

present time best southern Tuscan is worth 3s 10d to 3s 11d; choicest Oamaru Tuscan, equal to 4s here; prime velvet, 3s 9d to 3s 10 1/2; best red wheat, 3s 8 1/2 to 3s 9 1/2. Oats: During the past week a considerable quantity of oats has been offering, and although most of the lots have found buyers, the tone of the market has become easier. Still, consignments are every day finding their way both to our port and that of the Bluff. Holders are still firm at 1s 6 1/2 to 1s 6 3/4 for good milling and bright feed (there being just now very little difference in the relative value of the two classes), but beyond the inquiry referred to for Home Shipments, buyers are unwilling to give quite as much money. Outside prices just now are 1s 6 1/2 to 1s 6 3/4, sacks extra, ex truck or store, for best feed and good milling respectively; second-class feed, 1s 5 1/2—few, if any, selling below this latter rate.—Barley: A fair inquiry continues to exist for barley, both malting and good milling, but we are unable to confirm the quotations which were reported last week. It is true that there are very few prime samples offering, but we have heard of nothing higher than 2s 9d per bushel as having been paid during the past 10 days, and for the best local-grown lines in the market. Best milling is worth 2s 3d, good feed 2s, fair average malting samples 2s 9 1/2—the second mentioned being the most ready of sale.

Grass Seeds.—Already there are a few samples of new seed on the market, sales of which have been made without much difficulty at from 4s 3d to 4s 6d for clean, well-dressed parcels. By forcing anything like a large quantity upon the market at one time, there is a chance of a temporary decline in prices; but although crops are reported as being heavy in the South, they are undoubtedly very light in the North, and by judiciously working the market we are inclined to think that good prices will rule throughout the season. Present quotations are—4s 3d to 4s 6d for best machine-dressed parcels; farmers' dressed, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; medium to good, 2s 6 1/2 to 3s per bushel. Akaroa grown cocksfoot is being quoted at 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 for the best, f.o.b. Lyttelton; second quality, 3 1/2 to 3 3/4; inferior, 3d to 3 1/2 per lb.—net cash, sacks extra.

Potatoes.—The market is still oversupplied, and prices are every day falling. There are very few lots of really prime potatoes coming to hand, but of inferior and medium quality there seems to be an abundance. To-day the best are worth 23 5s to 23 15s 6 1/2; medium, 22 15s to 23; inferior, 22 5d to 22 10s, sacks weighed in.

Chaff.—The supplies still continue in excess of requirements, in fact more has come into the market during the last week than for some little time back. Prime oat straw may be quoted at 42s 6d to 45s; inferior to medium, 30s to 35s per ton.

Dairy Produce.—The market is in the same unsatisfactory state as when last reported, there being very little business doing either in butter or cheese. The first mentioned has only a very slight inquiry at from 5s to 6d per lb for prime salt; while factory-made cheese is selling in small parcels occasionally at from 4d to 4 1/4 for medium size; dairy-made ditto, 3 1/4 to 4d per lb.

Flax.—There is no change to report since last week, the market continuing steady. Lines of well-scuthed flax are commanding the most attention, and may be quoted at from 21s to 22s per ton. Medium and inferior sorts, on the other hand, are not so readily saleable, and will only fetch 10s to 15s; while good samples have a fair demand at from 16s to 18s.

MESSRS. DONALD REID AND CO., Dunedin, report for the week ending February 11, as follows:—

Wool.—The fourth wool sales of the season have been fixed to be held on Monday and Tuesday, the 23rd and 24th February, although there is every probability of all the sales being held on Tuesday. Clients who wish their wool catalogued for this sale ought to have particulars forward not later than Friday, the 20th, and every effort should be made to have clips forward in time for this sale. Fleece sold at 6d to 9d; pieces, 3 1/2 to 5 1/2; locks, 1d to 3 1/2 per lb.

Sheepskins.—At our sale on Tuesday at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, Dunedin, there was better competition than at last week's sale, and prices were a shade higher. Green pelts sold at 1s 1d to 2s 1d; lambs, 1s 4d to 2s 5d; dry crossbreds, 2s 1d to 6s 2d; merinos, 1s 8d to 5s 7d; pelts and lambs, 6d to 5s 1d.

Rabbitkins.—At auction at our stores on Monday we disposed of a small catalogue of spring and summer take at satisfactory prices.

Hides.—The demand continues good for heavy hides. Light and inferior, owing to the large number forward, do not meet the same demand, and are not so readily placed. We quote—prime heavies, 2 1/2 to 3d; medium, 2 1/4 to 2 1/2d; light—inferior, 1 1/2 to 2 1/4; bulls' sloppy and cut, 1 1/2 to 1 1/4d.

Tallow.—There is a brisk demand and ready sale for all descriptions at late rates. We have disposed of several country parcels during the week at—for medium rendered, 13s 6 1/2 to 16s 6d; rough fat, 11s to 12s.

Wheat.—The demand is hardly so brisk as when last reporting, but a considerable business is still being done at quotations. Prime milling, 3s 9d to 3s 11d; medium, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; fowls' wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 6 1/2.

Oats.—There is a steady demand, and all arriving meets with ready sale at—for prime milling, 1s 6 1/2 to 1s 6 3/4; do feed, 1s 5d to 1s 5 1/2; inferior do, 1s 3d to 1s 4 1/2.

Barley.—Stocks are now low, but there is very little inquiry pending the arrival of the new season's crop. A few lines are changing hands at—for malting, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; milling, 2s 2d to 2s 3 1/2; feed, 1s 7d to 2s 1d—sacks extra.

