

displayed lately seems to have tamed down somewhat, a few sales were effected at auction this week at up to late quotations, while several lots were passed unsold, buyers are disinclined to operate at any further advance. Meantime we quote best milling, bright and stout, 1s 5½d to 1s 5½d; extra prime, 1s 6½d; best bright short feed, 1s 5½d to 1s 5½d; medium, 1s 4½d to 1s 4½d; inferior, 1s 1 to 1s 3d; good Danish, 1s 4d to 1s 4½d, sacks extra, ex store. Barley is in fair demand, all sorts being easily placed, without, however, as yet any improvement in value; but the quantity offering is limited, and owing to the exceedingly dry weather which has so long prevailed North, there is an idea that good malting will command enhanced values by the time the season is on. We quote best malting, 2s 9½d to 3s; medium to good, 2s 4d to 2s 8d; feed and milling, 1s 9d to 2s 3½d ex store.

Grass Seed.—The market for both ryegrass seed and cocksfoot is very quiet, and only small lots are being sold to supply farmers' orders. We quote best machine-dressed ryegrass seed 4s 3d to 4s 9s; farmers' best dressed, 3s to 3s 6d; medium, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; cocksfoot, 4d to 4½d per lb.

Potatoes.—The market is over supplied, and to effect sales reduced prices have to be accepted. Best local grown, £4 to £5; Northern, £2 10s to £3 per ton.

Chaff.—The market here, and with a moderately good demand late rates are firmly maintained. Best oats screened, 45s to 47s 6d; light and inferior to medium, 35s to 42s 6d per ton.

Dairy Produce.—There is no improvement in the demand for export for either cheese or butter. Some small parcels of the former are being shipped occasionally at from 4d to 4½d per lb for medium size, but the quantity as yet is limited. Butter is moving off in small lots for retail purposes at from 6d to 7d for best salted in Pond's boxes; no demand for inferior to medium.

Flax.—We have no alteration to note in the position of the market, and quote properly dressed soft and bright in the fibre, £19 to £20 10s; medium to good, £15 to £18; coarse and strawy, £10 to £14 10s per ton.

Messrs. DONALD REID AND CO., Dunedin, report for the week ending January 14, as follows:—

Sheepskins.—At our usual weekly sale on Tuesday we put forward a moderate catalogue. There was only a moderate attendance of buyers. Dry crossbreds sold at 2s 1d to 5s 11½d; do merinos, 1s 7d to 5s 2d; do pelts and lambs, 6d to 2s 2½d; green pelts, 1s to 1s 7d; do lambs 2s 1 to 1s 7½d.

Hides.—A fair demand exists for heavy, well-fayed, and clean parcels. We will clear all forward this week.

Tallow.—For all sorts there is a ready sale, local manufacturers purchasing all coming in. We quote—Prime rendered, 19s to 20s; medium, 16s to 17s; inferior, 12s to 13s; rough fat, 9s to 13s.

Grain—Wheat. We quote milling (prime), 3s 9½d to 3s 10½d; medium, 3s 5½d to 3s 8½d; fowls' wheat, 3s to 3s 4d.

Oats.—There is still a good demand for stout heavy milling and bright feed, and all arriving meets with ready sale (off trucks) at quotations. Milling, 1s 5½d to 1s 6d sacks extra; feed, 1s 3d to 1s 5d sacks extra.

Barley.—There has been a better inquiry, and as the stocks are now pretty well cleared out, there is a ready sale for any lots offering. We quote:—Malting, 2s 7d to 2s 10d; milling, 2s 2½d to 2s 6d; feed, 1s 8d to 2s 1d.

Potatoes.—Prices remain at last week's quotations, viz.—Prime, £5 to £6; medium, £4 to £5.

Chaff.—In consequence of the short supply, prices have advanced. We now quote—Prime heavy, £2 5s to £2 12s 6d; inferior, £1 10s to £2.

