

Commercial

PRODUCE

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co., Ltd., report:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. Our catalogue was a full one, and was cleared at good competition at satisfactory prices. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—Only limited quantities are coming forward, and for all good to prime lines of Gartons and Sparrowbills there is ready sale at prices a shade in advance of late values. Medium and inferior lots are not so strongly competed for. We quote: Prime milling, 1s 11d to 2s; good to best feed, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 7d to 1s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Towards the close of the week the demand for milling wheat slackened slightly, probably in consequence of reports from London and other markets. The quantity offering here is now much reduced, and although temporary checks may occur, values are not likely to suffer to any extent. Although millers are not disposed to operate so freely, values are practically unchanged. We quote: Prime milling, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; velvet, to 4s; medium to good, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; medium do., 3s to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s 3d to 2s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The market is moderately supplied, and prices have a weakening tendency. Shippers, however, are still taking all suitable lots at a slightly reduced price. Medium and inferior samples have little attention. We quote: Prime Up-to-dates, £4 to £4 2s 6d; medium to good, £3 12s 6d to £3 17s 6d; inferior, £2 10s to £3 per ton (bags included).

Chaff.—Prices for prime quality show no change, although heavier supplies have come to hand. Medium and discolored lots, however, are more plentiful and are difficult to quit. Straw chaff is scarce, and has ready sale for winter feeding. We quote: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 10s to £3 15s; choice, to £3 17s 6d; medium and discolored, £3 2s 6d to £3 7s 6d; inferior and straw chaff, £2 5s to £2 10s per ton (sacks extra).

Straw.—We quote: Wheat, 25s to 27s 6d; oaten, 30s to 32s 6d per ton (pressed).

Messrs. Dalgety and Co., Ltd., report as follows:—

We held our usual weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday, when we offered a large catalogue to a good attendance of buyers. Competition was keen, and we cleared our catalogue at the following range of prices:—

Oats.—The market during this last week has shown a firming tendency, particularly for A Gartons suitable for seed, considerable quantities of this class going north for that purpose. Other lines participate in the firmness, though not to the same extent. Farmers are not ready sellers, and what lines are offering at market rates are taken for North Island shipment. There is no oversea demand, and the market depends at present upon local conditions. Prime milling, 1s 11d to 2s; good to best feed, 1s 9d to 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 7d to 1s 8½d.

Wheat.—Prices hold about the same as last week's quotations, but buyers are not keen to operate in the face of weaker markets at Home and in Australia, consequently the market has an easier tendency. Choice velvet, however, meets with ready sale at quotations, and demand is not keen. Prime milling, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; extra choice velvet, up to 4s; best whole fowl wheat, 3s to 3s 6d; broken and damaged, 2s to 2s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Choice thoroughly sound lines are readily taken at top quotations for shipment. Inferior and blighted lines are hard to place. Prime Up-to-dates, £4 to £4 5s; medium to good, £3 5s to £3 15s; inferior, £2 to £2 5s (sacks extra).

Chaff.—Heavy consignments have come to hand this last day or two, and prices are a shade easier. Prime oaten sheaf, £3 12s 6d to £3 15s; choice, to £3 17s 6d; medium to good, £3 5s to £3 10s; inferior, £2 to £2 15s (sacks extra).

Straw.—Oaten, 27s 6d to 30s; wheat, 25s (pressed, ex truck).

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co., Ltd., report for week ending April 26 as follows:—

Oats.—There is a good demand for all prime Gartons and Sparrowbills. Medium and inferior lines are not in request. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 11d to 2s; good to best feed, 1s 9½d to 1s 10½d; inferior to medium, 1s 7d to 1s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Owing to the decline in the London market, millers are not keen to do business. There is not very much offering, and very little business is passing. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 10d to 3s 11d; Velvet, to 4s; medium to good, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d; medium, 3s to 3s 3d; broken and damaged, 2s 3d to 2s 9d per bushel (sacks extra).

