

London, September 15.—The wool arrivals to date total 251,000 bales, of which 13,000 have been forwarded to the manufacturing centres. With the quantity held over, 366,000 bales are available for the ensuing sales. Shipments by the Nairnshire and Tekoa are included in the catalogue.

London, September 15.—The Bradford wool market is weak. Common sixties, 19d, super, 20d.

London, September 16.—At the sheepskin sales there was poor competition, with a general decline of 10 per cent.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows.—
RABBITSKINS—Market very firm. Winter greys, 15s 10d to 16d, selected, 17s; medium, 13s 10d to 14s; autumn 9d to 11d; summers, 6d to 8d; blacks, 2s 10d per lb.

SHEEPSKINS—Market unchanged.
HIDES—In good demand. Prime heavy ox, 4d to 1d; medium, 3d to 3s 10d; cow hides, 3s 10d to 3s 10d per lb.

TALLOW—Market unchanged. Best rendered mutton, 16s 6d to 18s 6d; medium, 11s 6d to 16s; rough fat, 12s 6d to 13s 6d per cwt.

LIVE STOCK.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

The entries this week were meagre in the extreme. There were no good draughts forward, only some half-dozen aged animals of this class and a score or thereabouts of medium hacks and harness horses. No draughts were sold, but there was a big demand for superior geldings for town carriers' work, and also for useful young farm horses. A good many of the hacks and harness horses changed hands, including a consignment of useful horses from Tuapeka, as follows—Spring-cart mare at L20, express horse at L21 10s, buggy horse at L18, 2 order-cart horses at L15 10s each, and a pony hack at L10. Hussar horses and good hacks and harness horses are wanted. Young horses of the right stamp would sell readily at quotations, which are as follows:—Superior young draught geldings, L15 to L54; extra good prize horses, L55 to L60; medium draught mares and geldings, L35 to L12; aged do, L24 to L30; upstanding carriage horses, L25 to L30; well-matched carriage pairs, L60 to L80; strong spring-van horses, L25 to L35; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, L16 to L22; tram horses, L9 to L15; light hacks, L8 to L12; extra good hacks, L20 to L25; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, L2 to L5.

THE WEEK'S DREDGING RETURNS.

During the week ended Monday, September 17 (says the *Otago Daily Times*), returns were reported from the following 41 dredges, the total yield being 2369oz 4dwt 3gr. or an average of 57oz per dredge:—

Electric (Cromwell), 662oz 10dwt; Clyde (Alexandra), 352oz; Cromwell (Cromwell), 119 hours, 191oz 10dwt; Perseverance (Alexandra), 117oz 6dwt; Junction Electric (Cromwell), 2 dredges, 82oz; Chatto Creek (Manuherikia), 73oz; Matau (Clyde), 66oz; Empire (Waipori), 2 dredges, 58oz 9dwt 21gr; Manuherikia (Alexandra), 54oz; Hartley and Riley (Cromwell), 132 hours, 15oz 15dwt; Golden Beach (Alexandra), 134 hours, 13oz 1dwt; Waimumu Central (near Gore), 124 hours, 13oz; Charlton Creek (near Gore), 135 hours, 42oz 3dwt; Success (Waipori), 192 hours, 36oz 5dwt 12gr; Magnetic (Cromwell), 104 hours, 35oz; Golden Point (Alexandra), 34oz; Enterprise (Alexandra), 133 hours, 32oz 10dwt 12gr; Earnsclough No. 2 (Alexandra), 3 days, 32oz 18dwt; Vincent (Clyde), 136 hours, 32oz 12dwt; Golden Treasure (Miller's Flat), 31oz 10dwt; Gold Queen (Dumbarton Rock), 108 hours, 27oz; Goldea Gate (Miller's Flat), 24oz 17dwt; Meg and Annie (Kawarau River), 21oz 6dwt; Jutland Flat (Waipori), 133 hours, 22oz 13dwt; Lawrence (Tuapeka Flat), 18oz 9dwt; Waimumu (near Gore), 123 hours, 18oz; Evans Flat (Tuapeka), 17oz 10dwt; Morning Star (Manuherikia), 110 hours, 16oz 8dwt; Waimumu Extended (near Gore), 120 hours, 15oz 12dwt; Otago (Miller's Flat), 15oz 12dwt; Earnsclough No. 1 (Alexandra), 15oz 11dwt; Upper Waipori (Waipori), 139 hours, 13oz 16dwt; Chicago (Alexandra), 13oz; Waimumu Queen (near Gore), 107 hours, 12oz 18dwt 6gr; Tuapeka (Tuapeka Flat) 123 hours, 12oz 13dwt; Inch Valley (near Palmerston), 138 hours, 11oz 5dwt; Maori (Lowburn, Clutha), 10oz 10dwt; Shotover (Shotover River), 138 hours, 7oz 11dwt; Olig (Manuherikia), 6oz 2dwt. Total, 2369oz 4dwt 3gr.

BARBER POLES.

In the olden days barbers were surgeons as well as hair-cutters, and one of their chief occupations was that of blood-letting, a means of cure much indulged in by the good folks of a century or two ago. In this operation the patients grasped a small pole for the purpose of making his arm tense, in order that the incision in the arm might be more effective. When this pole was in use it was set up in the window, entwined with a fresh bandage of cloth to be used for wrapping about the arm after the next operation. This served the purpose of a sign to the public; and after a while, instead of using the actual pole and bandage for advertising his business, the barber contented himself with a representation of them by putting up at his door a red pole encircled with a spiral stripe of white paint and surmounted with a design of a basin.