Messrs DONALD STRONACH AND CO., Dunedin, report for week ending Wednesday, January 7, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—276 were yarded. The greater part were good to prime, and included some extra heavy bullocks. The supply was far beyond the demand, and prices were, therefore, a little lower. Bullocks sold at £5 2s 6d to £9 10s for extra; cows at £3 to £6 17s 6d for extra. We sold on account of Messrs Murray Roberts, and Co. (Ringway estate) bullocks, £6 15s, £7, £7 2s 6d, £7 10s; heifers, £5, £6, £6 17s 6d. On account of Mr. Thomas Kirk (East Taieri), small bullocks at £4 14s; on account of Mr. D. Mitchell at quotations.

Fat sheep.—1998 were penned; about half were merino wethers, the rest ewes from half-fat to prime. Buyers were in full attendance, and bid spiritedly for all offered, there being scarcely enough to meet demands. Prices advanced 1s to 1s 6d a head over last week's ruling rates. Crossbred wethers, shorn, sold at 13s to 14s 9½d; crossbred ewes sold at 9s 6d to 13s 9d. We sold crossbred wethers on account Mr. Alexander Douglas, at 13s 6d.

Pigs.—We sold pigs on account of Mr. W. Edwards (Broadacres) at 27s.

Fat Lambs.—791 were penned, mostly prime quality. There was a fair demand throughout, prices ruling about the same as last sale. Best sold at 8s to 10s, a few extra, 10s 3d to 12s; others, 5s 9d to 7s 9d. We sold a draft on account of Mr. D. Mitchell, Portobello, at quotations.

Sheepskins.—These continue in good demand at recent rates. We had the usual attendance of buyers at our weekly sale on Tuesday at the Chamber of Commerce Hall, when we offered a full catalogue comprising a number of country dry skins, also a fair share of town and country butchers' both woolly, green skins, and bare pelts. Competition was fairly active, and all were disposed of at the following rates:—For country dry crossbreds, inferior to medium, 1s 5d to 3s 2½d; do merino, 1s 4½d to 3s; full-woolled crossbred, 3s 8d to 6s 6d; do do merino, 3s 5d to 5s 9½d; dry pelts 3d to 1s 2½d; green do, 1s 7d, 1s 6, 1s 5d, 1s 4d, 1s 2, 1s 1d, green lambskins, 1s 9d, 1s 7d, 1s 6d, 1s 5½d, 1s 3½d, 1s 2½d, 1s 1d.

Rabbitskins.—There is very little to be said about these now. Owing to the limited supply there is no business of any consequence being done. Consignments have fallen off almost to nothing, and

those coming to hand are for the most part inferior sorts, but still are saleable, although prices as a rule are less satisfactory. On Tuesday we submitted a small catalogue, all low season skins, which brought from 4½d to 9½d; such are and half grown, 1½d to 3d per lb.

Hides.—There is no alteration to report. The local demand continues sufficiently active to absorb all the supply, and the prices paid, although considered low, give little or no room for exporters to operate. Quotations for good to best, 2½d to 2¾d; extra heavy, 3½d; medium, 2d to 2½d; light, 1½d to 1¾d; inferior and sloppy, 1d to 1½d per lb.

Tallow has a moderately fair demand for local consumption but there is hardly any prime rendered offering in this market, the bulk of the consignments coming forward being only odd lots of country rendered, mixed, and often inferior, but at the same time marketable at prices in sympathy with those current at Home. Quotations for prime rendered mutton, 19s to 20s; medium to good, 16s to 18s; inferior to mixed, 12s 6d to 15s 6d. Rough fat sells readily, prices being fully maintained, which are—for best mutton caul, 13s to 14s; inferior to medium and good, 10s to 12s 9d per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat: There is a moderately fair demand for all classes of wheat, but more especially medium to good and prime milling white velvet, which seems to be low in stock; and any lots of this class offering in milling condition could be placed at late current rates. The business done, however, is not extensive, the demand being confined to local millers' exigencies, which are not very pressing; still, owing to the small supplies in first hands, the market is firm, and hardly likely to become weaker before the new grain is to hand. We quote best Tuscan, 3s 9½d to 3s 10½d; best white velvet, 3s 8d to 3s 10½d; medium to good, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; best red wheat, 3s 5d to 3s 6½d; medium, 3s 4d to 3s 5½d; broken, inferior and musty, 2s 6d to 3s 3d (ex store).—Oats: Locally there is no improvement in the position, and the chief business passing is in the placing of the few small arrivals coming to hand from day to day. Old stocks are almost entirely out of agents' hands, but there is a considerable quantity still lying in store, which will have to be cleared out before prices are likely to further advance. Even now buyers are not quite so keen to operate at the prices obtaining during the past two or three weeks, and only that there so few offering now it is questionable if late rates could be maintained, but which we again give—for prime milling (bright and stout), 1s 5½d to 1s 5½d; best bright short feed 1s 5½d to 1s 5½d; medium 1s 4½d to 1s 4½d; inferior and musty, 1s to 1s 3½d; good Danish, 1s 4½d to 1s 4½d (ex store, sacks extra).—Barley has a good inquiry, but its supply in first hands being now almost all disposed of, the business done is only to a small extent confined to the odd consignments occasionally coming forward. Quotations—for prime malting, 2s 6½d to 2s 9½d; medium to good, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; feed and milling, 1s 6d to 2s 2½d (ex store).

