

AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL.

Sydney, November 22.—Pending the arrival of the new wheat, the market is dull and unsettled. Chick, 2s 8d; milling (nominal) to 3s. Flour, L7 5s to L7 10s. Oats—Feeding: New Zealand, 2s 6d to 2s 2d; Tasmanian, 1s 10d to 2s; seedling—Tartarian, 1s 10d to 1s 11d. Barley: Cape, 2s 4d to 2s 5d; English, 2s 3d to 2s 6d. Maize, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; American, 2s 11d. Peas: Blue, 3s to 3s 6d. Bran, 8d to 8½d; pollard, 8½d to 9d. Potatoes are plentiful. Circular Heads, L2 to L2 5s; New Zealand Derwentas, L1 to L1 5s; new local, to L4 10s. Onions: Local, L3 5s to L4 10; American, to L5 10s. Butter: Dairy, 7½d to 8d; factory, 9d. Cheese: Large, 4½d to 4½d; loaf, 5d to 5½d. Bacon, 5d to 7½d.

The above quotations are those ruling between merchant and retailer, and do not represent the slightly lower values obtained by recognised brokers.

Melbourne, November 22.—Wheat, unsettled. Old is quoted at 2s 9½d; new, 2s 8d to 2s 9d, according to delivery. Oats: Belgian, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; stout, 1s 9d to 1s 11½d. Maize, 2s 9d to 2s 10d. Bran, 8d. Pollard, 8½d. Potatoes: old, 1s 6d to L1 5s; new, to L2s 15s. Onions, L1 15s to L3.

Adelaide, November 22.—Wheat, nominal. New, for forward delivery, is offering at 2s 9d; old is sold at 2s 10s. Flour, L7 to L7 10s. Oats, unchanged. Bran and pollard, 8½d to 9d.

PASTORAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

The New South Wales stock report shows that last year the sheep decreased by 2,700,000, cattle 80,000, and horses 17,000, owing chiefly to the drought.

The Sydney *Daily Telegraph* estimates the exportable surplus of the new Australian wheat crop, including that of New Zealand, at 24,000,000 bushels.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

There were small entries at Addington, comprising 2769 fat sheep, 742 fat lambs, 1119 store sheep, 372 cattle, and 354 pigs.

FAT CATTLE—The 152 head fat cattle were mostly light to handy weights, and the sale was not brisk. Late rates were about maintained—viz., 17s 6d to 20s for prime, 15s to 16s for good, and down to 13s for cow and inferior beef. Per head steers realised L5 2s 6d to L7 17s 6d; heifers, L4 to L7 5s; cows, L3 10s to L6 17s 6d. There was little or no demand for store or dairy cattle.

FAT SHEEP—There was a mixed entry of fat sheep, mostly shorn. There was a good demand throughout for freezers, with 6d per head rise. Although butchers' sheep opened well, they fell back to last week's prices before the end of the market. Woolly wethers sold at from 18s 6d to 18s 9d; shorn do, 11s 6d to 14s, and up to 17s for extra prime show sheep; shorn ewes, 7s 6d to 12s 11d, and up to 14s 3d for extra good; woolly merino wethers 15s 11d, and up to 18s 6d for prime; shorn do, 10s 6d to 12s.

FAT LAMBS—There was a good inquiry for lambs for export, and the bulk were taken at an average of about 11s 6d up to 12s 1d for extra good, and down to 9s 6d for small.

STORE SHEEP—The only lines of store sheep worth mentioning were a line of shorn crossbred wethers at 11s 10d, and 19s do wethers and ewes at 10s 3d. The balance were in little lots.

PIGS—There was a fairly large entry of pigs, the bulk being small stores. Fats were a little easier, and stores about held their own. Baconers brought 3d per lb, and porkers 3½d to 3½d. Per head baconers ranged from 31s to 39s, porkers from 25s to 30s, stores 15s to 23s, and weaners 10s to 14s.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

We held our weekly sale on Saturday. The sale was well attended. There was a large entry of light horses, including some very fine upstanding harness sorts. The draughts, with one or two exceptions, were a very poor lot, most of them aged and otherwise faulty. The harness horses sold well, and so did the best of the draughts; but there was very little demand for aged and inferior horses of either description. In upstanding harness horses the following were some of the principal sales, viz.: Bay gelding, five years, L26 10s; brown gelding, five years, L25; bay gelding, four years, L24; chestnut gelding, five years, L23; bay gelding, four years, L21; brown gelding, six years, L18; pair brown five-year-old geldings, L35; lady's hack, L13. In draughts the following sales were made: Bay gelding, five years old, L44; bay gelding, six years, L40; brown gelding, L36 10s; and bay gelding, L34. A number of useful tramway horses changed hands at from L10 to L13. We quote: First-class young draught mares and geldings at from L45 to L50; good do, L40 to L45; medium, L34 to L38; aged, L20 to L30; upstanding young and sound spring-carters, at from L25 to L30; good do, L21 to L25; aged, L17 to L20; upstanding young carriage horses, suitable for pairs, at from L20 to L25; good do, L17 to L20; medium do and hacks, L12 to L16; ordinary station and shepherds' hacks, L10 to L12; aged but sound hacks, L7 to L9; inferior and weedy sorts, L2 to L5.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, November 21.—The wool arrivals for the next series of sales total 123,500 bales, of which 25,500 will be forwarded direct to the manufacturers, leaving 108,000 available for the sales opening on Tuesday.

London, November 22.—At the tallow sales 421 casks were offered, and 375 sold. Prices for all kinds are unchanged.