The enormous output of McCormick machines defies the mental grasp of man. If the machines they manufacture were to issue from the gate of their works (the largest in the world), the spectators would see throughout the working day a McCormick machine emerging at full gallop every thirty seconds.—*.*

THE BOER WAR.

NOTES AND POINTS OF INTEREST TO CATHOLIC READERS.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE PICTURE.

In the course of an interesting letter to a friend in Paeroa Trooper Claude Jewell, of the First Contingent, gives us an insight into what the soldier has to put up with in South Africa. He says, 'All the starchy stiffness so associated with Tommy Atkins at home is not here—he does everything in his own free and easy way. Lord Roberts rides round just as if he were a mere human being, he dresses as plainly, but is less dirty than a common soldier; his smile, which is the soul of kindness, captivates us. Kitchener does not smile—he grins—and lesser generals are too dignified to do either. I was captured a second time lately by General Erasmus, and spent a night with the Boers. I was only disarmed, and treated with the greatest courtesy by Veldt Cornet de Lange and the general's secretary, who gave me a pass back to our lines. You people in New Zealand must not run away with the idea that the British soldier is check full of all sorts of virtues and magnanimity; he distinctly isn't; I have seen him in his natural condition at his worst, and it is only the strict discipline of the army that keeps T.A. from worse atrocities than the much-maligned Dutch farmer. However, I will be mistaken for a pro-Boer if I go on in this strain—I must desist.

'The New Zealanders are a power in the land. You see them everywhere—stationmasters, clerks, police warders, railway men—and there are even some like myself—in the fighting line. We are still suffering from swelled head.

'I am sick of mules and dust and bullocks and horses and bullets and shells and Boers, and all I want is a quiet squat down on a chair—a real chair—in New Zealand, with just an ordinary civilian—a mere human being, and a talk about something else than Boer and gore. For heaven's sake, if you hear any talk of a seventh, or eighth, or ninth contingent, tell them in that persuasive way of yours not to come; tell them there are enough fools here to finish the job, and it's going to be finished for ever, Hurroo! for home and country, for the quiet glades and sylvan glens and ferny nooks of New Zealand, for the girls of our hearts and of our youth, for the pavement instead of the veldt, for the peaceful gamp instead of the rifle, for the billet instead of the bullet, for the kernal of life in place of the shell of death.

SIR WILLIAM BUTLER'S APPOINTMENT.

Regarding Sir William Butler's appointment to the command at Aldershot Major Kennedy, the military critic of the *Otago Daily Times*, writes as follows:—Outside the Transvaal the cables lately reported promotion, or more properly speaking, the transfer of Lieutenant-General Sir W. F. Butler from the command of the troops in the western districts, with headquarters at Devonport, to the command of the Aldershot district. This appointment comes as a surprise, and will be generally considered to be some slight recognition of the soundness of the advice given by General Butler to the Imperial Government before the outbreak of the Boer war, wherein that distinguished officer recommended the sending of at least 130,000 reinforcements to South Africa at the immediate commencement of hostilities instead of waiting until the Boers were ready to take the field. General Butler had been appointed to command the troops in South Africa in 1898, and was ordered Home last year owing to a disagreement with the Imperial authorities about the steps to protect the British colonies from attack, and the general want of ordinary military precautions in view of the impending danger of invasion. Lieutenant-General Forrester-Walker was appointed to the command at the Cape, and General Butler, shortly after his arrival Home, was ordered to take command of the position made vacant by the transfer of General Walker. Events soon convinced the authorities, both civil and military, that General Butler's advice was based upon accurate information, and that if the measures he advocated had been taken the Boers would have been confined to their own territory, and the war would have been quickly ended. General Butler's appointment to the Aldershot command is a decidedly advantageous one, as the pay attached to that position amounts to £2007 per annum. Great Britain is divided into 11 military districts, one of these being the Scottish, while Ireland is divided into four districts. The pay attached to these districts is as follows:—Aldershot and Southern, £2007 each per annum; the Eastern, the same; North-eastern, North-western, Scottish, South-eastern, Thames, Western, and Woolwich, each £1095 per annum. The Irish commands are divided into two classes also. The generals commanding Dublin and Cork districts are paid £1097 each, while the commands at the Carragh and Belfast are given to officers, who are paid £913 each per annum. It will be seen by the figures quoted that General Butler has been fairly well compensated for the slight cast upon him by his recall from the Cape about a year ago, and it may be taken for granted that in regarding General Butler at this time the Imperial authorities, civil and military, wish to make some atonement to the gallant general ere the opening up of an inquiry into all the questions leading up to the war, and the reasons why adequate provision was not made to meet the storm that was brewing. I do not think that the appointment of General Butler to the command at Aldershot will influence his testimony before a commission of inquiry, but it will tend to soften the feeling of resentment which must have stirred the grand old soldier to the core. General Butler is now 62 years of age, and has seen a good deal of active service. He comes of a good old fighting family from the County of Wexford, Ireland.

Witches Oil cures pains and aches, neuralgia, headache, sciatica rheumatism. Price, 2s 6d. Try it.—*.*