

COMMERCIAL

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ended Tuesday, February 9, 1915, as follows:—Rabbitskins.—At our sale on Monday, 8th inst., we offered a large catalogue to a full attendance of buyers. Competition was keen and prices were, if anything, a shade firmer. Quotations: Prime winter does, to 16½d; prime winter bucks, to 14d; good, 11½d to 12½d; second winter bucks, to 11d; autumn and incoming, to 10d; outgoing, to 9½d; racks, to 7d; light racks, to 5½d; hawk torn, to 7½; summers, to 6d; fist winter black, to 29½d; hareskins, to 6d; best horsehair, to 24½d; good, 21d to 23d per lb. Sheepskins.—At our sale on Tuesday, 9th inst., we offered a large catalogue to a full attendance of buyers. Competition for good crossbred and half-bred skins was very keen but merinos showed a decline of about ½d to ¾d per lb. Quotations: Best halfbred, 10½d to 11d; medium, 9½d to 9¾d; inferior, 8½d to 9d; best fine crossbred to 10½d; best coarse crossbred, to 10½d; medium to good, 8½d to 9½d; inferior, 7½d to 8½d; best merino, to 8½d; medium, 6d to 6¾d; inferior, from 3½d to 5d; lambskins, to 9½d. Hides.—Our next sale will be held on Thursday, 11th inst. Tallow and Fat.—We held our weekly sale on Saturday, 6th inst. There was a good attendance of buyers, and competition was keen. Best tallow in casks sold up to 23s 6d; in tins, to 22s 6d; medium to good, 18s to 19s 6d; inferior, 16s to 17s 6d; caul fat, to 18s 6d; rough fat, good, from 14s to 16s; inferior, 10s to 12s. Oats.—Only small consignments are coming forward. The demand is very keen with the result that prices are firm. Prime milling, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; good to best feed, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; inferior to medium, 3s 3d to 3s 4d per bushel (sacks extra). Wheat. No samples of new season's wheat have yet come to hand. There is strong enquiry for wheat of all descriptions, but very little offering. Prices for new season's wheat are on a basis of 6s 6d per bushel on trucks. Chaff.—Consignments for this week have not been very plentiful, but on account of heavy stocks being held over after the New Year prices are a shade easier. It is, however, anticipated that on account of the demand for oats that prices will rise. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £5 10s to £5 15s; medium to good, £5 to £5 7s 6d per ton (sacks extra). Potatoes.—The market continues to be well supplied and values have risen to some extent. Freshly picked lots are worth from £7 10s to £8; medium, £6 10s to £7 per ton (sacks included).

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

February 8.

The many friends of the Rev. Father O'Boyle will be pleased to know that he is progressing satisfactorily after a serious operation, which he underwent in the Lewisham Hospital.

Rev. Mother Xavier, accompanied by two Nursing Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, arrived last week on business connected with the erection of the additions to their hospital on Bealey avenue.

On last Thursday afternoon a net-ball match was played on the grounds of the Sacred Heart College (Sisters of the Missions) between teams representing the boarders (captain, Miss Evelyn Mooney) and the day scholars (captain, Miss Madge Allen). The game resulted in a win for the day scholars by three goals to one.

The members of the local police force met at the Addington police station to make a presentation to Sergeant David Stewart, who has been stationed at the central station for two years, and who was recently transferred to the charge of the Addington district. Constable Edgar, on behalf of the men, made the presentation, which consisted of a travelling bag and a shaving set, and referred in eulogistic terms to the esteem in which the recipient was held.

An Irish entertainment will be given under the auspices of St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. So-

ciety in the Hibernian Hall, Barbadoes street, on Tuesday evening, February 16. Irish music, songs, and dances will be contributed by Mrs Commons, Messrs F. J. McDonald, P. McNamara, G. Fotherill, A. McDonald, J. Gilmour, and others. A special feature of the programme will be a tableau entitled 'Erin free.' Dr H. T. J. Thacker, M.P. for West Christchurch, will deliver an interesting lecture on places of scenic and historic note in Ireland, illustrating his remarks by means of lantern slides, which will give a good idea of the beauty spots of the land of the harp and shamrock, and will be the means of bringing back the memories of exiles of Erin to the familiar scenes of their childhood.

In celebration of the ninth anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral there was Pontifical High Mass on Sunday last. The Most Rev. Dr O'Shea, S.M. (Coadjutor-Archbishop of Wellington), was celebrant; assistant priest, Very Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R.; deacons at the throne, Very Rev. Father Graham, S.M., M.A., and Rev. Father Quinn, S.M.; deacon and subdeacon respectively of the Mass, Rev. Father Murphy, B.A., and Rev. Father Burger, S.M.; master of ceremonies, Very Rev. Chancellor Price, Adm. The high altar and sanctuary were, as usual, most tastefully adorned. The music was Gounod's 'Messe Solemnelle,' capably rendered by the choir, strengthened for the occasion, with Mr W. Handel Thorley at the organ. At Vespers the occasional sermon was preached by the Very Rev. Father Roche, C.S.S.R., who, in the course of a splendid discourse on the 'Progress of the Church in Modern Times,' made an eloquent appeal to the generosity of the faithful to free the magnificent cathedral from the debt remaining on it. There was Pontifical Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at which the Archbishop officiated, attended by the Rev. Fathers Murphy and Long as deacon and subdeacon. Collections were taken up at all the Masses and at Vespers, the amount realised being considered very satisfactory.

Christchurch North

February 8.

His Grace Archbishop O'Shea paid a visit to St. Mary's on Thursday last.

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society approached the Holy Table in a body at the 7 o'clock Mass on Sunday.

The picnic committee met on Sunday, January 31, to receive the balance sheet in connection with the Boxing Day outing. A very satisfactory surplus of £8 10s 4d has been deposited in the bank as a nucleus for similar gatherings.

The Rev. Father C. Delany, S.J., of Sydney, arrived on Tuesday from the West Coast on a special visit to Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M., having studied under the Dean over 30 years ago. The Rev. Fathers Goudringer, Lacroix, and O'Leary were also visitors at St. Mary's presbytery during the week.

On Saturday afternoon, in the beautiful chapel of the Sisters of Mercy, Colymba street, the reception of the holy habit by Miss Healey (in religion, Sister Mary), of Brooklyn, Wellington, took place. The ceremony was presided over by the Vicar-General (Very Rev. Dean Hills, S.M.), assisted by the Rev. Fathers Hickson, S.M., and Hoare, S.M. At the conclusion of the ceremony Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given. Mrs Healey, mother of the newly-received Sister, and a few intimate friends were present. The Sisters afterwards entertained the guests at dinner.

Yer Mann gang cautie' round the toun
Wi' yer spleuchan fou' o' BONNIE DOON,
Ne'er fash your thumb wi' caro and dool,
Smoke BONNIE DOON to cheer yer soul.