

say for good spring skins, 10d to 1s 3d; medium to good summer, 6d to 9d; half-grown and inferior, 2½d to 5d per lb.

Hides.—The market continues fairly steady but quiet, the local manufacturers being the principal operators who absorb the bulk of our supplies. We have no alteration to make in our quotations of last week, which we repeat, viz., for good to best, 2½d to 3d; medium, 2d to 2½d; light, 1½d to 1¾d; interior and shippy, 1d to 1½d per lb.

Tallow.—The market shows no change since our last report. A steady tone prevails, values remaining unchanged, and as the supply is not very heavy there is no difficulty in placing consignments immediately on arrival. We quote prime rendered mutton, 19s 6d to 20s; medium to good, 16s to 18s; inferior and mixed, 12s to 15s 6d. Rough fat, best fresh mutton caul, 13s to 14s; inferior to medium and good, 11s to 13s 9d per cwt.

Potatoes.—The market is fully supplied with northern sorts which are difficult to place owing to their inferior quality except at very low prices, the value of really prime in consequence is considerably effected while the supply is not by any means excessive. Quotations for best local grown, £3 10s to £4; others £2 10s to £3 per ton.

Chaff.—The market this week is fully supplied and prices easier quotations for best oaten properly cut and screened, 42s 6d to 45s; extra prime, 47s 6d; inferior to medium, 31s to 40s per ton.

Dairy Produce.—The market is unaltered. Considerable quantities of both cheese and butter are being shipped Home being the only means of quitting stocks. There are no buyers for speculation in the market, the only purchases being made are for local retail. Prime salt butter selling at 5½d to 6½d; factory made cheese, 4d to 4½d; good dairy made, 3½d per lb.

Flax.—A very fair demand exists for well got up parcels long fibred white and soft at prices relatively higher than those paid at Home, second and third rate quality can also be placed for shipment. We quote: Soft and bright, £19 to £20; medium to good, £15 to £18; coarse and strawy, £10 to £14 10s per ton.

Grain.—Wheat: The market continues firm, but owing to the supply in agents' hands being almost exhausted, trade actions are not extensive. We quote—best milling wheat and Tuscan, 3s 11d to 4s; medium to good, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; best red wheat, 3s 8d to 3s 10d; medium, 3s 5d to 3s 7d; inferior, 3s to 3s 4d, ex store.—Oats: The market continues steady, but prices have not improved during the past week. We quote—stout bright feed and milling, 1s 6d to 1s 6½d; medium to good, 1s 5d to 1s 5½d; inferior to medium, 1s 2d to 1s 4d, ex store, sacks extra.—Barley: There are no sales of any consequence passing in the meantime, only odd lots of inferior to medium, which came to hand from time to time, being disposed of. We quote—prime malting, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; medium to good, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; feed and milling, 2s to 2s 4d, ex store.

Grass Seed.—The recent rains have caused a slight demand for ryegrass seed, but buyers are not disposed to give late current rates, anticipating that the new seed can be obtained at lower prices. Late quotations:—Best machine-dressed, 4s 3d to 4s 9d; farmers' best dressed, 3s to 3s 6d; medium, 2s 6d to 2s 9d per bushel. Cocksfoot seed, 4d to 4½d per lb.

MESSRS. DONALD STRONACH AND SONS report for the week ending Wednesday, January 21, as follows:—

Fat Cattle.—The supply was a meagre one, only 133 head yarded, but, nevertheless, it proved too great for the requirements of the butchers, and we have in consequence to report the worst sale of the season. The demand was wretched, and prices obtained for the best cattle did not exceed at the very outside 15s per 100lb., and it is quite certain plenty of ordinary and second rate quality sold at a good deal less. Best bullocks brought from £7 to £8 15s; ordinary do, £5 10s 6d to £6 15s; light do, £3 to £5; best cows, £1 10s to £6; ordinary, £3 to £4; old and inferior, £1 2s 6d to £2 10s. We sold bullocks for Mrs. Brown (Mosgiel) at £6 2s 6d to £6 17s 6d; heifers for Mr. D. Sutherland at £5 5s; for Mr. T. King (Portobello), light heifers at £2 3s to £2 5s.

