When fields are bright beyond?”

But she in holy silence,
With gravely smiling lips,
Did bend above her Star of Love
And kiss His finger-tips,

Until the Babe awaking
Did smile again, to see
The sweetest face of all the earth
That watched so patiently.

And lo! as wide He opened
Those eyes of love divine,
‘Gan bird to sing, and bloom to spring,
And merry sun to shine,

Till all the darksome morning,
And all the dreary way,
Grew sweet with heavenly music
And fragrant as the May.

Full gladly then Our Lady
The sturdy boy addressed:
“And did ye think my little Son
Wherever he might rest,

“Would lack for blithesome service
From those His creatures dear,
The happy wild flowers in the grass,
The birds that carol clear?”

“Nay! for the springs of glory
Forever must thy life be,
When for a space in any place
Child Jesus rests below.”

Then homeward softly crouching
To him upon her breast,
She turned, with John beside her,
To Nazareth the blest.

—MARY ELIZABETH BLAKE, in the *Independent*.

Agricultural machinery occupies a prominent position, being second to none in its important bearing on society. It has released the farmer from the drudgery of life, almost miraculously increased the production of food, and so far reduced its cost that the human family to-day is better fed and better clothed than at any time in its previous history. Foremost among these agencies and by general consent stand the McCormick grain and grass cutting machines, the avast corners of civilisation, the indispensable and unsurpassable requisites of modern farming. In a great field trial at St Omer, France, for instance, McCormick was awarded first prize and special gold medal, valued 500 francs, beating Massey-Harris, Johnston, Samuelson, Adrian and others. The agents for New Zealand are Messrs Morrow, Bassett, and Co., whose stock a so comprises agricultural machinery and implements of all descriptions and of the newest and most improved qualities.

The New Zealand branch of the Massey-Harris Co., limited, have just received particulars of the first two Australian trials this harvest. At Willowie, South Australia, September 29th, 1893, Massey-Harris took first prize and defeated Horroby open-back, Deering, and McCormick. And at Balaklava, South Australia, the same date, took first prize, defeating Horroby and Buckeye. Massey-Harris Co. inform us that they have been successful at 7 trials in France, and were also awarded equal points with the Horroby open-back binder at the recent royal trial held at Chester, England.

By advertisement in another column it will be noticed that Mr F. J. Quinn, the secretary of the Licensed Victuallers Association of Canterbury has a number of good hotel properties for sale. A registry office for hotel servants is now in connection with the Association's business, and as every public house supplies a record of the servants employed by him, none but a desirable class are recommended. Hotel servants requiring situations cannot do better than register their names, as the members of the Association have agreed to engage their hands through the office.