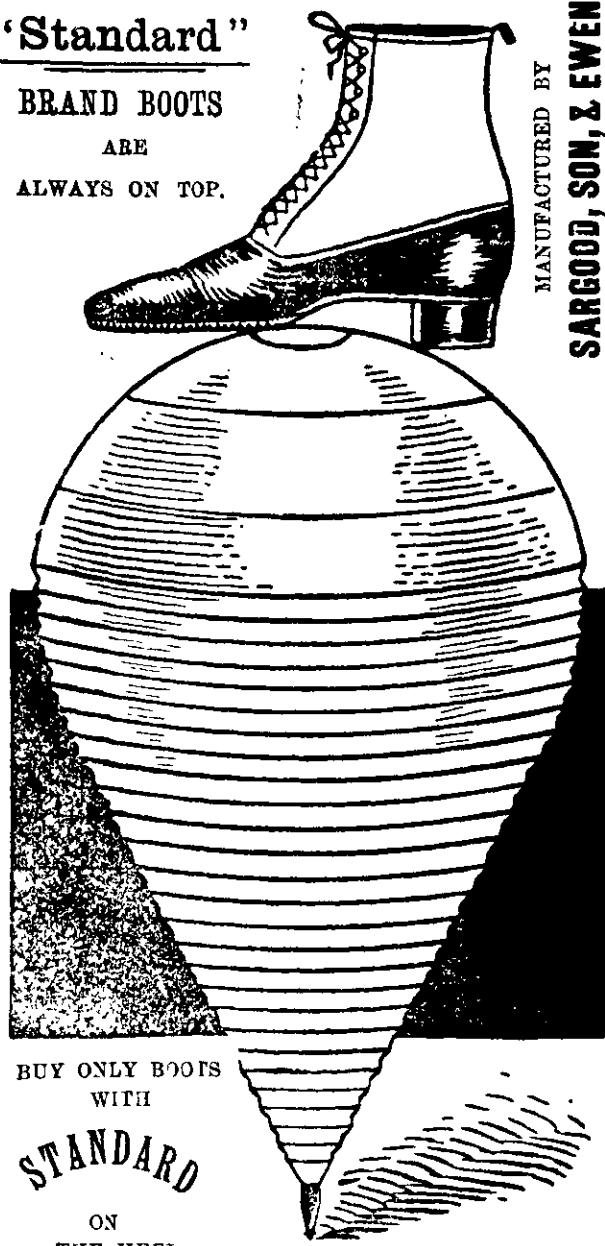


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Commercial

(For week ending September 11.)

PRODUCE.

London, September 5.—The wheat markets are very dull, though unchanged, and cargoes are flat. A New South Wales August-September shipment realised 29s; one from Victoria, 29s 3d; steamer parcels afloat, 27s 3d.

London, September 8.—Frozen meat—Canterbury and North Island mutton has risen one-sixteenth of a penny; River Plate has risen one farthing; and New Zealand ox fores advanced three-sixteenths of a penny. The others are unaltered.

Wellington, September 9.—The Agent-General's cablegram, dated 7th inst. states: 'The average prices to-day are—Canterbury mutton, 3½d; Dunedin and Southland, 3½d. There is a better tone in the mutton market this week. Australian is in small supply, and firmly held. The lamb market is dull, and prices, though unaltered, are weaker lately, and very unfavorable to the sale of lamb. Butter market firm.'

EXPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCE.

Wellington, September 6.—The exports of dairy produce and meat for the last month show an increase of nearly 30,000cwt in mutton, 37,000cwt lamb, and 500cwt cheese, but a decrease of 747cwt in butter, as compared with the returns for August last year. The values of exports since April 1 last have been: Butter, L188,226; cheese, L79,761; beef, L105,625; mutton, L421,836; lamb, L406,602.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report as follows:—

OATS—All good to prime feed lines continue to meet with good inquiry, and are readily quoted at quotations. Prime seed and milling sorts are also in good demand. We quote: Milling and seed lines, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; good to best feed, 2s 3½d to 2s 4½d; medium to good, 2s to 2s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT—The demand from local mills is confined for the most part to prime samples. Medium quality is saleable only as fowl wheat, for which there is good demand at prices fully equal to late quotations. We quote: Prime milling, 2s 8½d to 2s 10d; medium, 2s 7½d to 2s 8d; whole fowl wheat, 2s 6d to 2s 7d; broken and damaged, 2s to 2s 5d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES—The market continues to be fairly well supplied, and values are about on a level with those of last week. We quote: Best Derwents, L4 17s 6d to L5 5s; medium, L4 10s to L4 15s per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF—We offered a few trucks of medium to prime quality. Best chaff met with good competition, and realised prices slightly in advance of late quotations. Medium quality is still difficult to quit. We quote: Prime oatens sheaf, L3 5s to L3 10s; medium to good, L2 15s to L3 2s 6d; inferior, L2 to L2 10s per ton (bags extra).

