

Commercial

PRODUCE

The Department of Industries and Commerce has received a cable from the High-Commissioner, dated London, 19th, as follows:—The mutton market is quiet, and prices are lower. Supplies from Canterbury, however, do not meet requirements, and quotations are nominal. The average price for light-weight North Island mutton is 4½d, and heavy-weights, 4½d per lb. The lamb market is dull. A small shipment of this season's New Zealand lamb arrived, and is realising full values—from 5½d to 6½d per lb. Australian lamb is in large supply at 4½d per lb. The beef market is weak. New Zealand hindquarters are quoted at 3½d, and forequarters at 3½d per lb. The butter market is weak, but the demand still continues. Choice New Zealand is quoted at 106s, Australian at 100s, and Danish at 114s per cwt. The cheese market is firm. New Zealand make is quoted at 63s per cwt. There is better demand for hemp. The market is firm, with an upward tendency. Good fair grade, on the spot, is quoted at £39, and January and March shipment at £38 10s per ton. Fair current Manila, on the spot, is worth £43 per ton.

Invercargill Prices Current:—Wholesale—Butter, (farm), 7d; separator, 9d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 1½d. Eggs, 10d per dozen. Cheese, 7d. Hams, 9d. Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 5s per ton. Flour, £9 10s to £10. Oatmeal, £11 10s to £12. Bran, £4 5s. Pollard, £5. Potatoes, 8s. Retail—Farm butter, 9d; separator, 11d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s 4d. Cheese, 9d. Eggs, 1s per dozen. Bacon, 10d. Hams, 10d. Flour—200lb, 21s; 50lb, 5s 6d; 25lb, 3s 6d. Oatmeal—50lb, 6s 6d; 25lb, 3s 6d. Pollard, 8s 6d per bag. Bran, 5s. Chaff, 2s. Potatoes, 10s per cwt.

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

Oats.—Supplies continue scarce, and prices, which are as follow, are well maintained: Good to best feed and milling, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; medium and inferior, 2s to 2s 3d per bushel.

Wheat.—There is a lack of supplies in this line also, and prices are somewhat firmer. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; medium, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; broken and damaged, 3s to 3s 2d per bushel.

Potatoes.—Supplies of locally grown are now more plentiful, and prices are a shade below rate rates, viz., best freshly dug lots, £7 10s to £8; medium, £6 to £7 per ton.

Chaff.—Supplies this week have been more plentiful, and in consequence prices declined a shade. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £5 5s to £5 8s 6d; medium, £4 5s to £5 per ton.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. (Ltd.) report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. There was a full attendance of buyers disposed to do business, and in consequence nearly all the lots catalogued met with satisfactory sale. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—There are practically no stocks of good feed oats held locally, and the few consignments coming forward are barely sufficient to supply local requirements, and are being quoted at prices that preclude any possibility of business for export. Quotations: Good to best feed and milling, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; medium and inferior, 2s to 2s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—There is no business to report. The market is unchanged, except that fowl wheat is in still shorter supply, and has consequently advanced in favor. All prime lines of milling quality are readily taken by millers, and most of the medium quality is going off as fowl wheat. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; medium, 3s 4d to 3s 5d; whole fowl wheat, 3s 3d to 3s 4d; broken and damaged, 3s to 3s 2d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Consignments of locally grown white varieties are now coming in more regularly. Fair supplies have arrived during the past week, and prices have ruled a shade below late values. Quotations: Best freshly dug lots, £7 10s to £8, medium, £6 to £7 per ton (bags included).

Chaff.—During last week considerable supplies have reached us, and at to-day's sale we submitted a fair quantity. The demand was chiefly for prime bright heavy oaten sheaf, which sold a little below late rates, best lines fetching £5 5s to £5 8s 6d; sound

heavy chaff, rather off color, sold at £5 to £5 2s 6d; and medium quality at £4 5s to £4 15s per ton (bags extra).

Straw.—Both oaten and wheaten are scarce, and have good inquiry at 35s to 37s 6d per ton (pressed).

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

WOOL

Rabbitskins, Sheepskins and Hides.—No sales since last report.

Tallow and Fat.—No change to report; all coming forward meeting with a ready sale at late rates.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

We had only a medium entry of horses forward for last Saturday's sale, the supply being made up (with two or three exceptions) of stale draughts and light harness horses. The quality of the horses forward was anything but attractive, and, as a consequence, business was rather dull. However, a few sales were made at satisfactory prices, and all the country consignments changed hands at full values. Quotations: Superior young draught geldings, at from £15 to £32; extra good do (prize takers), £55 to £80; superior young draught mares, £55 to £65; medium draught mares and geldings, £30 to £40; aged do, £15 to £25; well-matched carriage pairs, £75 to £100; strong spring-van horses £25 to £30; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £18 to £25; light hacks, £10 to £15; extra good hacks and harness horses, £20 to £25; weedy and aged do, £5 to £8.

Lourdes

The attempts made to promote a movement having for its object to prevent pilgrimages to Lourdes have evoked a counter-movement. Dr. Gideon W. B. Marsh, 40 Tachbrook-street, London, S.W., has sent to the Catholic newspaper press a circular which runs in part as follows:—A short time ago an appeal was addressed to the medical faculty of France on the part of many who are hostile to religion, and notably by Monsieur Jean de Bonnefon, with a view to obtaining its condemnation of Lourdes and the pilgrimages thereto. A large number of the profession replied in the desired sense, declaring that the influx of such crowds of diseased and suffering people is a source of contagion and infection, and that the baths of the grotto are equally an imminent peril to health. The motive of this appeal and of the responses of many of the medical men is clearly hostility to the Catholic religion. It is moreover an attempt at prejudicing public opinion and inducing Government interference with Lourdes, under the cloak of hygiene and scientific condemnation. With a view to obtaining a genuine and widely-spread expression of opinion on this subject, by medical men, Dr. Vincent, an able and distinguished surgeon of Lyons, has addressed an appeal to his professional brethren, couched in the following words: "To the question, 'Is it necessary to close Lourdes,' the undersigned medical men reply that there is no reason for closing the grotto of Lourdes in the name of hygiene and medicine, because they know of no case of infection or contagion due to the influx of pilgrims or to the use they make of the water of Lourdes, whether for drinking purposes or in the baths. They are of opinion that from a medical point of view Lourdes is not a public danger." The Bishop of Montpellier has addressed a letter of high commendation to Dr. Vincent, approving of his noble efforts in behalf of Lourdes.

A new Catholic church at Broadford, in the parish of Kilmore (Victoria) has been completed and furnished at a total cost of about £320. It was opened and blessed on a recent Sunday by Dean Phelan, who also preached the dedication sermon.

SLIGO BROS.,

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