

Commercial

For week ending August 31.

PRODUCE.

London, August 26.—Wheat and Corn: The corn markets of Europe are quieter and rather lower, consequent upon the American reaction. The harvest in the North of France is nearly completed. It is estimated to be from 15 to 20 per cent. below that of 1903.

Australian wheat (spot), 32/- to 32/6. A steamer parcel of New Zealand arrived, and was sold at 29/6. Wheat has declined on all the American markets. The extreme break was 7½ cents at Minneapolis.

Invercargill prices current.—Wholesale — Butter farm, 7d; separator, 9d; butter, factory, pats, 11½d. Eggs, 10d per dozen. Cheese (factory), 6½d. Hams, 9d. Potatoes, £2 per ton (bags weighed in). Barley, 2/- to 2/6. Chaff, £2 per ton. Flour, £10/10/- to £11/10. Oatmeal, £9 to £9/10/-. Bran, £3/15/-. Pollard, £5. Retail—Farm butter, 9d; separator, 11d; butter (factory), pats, 1/1. Eggs, 1/- per dozen. Cheese, 8d. Bacon, 10d. Hams, 10d. Potatoes, 3/6 per cwt. Flour: 200lb, 23/-; 50lb, 6/6. Oatmeal: 50lb, 5/9; 25lb, 3/-. Pollard, 8/6 per bag. Bran, 4/6. Chaff, 1/6.

Mr. F. Meenan, King street, Dunedin, reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Milling, 1/6½ to 1/8½; feed, 1/- to 1/6. Wheat: Milling, 3/2 to 3/7; fowls, 2/8 to 3/1. Potatoes, £1 15s; seed, £2 10s to £3 10s; chaff, £2 7s 6d to £3 5s; clover hay, £2 10s to £3. Straw: Pressed wheat, 35/-; oatmeal, £2; loose, £2. Flour: Sacks, £10; 100lb, £10/10/-; 50lb, £10/15; 25lb, £11. Oatmeal, £9/10/-. Pollard, £4. Bran, £3/5. Butter: Dairy, 8d to 10d; factory, 11d. Cheese: Factory, 4½d; dairy, 4½d. Eggs, 10d. Onions: Melbourne, £5.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. (Limited) report:—We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. Our catalogue was a small one, and under fair competition from a good attendance of buyers, was cleared at satisfactory values. Prices ruled as under:—

Oats.—Prime bright lines of Gartons and similar sorts continue to meet with fair demand for export. For B grade there has been little or no inquiry, with larger offerings; lower grades have some attention, both locally and for export. We quote: Prime milling, 1/7 to 1/8½; good to best feed, 1/5 to 1/6½; inferior to medium, 1/3 to 1/4½ per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The market has been excited for some days, and all kinds of wheat has been changing hands at advanced rates. Prime milling, which is not offering freely in this market, has most attention from millers, but most of the sales have been in medium quality and fowl wheat. The latter is scarce, and commands ready sale. We quote: Prime milling, 3/7 to 3/10; medium, 3/4 to 3/6; best whole fowl wheat, 3/1 to 3/3; medium and damaged, 2/6 to 8/- per bushel (sacks extra).

Barley.—The few sales passing are chiefly of prime malting or feed quality, medium sorts being comparatively out of favor. Fair inquiries have been made, which, so far, have not resulted in any business of importance. We quote: Prime malting, 3/- to 3/6; medium, 2/6 to 2/10; milling, 2/3 to 2/6; feed, 1/10 to 2/- per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—There is a steady supply of Derwents, which continue to move off at late quotations. Kidneys and other white sorts are very much in over-supply, and difficult to quit at reduced prices. We quote: Seed sorts, £2 to £2/10/-; best Derwents, 37/6 to 40/-; others, 30/- to 35/- per ton (sacks in).

Chaff.—For prime quality there is a steady demand, which has absorbed all supplies coming forward. Medium and inferior lots have not the same attention. We quote: Prime oatmeal sheaf, £2/17/6 to £3/3/6; medium to good, £2/5/- to £2/15/- per ton (bags extra).

Turruips.—We quote: Best swedes, 14/- per ton (loose, ex truck).

