

very dull sale, and there was a further decline in the demand and prices for pigs. Fat sheep, except inbred ewes, sold well. Store and dairy cattle met with little demand.

Fat Lambs.—The entry was small, and was principally composed of medium quality, only a few pens being really prime. There was keen competition on the part of export buyers, and prices were very firm. Togs realised 19/- to 20/- (extra heavy to 23/1); standard weight, 17/6 to 18/9; and lighter at 15/6 to 17/-.

Fat Sheep.—There was a fairly large yarding in about equal proportions of wethers and ewes. The majority of the wethers were well finished, and these sold firmly at late rates. The best of the ewes also met with good competition, but inferior sorts were easier, being neglected by both exporters and butchers. The range of prices was:—Prime wethers, 22/- to 25/-; extra, to 28/6; light and unfinished, 18/8 to 21/6; prime ewes, 19/- to 21/3; medium, 17/- to 18/6; others, 14/- to 16/6; merino ewes, 11/5 to 12/-.

Fat Cattle.—There were 217 head penned, mostly steers of medium to good quality. The demand was very slack, sales being difficult to effect. A line of nine steers from Mr. A. Bardling (Halswell) made £10/12/6 to £11/5/-; 16 steers from Mr. D. McFarlane (Lyndon), £7/10/- to £9/5/-; and six heifers from Highfield, £5/12/6 to £7. Other steers sold at £5/7/6 to £9/5/-; heifers, £5/5/- to £7; and cows, £4/5/- to £7/5/-—equal to 19/- to 21/- for prime, and 16/- to 18/- per 100 lb for cow and inferior.

Pigs.—There was a medium entry, baconers being in snort supply, but they were evidently not required, as several buyers were standing out. Porkers were also dull of sale, and stores were very difficult to dispose of. Baconers made 38/- to 45/- (a few extra heavy to 52/-), equal to 3½d to 3¾d per lb; porkers, 25/- to 32/-, equal to 3½d to 4d per lb; large stores, 20/- to 28/-, equal to 3½d to 4d per lb; large stores, 20/- to 28/-; medium, 9/- to 14/-; and weaners, 3/6 to 8/-.

Late Burnside Stock Report

Per favor Messrs. Donald Reid and Co.

Fat Cattle.—There was only a medium yarding, and a very few pens of prime bullocks. Prices at the beginning of the sale were on a par with those ruling last week, but towards the finish they eased considerably. Best bullocks, £9/10/- to £10/5/-, medium to good, £7/10/- to £8/10/-; light, £5 to £6, best cows and heifers, £6/15/- to £8, medium to good, £5 to £6/10/-, light, £1/5/- to £1/15/-.

Fat Sheep.—There was a fairly large yarding of medium sheep, with a few pens of extra heavy wethers. The ewes forward were mostly of poor quality, with the exception of a few pens of prime. Prices showed a decline of about 1/6 per head all round. Best wethers, 22/6 to 21/9; extra heavy, 27/9, medium to good, 21/- to 22/3; best ewes, 17/6 to 20/-, extra heavy, 23/6, others, 15/- to 17/-.

Lambs.—There was a medium yarding. Except for those fit for export, prices ruling last week were scarcely maintained. Best lambs, 15/6 to 17/9, extra heavy, 19/-, others, 11/- to 15/3.

Pigs.—There was a fair yarding, and with the exception of baconers, all other kinds were easier. Suckers, 4/- to 8/-; slips, 9/- to 12/6; stores, 15/- to 20/-; porkers, 25/- to 35/-, light baconers, 38/- to 19/-; heavy do, 50/- to 53/-, choppers, up to 65/-.

It is stated that there have lately been several instances where immigrants who have been assisted to the Colony by the Government have, after a look round, decided to pay their full fare home again rather than take further chances in New Zealand. Last week three assisted immigrants inquired at Wellington as to the cost of passages to London by the 'Karama', in which vessel they had arrived in the Colony less than a month ago. The burden of their complaint was that the condition of things in the Colony pictured to them in England had been entirely misleading, and they were not prepared to go on the kind of land offering. The Labor Department states that every year hundreds of men are coming into the Colony of a class for whom there is no room—men who have been employed, perhaps, half their lives in industries we know nothing of here.

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