

offering), L1 10s to L3 10s. Onions, L1 to L3. Butter: Dairy fed, 7½d to 8d; factory, 9d. Cheese: Large, 4½d to 4¾d; loaf, 5d to 5½d. Bacon, 5½d to 7½d.

[The above quotations are those ruling between merchant and retailer, and do not represent the slightly lower values obtained by the recognised brokers.]

Melbourne, January 3.—Business is very restricted owing to the holidays. There is no material change in prices.

Adelaide, January 3.—Wheat: New, 2s 7d to 2s 7½d; old, up to 2s 8d. Flour, L6 15s to L7. Oats: Dun and Algerian, 1s 7d to 1s 10d; stout, 2s to 2s 6d. Bran, 10d. Pollard, 9½d.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

WHEAT—Market quiet. Prime milling, 2s 5½d to 2s 6d; medium, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; fowl wheat, 2s to 2s 2d per bushel (sacks in).

OATS—There is a good demand at present, and all offering is readily placed at following quotations: Prime milling, 2s 1d; good to best feed, 1s 11d to 2s; medium, 1s 10d to 1s 10½d per bushel (sacks extra).

CHAFF—Market barely supplied and prices firmer. Prime oaten sheaf, L3 5s to L3 10s; medium, L2 15s to L3 per ton (bags extra).

POTATOES—Best kidneys, L3 to L3 10s per ton (bags in).

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

OATS—We catalogued a fair selection of medium to good feed oats. All offered met with good competition, and were cleared at prices fully equal to late quotations. We quote prime milling at 2s 1d; good to best feed, 1s 11d to 2s; medium, 1s 10d to 1s 11d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT—In milling quality there is not much business passing, buyers' requirements being confined to choice lots of velvet and Tuscan for mixing purposes. We submitted several lines of fowl wheat and cleared same for whole wheat, 2s 1d to 2s 2d; broken, etc., 1s 9d to 1s 11d. We quote prime milling at 2s 5½d to 2s 6d; medium, 2s 3d to 2s 5d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES—We offered a few lines of kidneys, for which there was poor competition. We quote best at L3 to L3 10s per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF—The market is bare of prime oaten sheaf, and we have strong inquiry for a quantity of this class. As showing the preference given to prime chaff a small lot of choice quality realised £4 5s per ton, while medium quality was almost unsaleable. We quote: Best oaten sheaf, L3 5s to L3 10s; good, L2 15s to L3; inferior and medium, L2 to L2 10s per ton (bags extra).

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: Good demand. Feeding, 1s 11d to 2s; milling, 2s 1d to 2s 2d. Wheat: milling, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; fowls' wheat, 2s 0d to 2s 3d. Hay: ryegrass and clover, best, L3. Straw: pressed, 22s; loose, 28s. Bran: L2 15s. Pollard: L3. Flour: L6 10s to L7. Butter: best brands factory, 10d to 11d; dairy, 6d to 8d. Oatmeal: L10. Potatoes: well picked, good sample, 20s; old stock from 1s per bag. Chaff: much firmer demand; L2 15s to L3, best. New potatoes, L5, Auckland; local, 5s.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, January 2.—Tallow: The stock consists of 17,401 casks. The imports during the month were 7446 casks, and the deliveries 6896 casks.

London, January 3.—At the tallow sales 1425 casks were offered, and 925 sold. Mutton: Fine, 28s 3d; medium, 27s. Beef: Fine, 27s 3d; medium, 26s.

London, January 4.—The Antwerp wool sales will be held on the 9th and 10th inst. Five thousand bales have been catalogued, but among these there are only 20 bales of Australian.

The Bradford wool market closes brisker. Common sixties, 30½d; super, 32½d.

Melbourne, January 9.—The wool sales have been resumed, but the market is flat. Prices of merino were unchanged. Low, coarse sorts were decidedly easier.

INVERCARGILL WOOL SALE.

The first wool sale of the season at Invercargill was held on Tuesday, when 6100 bales were catalogued. There was a large attendance of buyers, and competition was very keen for finer sorts. Coarse crossbreds brought from 10 to 15 per cent. above last year's rates, prices running from 7d to 8½d; fair, clear crossbreds, 8½d to 9½d, an increase of 15 to 20 per cent.; halfbred, 10d to 12½d, an increase of 35 per cent.; merino brought up to 13d, being from 30 to 40 per cent. increase. The competition in coarser sorts was weak.

TIMARU WOOL SALE.

The second wool sale from the catalogue comprised 6768 bales. Halfbred and crossbred wools were decidedly easier than at the first sale, and a good quantity was passed in. There was very keen bidding for merino wool, and it brought quite a ½d higher than at the last sale. Scouring wools (pieces, etc.) sold very well; halfbred sold up to 12½d; crossbred, 10½d; three-quarterbred, 9½d; merino, 13½d; scoured, 18s; merino pieces, 10½d; bellies, 9d; locks, 4d. The catalogue was the largest ever offered with the exception of 1894.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS—Market unchanged.