Chaff.—Supplies during the last week have been very heavy, and there is a slight decline noticeable. Medium

and discolored chaff is hard of sale. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 10s to £3 15s; medium and discolored, £3 2s 6d to £3 7s 6d; inferior and straw chaff, £2 5s to £2 10s per ton (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The market is fairly well supplied, and prices are hardly so good as at last week's sale. Medium and inferior samples have very little attention. Quotations: Best Up-to-Dates, £4 to £4 2s 6d; medium to good, £3 12s 6d to £3 17s 6d; inferior, £2 10s to £3 per ton (bags in).

Straw.—Wheat, 25s to 27s 6d; oaten, 30s to 32s 6d per ton.

WOOL

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

Rabbitskins.—Our next sale will be held on Monday, May 2.

Sheepskins.—We held our weekly sale to-day, when we offered a large catalogue. There was good competition from a large number of buyers, and prices were much the same as at last week's sale. Quotations: Best halfbred, 9d to 9½d; medium to good, 8d to 8½d; best fine crossbred, 8d to 9d; coarse crossbred, 7d to 7½d; best pelts, 5d to 6d; medium, 4d to 5d; inferior, 1d to 3d; best merinos, 7½d to 8d; medium to good, 5½d to 6½d; lambskins, 6½d to 7½d per lb.

Hides.—Our next sale will be held on Thursday, 28th inst.

Tallow and Fat.—All coming forward is readily disposed of at quotations. Best rendered tallow in casks, 20s to 23s; medium to good, 18s to 20s; best tallow in tins, 18s to 20s; medium to good, 14s to 16s 6d; best rough fat, 16s to 18s; good, 14s to 15s 6d; inferior, 12s 6d to 13s 6d.

LIVE STOCK

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

The entry for last Saturday's sale was a very good one, and included several high-class mares, fillies, and geldings, while spring-carters and hacks were a rather poor lot. The attendance of the public was very good, and included the usual muster of town carters and contractors, as well as a large number of farmers, who competed keenly for well-bred mares and fillies. Several of the horses were above the average quality. One five-year-old gelding of good size and quality changed hands at £47 10s, a bay mare six years old realised £45, a three-year-old filly £38, and quite a number of ordinary farm sorts were sold at prices ranging up to £34 10s. Whilst a good many spring-carters went to new owners, we have no prices which can be considered high. Light-harness horses were also a poor lot, our highest price in this class being £15. Draught mares and geldings, young, sound, and staunch, showing a dash of quality, are very scarce in this centre at present; in fact, the supply falls far short of the demand. We quote:

Superior young draught geldings, at from £40 to £45; extra good ditto (prize-winners), at from £45 to £50; superior young draught mares, at from £50 to £60; medium draught mares and geldings, at from £30 to £40; aged, at from £10 to £15; strong spring-van horses, at from £25 to £30; strong spring-carters, at from £18 to £25; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, at from £15 to £25; light hacks, at from £8 to £13; extra good hacks and harness horses, at from £13 to £25; weedy and aged, at from £5 to £7.

Palmerston North

(From our own correspondent.)

April 24.

The Young Men's Catholic Club opened their session on last Monday, but there was not a large attendance. It was decided to hold a card tournament next Monday evening.

A special meeting of the H.A.C.B. Society is summoned for Tuesday night to elect a president in place of Bro. W. Scanlon, who has left the district, and also an auditor.

At the usual meeting of St. Patrick's Conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society, held on Thursday last, votes of condolence and sympathy were passed with the relatives of the late Sergeant McGuire.

At the recent bazaar in aid of Rev. Mother Mary Joseph Aubert's Home held in Shannon the very pleasing and satisfactory amount of £166 2s 3d was realised over and above all expenses, and duly sent by cheque during the week. The valuable set of vestments fell to the lot of the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M. Mrs. Moynihan, with her large army of assistants, is to be congratulated on the great success which attended the undertaking.

WANTED KNOWN—That Bill-heads, Circulars, Cards, Programmes, and General Printing of every description are executed at the *Tablet* Office. Moderate rates.