Sydney, November 23.—At the wool sales both in Sydney and Melbourne, there is a weaker feeling. The decline is most noticeable in merinos, these in Melbourne being fully a halfpenny lower than the prices obtained last week.

Melbourne, November 24.—The wool market has recovered its buoyant tone.

London, November 24.—The Bradford wool market is excited. Common sixties, 31d; supers, 32½d.

London, November 26.—Hides are in strong demand, and there is a general advance of a farthing. Queensland heavy ox realised 6½d; New South Wales heavy, 5½d. Australian leather and basils are dull.

The hemp market is slow. Fair Wellington October and December shipments, L35 10s.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS—Consignments are now on a small scale only, sales in consequence being held once a fortnight in place of weekly. Values remain about the same level and quotations may be repeated.

SHEEPSKINS—We submitted our usual large catalogue on Tuesday and all sorts met a good sale, merino skins in same cases making almost 9d per lb; dry crossbreds, 2s 3d to 7s; do merino, 2s 5d to 7s; extra good, 7s 6d to 8s; pelts, 6d to 1s 9d.

HIDES—Good demand. Market firm. Extra heavy ox, well flayed, to 4½d per lb; others in proportion.

AUCKLAND WOOL SALE.

The first Auckland wool sale of the season took place on Tuesday. Cross-bred showed a strong advance, while coarse wools showed an advance of about a penny on last season. Fine wool was in strong demand, and showed an advance of 3d to 3½d on the opening prices of last season. Prices for fine cross-bred and half-bred wool ranged from 7½d to 10d per lb, coarse cross-bred from 6d to 6½d, and Lincoln 5½d to 5½d. The total number of bales catalogued is 3,330.

CHRISTCHURCH WOOL SALES.

The first series of the Christchurch wool sales opened on November 23, when, out of 8118 bales catalogued, 7262 were sold by auction. There was a good attendance of foreign and local buyers, although the sale was slow all through, occupying from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Good prices were obtained, and there were advances in all classes of wool, more especially in fine halfbreds and merinos. Buyers were very slow to start, but once set going the competition was very keen, and pieces and bellies were much sought after by local scourers, and in several instances brought prices fully up to fleece wool from the same flocks. The scarcity of merino, owing to shearing not being far advanced in that class of wool, considerably affected the market, and caused a keen demand. No large station clips came forward, the bulk being farmers' lots. Strong crossbreds advanced on the closing rates at last year's sales ½d to 1d per lb; medium do, 1d to 2d; Down cross and medium halfbreds, 2d to 3d; super halfbred, 3d to 4½d; and merino, 3d to 5d. Merino sold up to 12½d, halfbred to 13½d, crossbred 11½d, longwool to 8d, Down wool to 11d, pieces and bellies to 10½d, and locks to 4d.

THE WEEK'S DREDGING RETURNS.

During the week ended Monday, 27th inst. (says the *Otago Daily Times*), returns were reported from the following 29 dredges, the total yield being 927oz 17dwt 10gr, or an average of over 31oz per dredge:—

Hartley and Riley (Cromwell), 4 days, 213oz 14dwt; Magnetic (Cromwell), 5 days, 85oz; Success (Waipori), 140 hours, 58oz 13dwt; Junction Electric (Cromwell), 57oz; Golden Gate (Island Block), 6 days, 51oz 14dwt; Enterprise (Alexandra), 134 hours, 43oz 9dwt 12gr; Manorburn (Manuhierikia), 41oz; Golden Treasure (Miller's Flat), 35oz 4dwt; Clyde (Alexandra), 25oz; Unity (Clyde), 24oz 8dwt; Empire (Waipori), 24oz 3dwt 6gr; Upper Waipori (Waipori), 22oz 9dwt; Golden Terrace (Lower Shotover), 20oz 16dwt 16gr; Jutland Flat (Waipori), 128 hours, 20oz 6dwt; Golden Point (Alexandra), 20oz; Molyneux Hydraulic (Alexandra), 19oz; Macraes Flat (Nenthorn), 161 hours, 16oz 8dwt; Nil Desperandum (Manuhierikia), 16oz; Tuapeka (Tuapeka Flat), 15oz 3dwt; Sunlight (Beaumont), 141 hours, 14oz 8dwt; Evans Flat (Tuapeka), 13oz 7dwt; Ettrick (Moa Flat), 5 days, 13oz; Inch Valley (near Palmerston), 68 hours, 13oz; Otago (Miller's Flat), 13oz; Morning Star (Manuhierikia), 129 hours, 12oz 14dwt; Galtee More (Manuhierikia), 11oz; Nevis (Nevis River), 90 hours 11oz; Matau (Clyde), 9oz; Waimumu (near Gore), 70 hours, 8oz. Total, 927oz 17dwt 10gr.

LATE BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

(Per special favour Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris.)

Wednesday, 5 p.m.

FAT CATTLE—200 yarded. There was a good demand, and prices were fully 10s better than last week. Best bullocks, L7 10s to L9; extra good, L12; medium, L6 to L6 7s 6d; others, up to L5 15s; best cows and heifers, from L3 15s to L6 10s.

SHEEP—1200 penned. Owing to the short supply there was a good demand, prices being fully 1s 6d per head better. Best crossbred wethers, 17s 6d to 20s; extra heavy, up to 20s 6d; medium, 15s to 17s 3d; others, up to 15s; one pen extra heavy sold at 17s 6d.

Mr. J. A. Millar will address the electors of Dunedin at the Union street Hall on Friday next. He will also speak at the monster meeting in the Garrison Hall on Tuesday evening.—*.*