SHEEPSKINS—Market very firm at late quotations.

HIDES—In good demand. Prime heavy ox, 4d to 4½d; medium, 3½d to 3¾d; inferior, 2d to 2½d per lb.

TALLOW—Market firm. Best rendered mutton, 15s 6d to 17s; medium, 13s 6d to 15s; rough fat, 10s 6d to 12s 6d per cwt.

WOOL—The second sale of the season takes place on Friday, 12th inst., and the third sale on Friday, 2nd February.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

The entries at Addington comprised 2520 fat sheep, 2400 fat lambs, 4600 store sheep, 356 cattle, and 243 pigs.

FAT CATTLE—128 head yarded, the bulk being heifers and cows, but there were very few good steers. The wants of the trade were small, and there was a very poor demand, and a further drop in prices, best only realising 19s per 100lb, medium to good 14s to 17s, cow and inferior down to 12s. Per head good steers brought L7 to L8, others L4 15s to L6 10s; heifers L4 10s to L5 15s, cows L3 15s to L6 17s 6d.

FAT SHEEP—There was a mixed yarding of fat sheep, the bulk being butchers' sorts. The market was irregular. Freezing sheep sold from 13s to 14s 6d, and butchers' ewes 9s 9d to 13s.

FAT LAMBS—These were well represented, and met with a good demand. A few extra prime sold at up to 13s 10d; freezing quality, 11s 6d to 13s; and lighter, 11s 4d.

STORE SHEEP—The market was well supplied, and buyers of all classes were very keen, every line changing hands at prices which can leave little margin when compared with values ruling for fat pens. Amongst the lines of wethers 402 four-tooths sold at 13s 9d, 400 at 13s 7d, 390 at 13s 5d to 13s 7d, and 370 at 13s 3d. Seven hundred and sixty mixed two-tooths brought 12s 4d, and a line of 268 maiden ewes 9s. Small lots of ewes sold at 5s 6d to 9s, a line of 400 hoggets at 13s 7d, and small lots at 12s 6d.

STORE LAMBS—These included 104 at 10s 10d, 445 at 10s 2d, and 700 at 10s.

PIGS—There was only a medium entry of pigs, and the demand for both stores and fats was anything but good. Baconers brought 30s to 34s 6d, or 3d per lb; porkers, 20s to 30s, or 3½d per lb; stores, 14s 9d to 19s; weaners, 11s to 14s; and suckers, 5s 9d to 10s 6d.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

Entries this week again were not numerous, but those who were fortunate enough to have useful young light horses forward, of which the supply chiefly consisted, got good prices for them. There was a very fair attendance of buyers, and a large amount of business could have been done if greater numbers of suitable horses had been on offer. The principal demand is for superior young heavy draught geldings for town carriers, good spring-cart horses, and first-class hacks and harness horses. There were no first-class draughts forward this week, but a useful farm gelding was sold at L34, and three good spring dray horses at from L24 to L28, a first-class buggy horse at L21, another at L18, and several tramcar horses at from L10 to L14. We quote: First-class young draught mares and geldings, at from L45 to L50; good do, L38 to L45; medium, L30 to L35; aged, L18 to L23; upstanding young spring-carters, at from L25 to L30; good do, L18 to L23; light harness horses and hacks, first class, at from L18 to L25; good do, L14 to L17; medium, L8 to L12; aged and weedy sorts, L2 to L5.

LATE BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

(Per special favour Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris.)

Wednesday, 5 p.m.

FAT CATTLE—169 yarded, prices slightly better than last week. Fat bullocks, L7 5s to L8 15s; medium, L6 5s to L7 2s 6d; best cows and heifers, L5 10s to L6 17s 6d; medium, L4 to L5 5s.

SHEEP—821 penned, prices about 3s higher than last sale. Best crossbred wethers, 15s to 16s 6d; medium, 13s 6d to 14s 9d; best ewes, 13s to 14s 3d; medium, 12s to 12s 9d.

LAMBS—383 forward, prices same as last week. Best lambs, 10s 6d to 11s 9d; medium, 9s to 10s 3d.

PIGS—159 offered. Prices showed no improvement. Suckers, 6s 6d to 13s; slips, 16s to 17s 6d; stores, 18s to 21s; porkers, 28s to 36s; baconers, 39s to 42s.

THE *Xaverian*, the annual edited by the pupils of St. Francis Xavier's College, Kew, Melbourne, is to hand, and a very creditable volume it is. It is tastefully got up, liberally illustrated, and contains a quantity of reading matter which will interest many outside of those directly connected with the institution. The magazine is not devoted solely to a record of College doings. Even the record of College work, whether in the class room or in the athletic field, is told in a bright and chaty style, which shows that the youthful editors know how to cater for their many readers. On the whole the *Xaverian* is creditable alike to the College and the printers.

The Railway authorities notify that holiday excursion tickets issued between December 18 and January 2 will be available for return up to February 6.—*.*