Chaff.—Only a moderate supply forward, and prices are well maintained. Prime heavy oat sheaf, 22 5s to 22 7s 6d; mixed and light, 21 15s to 22s 2s 6 1/2.

Potatoes.—The market is over supplied with kidneys, and prices are considerably weaker. Derwents meet with sale at quotations. Kidneys, 22 to 23 5s; derwents, 23 to 23 10s.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALE YARDS.

MESSRS. WRIGHT, STEPHENSON AND CO. report as follows:—A moderately large number of horses were entered for to-day's sale, and as the attendance and competition at the beginning of the sale

were fairly good, a considerable proportion of the horses changed hands. The demand was confined to no particular description, purchasers being in the yards for all sorts. We offered, on account of Mr. Malcolm Isbister (Ophir) a draft of 12 useful medium draught and light harness horses, which were all disposed of for up to 214; on account of Mr. John Shaw (North Taieri), two very good draught colts and fillies, 3yrs., by Pride of Scotland and Laird of Kilbride, at 216 each; and on account of various other vendors horses at quotations. Really first-class heavy draught geldings, 22 to 27; medium draught horses, 214 to 220; light and aged draught horses, 27 to 212; good spring carters, 210 to 215; well-matched carriage pairs, 240 to 250; well-matched buggy pairs, 230 to 240; first-class hunters, 220 to 230.

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices.—Oats: 1s 4d to 1s 6 1/4 (bags extra), good demand. Wheat: milling, 3s 6 1/2 to 4s; fowls', 3s 6d—latter firm, sacks included. Chaff: Market bye—22 to 22 5s; hay, oats, 23; best rye-grass, 23 Bran, 22 10s. Pollard, 23 10s. Potatoes, new, 22 5s to 23 10s. Flour: roller, 210 to 210 15s; stone, 29 5s to 29 15s. Fresh butter, very plentiful, value from 4d to 7d; salt, nominal, for prime, 1s. Eggs, 9d. Oatmeal, in 25 b bags, 29.

REMINISCENCES OF TRAVEL.

(Thames Advertiser, February 5)

IN St. George's Hall last night the Rev. Father Golden, formerly parish priest at the Thames, delivered a pleasant lecture, in which he gave reminiscences of his travels through Europe and America. The Rev. Father O'Reilly occupied the chair, and there was a large and an appreciative audience.

Though not what is called a fluent speaker Father Golden gives proofs to his audience of being what the fluent speaker seldom is—a man of considerable insight and imagination. His discourse is that of a man who not only sees, but who has a talent for placing himself in intelligent sympathy with what he sees. He is evidently one of those who see more than the surface of things. Hence his last night's lecture was really interesting. Famous places and persons were described without any pretence of rhetoric, yet with a vividness which enabled the listener to realise their essential characteristics. This excellent talent was especially exemplified in what he told his hearers concerning the Emperor of Brazil and his efforts to put down slavery, and in his apparently unstudied contrast between "the pride, pomp, and circumstance" of royalty in England and royalty in New Zealand as observed by himself when his Majesty's signor McDonald feasted on bread and potatoes under a peach tree with King Tawhiao, and on peaches knocked from the branches overhead by the royal walking-stick. When he visited Westminster Abbey Father Golden was impressed with what seemed to him to be the want of harmony between the modern monuments and the character of the place, while the other monuments and tombs were what they should be—"Gothic, old, beautiful to look at, venerable." In Paris amongst the myriads who flocked to see the great Exhibition, he was impressed with the fact that the French are an exceedingly orderly people, for in the greatest multitude no man tried to elbow or push in front of his neighbour. This talent for getting at what is essential and worthy of note was shown in the lecturer's brief description of what he saw from the dome of St. Peter's; at Naples; at Florence; in Cork harbour; in the eastern and southern States of America; on the prairies, and in San Joaquin Valley, California; and also in his description of the mid-Atlantic tempests experienced by the steamship Celtic which took him from Liverpool to New York, where a cousin of Father O'Reilly's, the Hon. John Quinn, rendered him many kindly services.

But we must stop, as our space forbids details. In the course of the evening Mrs. Joyce read, clearly and sympathetically, some passages from "The Bard of Gouganbara," a poem by the Rev. Father Golden, who, to judge by some of the lines read by Mrs. Joyce, would seem to have as true an eye for nature as he has for the salient signs within the "busy haunts of men."

On the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Twohill, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Father Golden and to Mrs. Joyce; and a similar compliment to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

Jules Simon, who favours the taxing of celibates in France, believes that only the men should be taxed because, as he ingeniously puts it, the women do not remain single of their own free will.

Miss Elizabeth Peabody, who first introduced into this country from Germany the kindergarten method of teaching the children, is still living in Boston at the age of 87 years, and retains much interest in educational matters.

Count von Moltke is the first anded proprietor in Germany to adopt the eight hour rule for the peasants working for him upon his estate at Kiehsau, and is well satisfied with the result of the experiment.

The first woman to make the ascent of Mount Tacoma, Wash., is Miss Fuller, of Tacoma. She accomplished her trip in a burricane, spent the night in a cave at the summit, and never flinched, although she suffered greatly from cold and exposure.

The ball on propos d for polar explorations is 99 feet in diameter and 500,000 cubic feet in volume. The journey is to begin from Spitzbergen, and with a favourable wind is expected to last four or five days.

Soundings in the Black Sea show that beyond a depth of 600 feet the water is so impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen gas emanating from decaying animal and vegetable matter that living organisms are not found there.

Three thousand persons attended the Catholic Congress of Ulm. Amongst other claims put forward was the demand for the abrogation of the law forbidding the return of the Jesuits.