Grass Seed.—Some small sales of both ryegrass seed and cocksfoot have been effected during the week, owing to the moisture of the weather, but the demand is not by any means brisk, and according to recent reports considerable areas are under ryegrass in the North Island, which will doubtless tend to limit the demand for southern growth, of which large yields are expected. An idea is therefore prevailing that it will be somewhat difficult to maintain prices ruling during the past season. Meantime we quote best machine-dressed ryegrass seed, 4s 3d to 4s 9d; farmers' best dressed, 3s to 3s 6d; medium, 2s 6½d to 2s 9d (ex store); cocksfoot seed slow of sale at from 4d to 4½d per lb.

Potatoes.—The market is over-supplied, chiefly with inferior sorts, for which there is very little demand, being almost unfit for use, and in consequence difficult to place except at very low prices, while the few good lots coming to hand are saleable at prices more in accord with reasonable value. We quote inferior, £3 10s to £4 10s; best, £5 15s to £6 10s per ton.

Chaff.—Deliveries are only to a moderate extent and with a fair demand there is no difficulty in placing consignments immediately on arrival at slightly more satisfactory prices—viz., for best oaten, well cut and heavy, 42 6d to 45s; extra prime, 47s 6d; light and inferior too medium, 30s to 40s per ton.

Dairy Produce.—The market continues very sluggish for both, cheese and butter, in respect to the latter especially. Prime salted in Pond's boxes slow sale at 6d to 7d; medium almost unsaleable; prime factory-made cheese, medium size, in shipping condition, dull at 4d to 4½d per lb.

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices.—Oats: 1s 2d to 1s 5½d (bags extra), good demand. Wheat: milling, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; fowls', 3s 3d—latter firm, sacks included. Chaff: Market base—£1 15s to £2 2s 6d; bay, oaten, £3; best ryegrass, £3. Bran, £2 10s; Pollard, £3 10s. Potatoes, old, £3 per ton; new, 6s per cwt. Flour: roller, £10 to £10 15s; stone, £9 5s to £9 15s. Fresh butter, very plentiful, value from 4s to 8s; salt, nominal, for prime, 6d. Eggs, 8d. Oatmeal, in 25 lb bags, £8 10s.

Most important and promising industries are those of the Acme Manufacturing Company, Cumberland street, Dunedin. The company is turning out blacking of a superior quality to that of anything of the kind previously produced. Without injuring the leather it gives a bright polish obtained by comparatively little exertion, and has keeping qualities not found in other articles of the kind. The company are also turning out blacklead quite equal to the very best manufactured elsewhere, and in this they deserve distinction as the only colonial manufacturers of the article. Among their other manufactures are blue, axle grease, and Brunswick black, all and each of them of superior excellence, and which can compare favourably with articles of foreign make. Preparations beside are in hand for undertaking several other branches, for which a equal success may be confidently predicted. The company merit claim support for their enterprise as due to them in the interests of the community and the colony generally, whose welfare must depend largely on local industries. The goods turned out by them are however in themselves sufficient to urge their claims, and the public will find it greatly to their advantage to make exclusive use of them.