Straw.—Oaten is scarce and has good inquiry at 32/6 to 35/- per ton; wheaten, 27/6 to 30/- per ton (pressed).

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report:—

Wheat.—There is not much offering, as holders are looking for better prices. Present quotations: Prime milling, 3/7 to 3/10; medium do, 3/4 to 3/6; best whole fowl wheat, 2/11 to 3/3; inferior and damaged, 2/7 to 2/10.

Oats.—There is an easier feeling in the market, and to-day's quotations are: Prime milling, 1/7 to 1/8½; good to best feed, 1/5 to 1/6½; medium and inferior, 1/1 to 1/4.

Potatoes.—Prime Derwents, 35/- to 37/6; medium do, 30/- to 32/6.

Chaff.—Prime oatmeal sheaf, £2/17/6 to £3/2/6; medium, £2/10/- to £2/15/-; light and inferior, £2 to £2/5/-.

WOOL.

London, August 26.—The Bradford wool market shows a fair inquiry, but prices are unchanged.

At the sheepskins sales 2900 bales were offered, and the bulk was sold after good competition. Americans are operating freely. Merinos are unchanged. Australian crossbreds are one farthing dearer, and New Zealand one halfpenny.

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report:—

Rabbitskins.—We offered a large catalogue on Monday, when there was the usual attendance of buyers present, and competition was good. Prices may be quoted the same as last week.

Sheepskins.—On Tuesday we had one of the best sales we have had for some time, all sorts being eagerly competed for, and prices fully up to late quotations.

Tallow and Fat.—No change to report.

Hides.—We sold last Thursday, and we were fortunate in topping the market with 5½d for ox, which is ½d more than that obtained at any other sale. The market, however, continues very low, and we cannot recommend consignments being sent at present. We think vendors would do well to hold what they have in hand meantime, if they could do so, pending a better feeling in the Australian market.

LIVE STOCK

OTAGO FARMERS' HORSE BAZAAR.

The Otago Farmers' Co-operative Association of New Zealand (Limited) report: We held our weekly sale on Saturday last at our horse bazaar, adjoining wool and grain stores, Crawford and Vogel streets. There was a good attendance of the public, and a fair entry of horses, 20 of all sorts coming under the auctioneer's notice. In draughts only four or five came forward, and these being only medium sorts did not command much attention, and in order to effect sales owners had to make up their minds to accept prices considerably under their expectations. The demand for really good cart mares and geldings is very strong for both town and country work. Van and spring-carters are also in request, and any country consignments are sure to meet a good sale. Light harness horses suitable for express and order carts are wanted, and a number of these can be placed at good values. A few strong nice-moving buggy geldings would be easily placed. We quote: First-class draught mares and geldings, £48 to £55; show mares and geldings, £55 to £65; useful, young, sound farm horses, £38 to £42; active van sorts, £32 to £42; order-carters, £25 to £28; express sorts, a shade higher; buggy horses, really good sorts and quiet, £25 to £35.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

Fat Cattle.—177 head were yarded. The sale opened at previous rates, but fell off towards the finish, when lower prices were accepted. Best steers, made £9/10/- to £12; others, £6/15/- to £9, heifers, £5/17/6 to £8/2/6, and a few at £9 to £9/12/6; cows, £5/2/6 to £8/10/-.

Fat Sheep.—There was a large entry of good quality. Prices all round were 6d to 1/- below the previous week. Wethers—prime, 22/6 to 27/3; medium, 18/11 to 22/-; ewes—prime, 21/- to 23/6; medium, 18/6 to 20/6; others, 15/6 to 18/-; merino wethers, 20/- to 25/5; others, 14/11 to 19/8; lambs—there was a small entry of legs, which sold well. Extra, 21/- to 25/-; good, 18/10 to 20/3; others, 15/8 to 18/7.

Pigs.—Fats were in short supply, and porkers dull of sale, but there was an improved demand for stores. Baconers made 42/- to 51/6 (equal to 4d per lb). Porkers, 25/- to 42/- (equal to 4½d); large stores, 25/- to 30/-; medium, 18/- to 24/-; weaners, 9/- to 16/-.

SLIGO BROS,

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