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## Commercial

### PRODUCE

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co., report as follows:—

We held our weekly auction sale of grain and produce at our stores on Monday. There was a large attendance of local buyers, and as most of these were intent on business we had little difficulty in clearing our catalogue at very satisfactory prices. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—There is strong demand both locally and for export, but only moderate quantities are offering, and therefore little business can be reported. For all good to prime lines there is strong competition. Prime milling sells at 3s 9d; good to best, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; medium to good, 3s 4d to 3s 6d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—The market continues to be in an excited state, and all qualities are saleable at prices which constitute a record for many years. Millers are not readily disposed to purchase except for immediate requirements, and holders are firm in asking an advance on late prices. Prime milling quality may be quoted at 5s 11d to 6s; and at our auction sale to-day whole fowl wheat was readily taken at 5s 9d to 5s 11d; medium, broken, and damaged, 5s 3d to 5s 8d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—The market is in an excited state, and during the past few days the rise in prices has been a record one. Three weeks ago sales were very difficult to effect at £2 5s to £2 15s, while at to-day's sale all sound, good-sized potatoes were readily snapped up at £10. The demand is almost entirely for good to prime quality, inferior and small potatoes having comparatively little attention. The sudden rise has brought forward many unexpected lines, but the keenest buyers are decided in their opinion that values have not yet reached the top. We quote: Prime Derwents and Up-to-dates, £9 to £10; medium, £6 to £8; small, £4 to £5 10s; inferior, £2 to £3 per ton (bags included).

Chaff.—Moderate supplies have been coming forward, and all good to prime quality has ready sale at prices fully equal to late values. Medium and inferior sorts have not the same demand. We quote: Prime oat sheaf, £6 to £6 5s; medium to good, £5 10s to £5 17s 6d; light and discolored, £4 5s to £5 per ton (bags extra).

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report:—

Wheat.—The market continues very strong, and prices have now reached a point when millers will not buy except for immediate requirements. Those who are fortunate enough to hold wheat, however, are not prepared to give way, and in fact are holding on the expectation of the market going higher. Quotations: Prime milling, 5s 11d to 6s; medium do, 5s 9d to 5s 10½d; best whole fowl wheat, 5s 8d to 5s 10d; medium and broken, 5s 3d to 5s 8d.

Oats.—The demand continues for this cereal, and all coming forward is readily taken at the increased prices ruling. Quotations: Prime milling, 3s 8d to 3s 9d; good to best feed, 3s 7d to 3s 8d; medium do, 3s 4d to 3s 6½d; inferior, 3s to 3s 3d.

Potatoes.—The past week has been a most exciting one, prices going as high as £10 for special lines. Present quotations are: Prime, £9 to £9 10s; medium, £6 to £8; small, £4 10s to £5 15s; inferior, £2 to £3 5s.

Chaff.—The market continues steady for good qual-

ity, but medium is harder to place. Prime oat sheaf is worth £6 to £6 5s; medium to good, £5 10s to £5 17s 6d; light and discolored, £4 to £5 per ton. Pressed Straw.—Oaten, £2 15s to £3; wheaten, £2 2s 6d to £2 7s 6d.

### WOOL

Messrs. Stronach, Morris, and Co. report:—

Rabbitskins.—We held our weekly sale on Monday, when we submitted a smaller catalogue than usual. Prices taken all round were on a par with late quotations, but buyers are not so keen as they were to do business.

Sheepskins.—We offered a large catalogue at our sale on Tuesday, when prices were rather easier. Best half-bred skins made up to 10d per lb; best crossbred to 9½d, and others in proportion.

Tallow and Fat.—The demand is keen for all coming forward, and consignments are readily placed at late quotations.

### LIVE STOCK

#### DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

For Saturday's sale there was a rather poor entry of horses both in respect to numbers and quality. Good, young, upstanding spring-cart and spring-van horses are also scarce. The demand for first-class light harness sorts has improved of late. We quote: Superior young draught geldings, at from £45 to £50; extra good do (prize-winners), at from £50 to £55; superior young draught mares, at from £50 to £60; medium draught mares and geldings, £30 to £40; aged do, £15 to £20; well-matched carriage pairs, £70 to £100; strong spring-van horses, £25 to £30; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £18 to £25; light hacks, £8 to £13; extra good hacks and harness horses, £13 to £25; weedy and aged do, £5 to £7.

### OBITUARY

#### MR. WILLIAM HICKLAND, RANGIORA.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

There passed away after a long and painful illness on October 24 one of the oldest residents in the North Canterbury district in the person of Mr. William Hickland, of Fernside, Rangiora. The deceased was born in Glenavy, County Antrim, in 1840, and came to Auckland in 1862. He spent some time on the Coromandel diggings, and later on was engaged driving the escort during the Maori war. He then came to Canterbury, where he was engaged by the late Mr. H. Blackett, of Rangiora, driving a goods waggon between Rangiora and Christchurch before the north railway was opened, and afterwards the mail coach between Rangiora and Oxford. In 1869 he married Miss M. A. Keating, and then commenced farming in the Fernside district, where he had resided until his death. He was attended in his last illness by Rev. Father MacManus. Deceased leaves a wife and family of seven, four sons and three daughters. Two of the latter are professed nuns in the Order of Our Lady of the Missions—Mother M. St. Rosalie, of Stratford, and Sister M. St. Priscilla, of Nelson. Mr. Thomas H. Hickland, of Kaponga, Taranaki, is the second son. Messrs. W. R., & Co., and J. Hickland and Miss E. Hickland, of Fernside, are the other members of the family. The funeral, which was attended by a large number of friends and residents of the surrounding district, took place at the Rangiora Catholic cemetery, Rev. Father MacManus officiating at the graveside.—R.I.P.

## SLIGO BROS.,

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