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Feed, fair to good, 2s 2½d to 2s 4d; milling, 2s 5d to 2s 6d. Wheat: Milling, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; fowls', 1s 10d to 2s 7d. Potatoes: Market: Southern, L4 10s; Oamaru, L5 5s. Chaff: Demand for prime up to L3 7s 6d; inferior, L2 15s; medium, L2. Straw: pressed 27s, market full; loose, 32s 6d. Flour: Sacks, 200lbs, L7 5s; 50lbs, L8; 25lbs, L8. 5s. Oatmeal: 25lbs, L13. Butter: Dairy, 8d to 10d; factory, 1s 1d to 1s 2½d. Cheese: Dairy, 4½d; factory, 5d. Eggs, 8d. Onions: Canterbury, L15; 'Frisco, L20.

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale: Butter, fresh 8d, factory, bulk, 1s 2d; pats, 1s 2½d; eggs, 7d per doz; cheese, 4d; bacon, farm, 7d; do (rolled) farm, 6d; hams 9d; potatoes, L4 10s per ton; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; fowl wheat, 2s 8d; chaff, L3; flour, L7 5s to L8 5s; oatmeal, L12 to L12 10s; pollard, L4 5s; bran, L3 5s. Retail—Fresh butter, 10d, factory, pats, 1s 4d; bulk, 1s 3d; eggs, 9d per doz; cheese, 6d to 7d; bacon (rolled), 8d; hams, 10d; potatoes, 6s per owt; flour, 200lb, 15s 6d, 50 lb 4s 6d; oatmeal, 50 lb 6s 9d, 25 lb 3s 6d; pollard, 7s per bag; bran, 4s 6d; chaff, 1s 9d; fowls' feed, 2s 9d per bushel.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, September 4.—At the tallow sales 1650 casks were offered, and 1375 sold. Mutton: Fine, 29s 3d; medium, 27s 6d. Beef: Fine, 28s 9d; medium, 27s.

London, September 8.—At the sheepskins sales there was strong competition, and the bulk of them were sold. Merino realised 7½d, and cross-bred 5 per cent. above July rates.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

FAT CATTLE—Only 100 head yarded, mostly good steers and cows. Heifers were in short supply, and the scarcity caused improved prices. Prime beef ruled from 24s to 26s, and in some cases more, while other sorts ranged from 21s to 23s 6d per 100lb. Eight North Island bullocks fetched L12 to L12 10s; local steers, L7 2s 6d to L9 10s; heifers, L6 17s 6d to L8 7s 6d; cows, L5 15s to L8 5s and L11 5s and L11 7s 6d for extra prime.

STORE CATTLE—About 150 head yarded, very few being good lines, and there was a weaker sale. Calves realised L1 2s; yearlings, L1 3s 6d to L2; 15 to 18-months-old, L2 17s 6d; three-year-old heifers, L4 12s 6d; do steers, L5 7s 6d; dry cows, L1 10s to L3 5s.

FAT SHEEP—About 3000 penned, mostly prime wethers. There was a better sale, and a rise of 1s took place for these, while good ewes also improved. Heavy wethers sold at from 22s to 23s 6d; good freezers, 18s to 21s 6d; lighter, 17s to 18s; best ewes, 16s to 19s 6d; others, 13s to 15s; merino wethers, 14s to 15s 11d.

STORE SHEEP—1675 penned, mostly wethers and hoggets, which were in demand. Wethers sold at from 16s 10d to 17s 10d; best hoggets, to 15s 4d; others, 10s to 13s 10d; breeding ewes, 14s 6d.

PIGS—About 400 penned, including both good fats and stores. A Wellington buyer made the fats firm, and farmers improved prices of big stores. Baconers realised from 35s to 59s 6d, or 3½d to 4d per lb; porkers, 20s to 32s, or 4d per lb; large stores, 19s to 24s 6d; smaller do, 12s to 18s; suckers and weaners, 6s to 10s.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

The principal attraction for this week's market was the O.P.Q. Gold Mining Company's two-waggon teams of draught horses. The heavier horses brought from L35 to L44 10s, and the lighter ones, of which there were several in the teams, from L18 10s to L33. Besides these we offered about a dozen useful draught mares and geldings for various vendors, and most of these changed hands at very full values. The demand throughout the sale for draughts was excellent, buyers being present from Central Otago, Tuapeka, Milton, Catlins, Clutha, and Waikouaiti districts, and if as many more horses had been in the saleyard as were offered they could all have been sold. Spring-carters continue to be very scarce, and sales of these are easily effected. We quote: Superior young, draught geldings, L40 to L50; extra good, prize horses, L52 to L60; medium draught mares and geldings, L28 to L38; aged do L18 to L25; upstanding carriage horses, L25 to L30; well-matched carriage pairs, L60 to L80; strong spring-van horses, L25 to L30; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, L16 to L21; tram horses, L12 to L15; light hacks L8 to L12; extra good hacks L18 to L25; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, L2 to L5.