Fat Sheep.—2534 came forward to a fairly good market, especially for prime wethers, for which there was a moderate demand for export. Prices for this description of sheep were firm at last week's quotations; indeed, the first few pens sold made a slight advance, but as the sale progressed the improvement was lost. Ewe mutton made about the same money as last week. Extra heavy crossbred wethers made 14s 6d to 14s 9d; prime do do (freezers), 13s to 11s; ordinary do do, 12s to 12s 6d; light do do, 10s 6d to 11s 6d; prime crossbred ewes (heavy), 12s to 13s; ordinary do do, 10s to 11s 6d; light do do, 8s 6d to 9s 6d; merino wethers, 9s to 10s 6d.

Fat Lambs were in over supply, 877 being penned. A few pens of the best were taken for export, and these commanded good competition, realising from 10s to 11s 9d. Other lots were dull of sale at a reduction of quite 1s a head on last week's prices.

Pigs.—102 penned, mostly slips and suckers—very few bacon pigs and porkers forward. Guaranteed grain and dairy-fed lightweight bacon pigs ranging from 100lb. to 140lb. were inquired for, and had there been any suitable lines in a fair price would have been obtained for them. Heavyweights, on the other hand, are very difficult to sell.

Store Cattle.—We quote inquiries from the south for well-bred well-grown bullocks.

Sheepskins.—Moderate catalogues were offered at the weekly sales held on Tuesday. Buyers were present in full force, and on the whole very satisfactory prices were obtained, as follows:—Butchers green skins: crossbreds sold at 4s 3d to 6s 6d; pelts, 1s to 2s 3d; lambs, 1s 4d to 2s. Country dry skins: crossbreds sold at 1s 6d to 6s 8d; merinos at 1s 6d to 5s; pelts at 3d to 1s 2d; lambskins at 8d to 1s 7d.

Rabbitskins.—Very few coming forward, and these mostly springs and summers. Former bring from 10d to 1s 3d; latter, 6d to 10d; other qualities in proportion.

Hides.—There are the usual number arriving, of which, however, comparatively few can be described as prime. The greater part are from light to medium weights, and badly flayed and dirty. Fair prices are secured for well cared for parcels, but as buyers are careless

about touching the inferior sorts, returns for these must be very disappointing to consignors. We quote: for prime heavies to 3d per lb; medium, 2d to 2½d; light and inferior, 1½d to 1¾d.

Tallow.—The demand continues good for country lots of tallow and fresh lots of rough fat. A good deal of the latter arriving at present is completely "gone" before it reaches us, and for such very low prices have to be taken. We quote—Prime rendered mutton tallow, £20 to £21; prime rendered mixed, £18 to £19; medium, £16 to £17; inferior, £10 to £14; clean mutton cauls, 13s to 13s 6d; inferior and medium, 9s 6d to 12s.

Grain.—Wheat: The demand is entirely confined to local millers, and as they are at present fairly well supplied, the market has undergone no change. Stocks in store are very low, and any description, if of prime quality, is easily sold at very full rates. Fowls' wheat is almost unobtainable, and fetches comparatively higher values. We quote—Prime milling from 3s 9d to 3s 10d; medium do, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; inferior and fowls' wheat, 3s 4d to 3s 6d.—Oats: There has been no increase in arrivals this week, and as shippers and local dealers have no stocks to fall back on the demand is very brisk. At auction on Monday increased prices were again paid, as high as 1s 6d being obtained for a very prime lot of Sutherland oats. Any lots of fair feed are now readily sold at 1s 6d, but inferior descriptions are not so easily placed. We quote:—Prime milling, 1s 6d to 1s 7d; best feed, 1s 6d to 1s 6½d; inferior to ordinary, 1s 3d to 1s 5½d.—Barley: In this cereal there is not very much doing, for with the exception of odd lots of feed there is practically none in the market. For feed parcels there is a better demand, as owing to the scarcity of fowls' wheat it is now being used as a substitute. We quote:—Prime malting, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; milling and feed, 2s to 2s 4d.—Ryegrass: The market is completely cleaned out, and in the absence of any transactions we refrain from quoting. The new crop should shortly be in the market, and as there are already inquiries for it, prices are likely to open considerably higher than those ruling in the beginning of last season.

Potatoes.—The market still continues over-supplied, and sales difficult to effect unless they are really good and newly dug. Small and inferior sorts have no demand, and unsaleable except at unsatisfactory prices. We quote prime, £3 10s to £4 10s; northern, £2 10s to £3 per ton.

Chaff.—Owing to a short supply consignments having almost fallen off to nothing during the past week, any offering could be placed at an advance on late quotations; but during the last day or two consignments have come to hand more freely and while £2 10s might be got on an emergency, buyers decline to give over 45s to 47s 6d for best per ton.

Dairy Produce.—There is a moderately fair demand for factory-made cheese—medium size at from 3½d to 4d per lb; but rather than accept those prices sellers prefer to ship, considerable quantities being now sent forward to the London market. There is no improvement in the demand for butter; quotations unaltered.

Flax.—During the week we placed several parcels at late quotations, and find no difficulty in disposing of all consignments coming forward.

MESSRS. DONALD REID AND CO., Dunedin, report for the week ending January 28, as follows:—

Sheepskins.—Our catalogue submitted at our usual sale at the Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday comprised skins of all qualities. We quote: Best full-woolled crossbred skins, 4s to 6s 8d; medium weights, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; merino skins, 2s 6d to 5s; dry pelts and lambskins, 6d to 1s; green do do, 9d to 2s 6d.

Tallow.—We have cleared all forward at for—best rendered, 18s to 20s; medium do, 15s to 17s; rough fat, up to 11s per cwt.

Wheat.—We quote—Prime milling, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; medium, 3s 6d to 3s 8d; fowls' wheat, 3s to 3s 5d.

Oats.—The demand continues brisk. We quote—Milling, 1s 6d to 1s 6½d; short bright feed, 1s 5½d to 1s 5¾d; discoloured and long, 1s 4d to 1s 5d (sacks extra).

Barley.—Stocks are well cleared out. We quote—Malting, 2s 5d to 2s 8d; milling, 2s 1d to 2s 4d; feed, 1s 7d to 2s (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—We quote—Prime, £3 10s to £4; ordinary, £3 to £3 7s 6d.

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices—Oats: 1s 4d to 1s 6½d (bags extra), good demand. Wheat: milling, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; fowls', 3s 3d—latter firm, sacks included. Chaff: Market bare—£2 5s to £2 10s; hay, oats, £3; best ryegrass, £3. Bran, £2 10s. Pollard, £3 10s. Potatoes, new, £3 10s to £4. Flour: roller, £10 to £10 15s; stone, £9 5s to £9 15s. Fresh butter, very plentiful, value from 4d to 7d; salt, nominal, for prime, 6d. Eggs, 9d. Oatmeal, in 25lb bags, £9 10s.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

WRIGHT, STEPHENSON AND CO., report as follows:—The entries today comprised nearly all descriptions, and included a draft from Mr. John Allen, of Bellfield (Strath-Tairi) estate, of useful draft mares and geldings, and draft and buggy mares with foals at foot, which were sold under good competition at up to £21. We also offered, on account of Messrs W. Metcalf and Co. and others, a large number of saddle and harness horses, a fair number of which found purchasers. We quote—Really first-class heavy draught geldings, £22 to £27; medium draught horses, £14 to £20; light and agile draft horses, £7 to £12; good spring-carters, £10 to £15; well-matched carriage pairs, £40 to £50; well-matched buggy pairs, £30 to £40; first-class hunters, £20 to £30.

Dan Lockwood, the newly-elected member from Buffalo, is mentioned as a candidate for the Speakership of the next House. He has a good Christian name to start with. Dan Maoning and Dan Lamont, not to mention Daniel Webster and Daniel O'Connell, have been names to conjure with.—*Pilot*.