

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

The entries at Addington comprised 2634 fat sheep, 3100 fat lambs, 14,600 store sheep, 221 cattle, and 421 pigs.

FAT CATTLE—159 head yarded mostly cows and beef. With the exception of a few prime steers, which brought up to L10 4s 6d, prices eased considerably, making from 18s to 22s per 100lb. Steers brought from L7 to L9 2s 6d; heifers, L5 to L7 5s; best cows, L7 to L8 2s; others, L4 15s to L6.

STORE CATTLE—These were in keen demand. Three-year-old steers realised from L5 2s 6d to L5 15s; two-year-olds, L3 10s to L5 to 18 months' cattle, L3 5s; yearlings, L1 5s to L2; dry cows, L2 to L4 10s.

FAT SHEEP—The fat sheep included some good lines of wethers, which alone held their own; while others, with ewes, showed a slight decline. Heavy wethers sold up to 21s 2d; freezers, 18s to 20s 8d; unfinished, 16s to 17s 6d; best ewes, 15s 6d to 18s; others, 12s to 15s.

FAT LAMBS—With the exception of a few pens, the quality was not so good. The demand was weaker, and there was a decline of fully 1s per head. About 1000 were passed in, and 1800 were taken by export buyers. Freezers brought from 14s to 16s 1d; others, 9s 6d to 13s.

STORE SHEEP—These were mostly wethers and lambs, with a few lines of ewes. A good many came from the North Island and Marlborough. The bottom seems to have fallen out of the market, and, though there were plenty of buyers, they would not give prices asked for. Fully half of the entry was withdrawn. Forward four-tooth wethers brought 15s 9d to 16s 10d; others, 14s 8d to 15s 6d; equal to a drop of 1s to 1s 6d. Only a couple of lines of ewes were sold at 15s 3d for four-tooths, and all the others were withdrawn. Lambs suffered a drop of from 6d to 9d, the best selling at from 13s 1d to 13s 9d; medium, 11s to 12s; and others, 7s 3d to 10s.

PIGS—There was a short supply, and a good sale for all classes. Baconers fetched 33s 6d to 55s 6d, equal to 3½d to 4d; porkers, 25s to 34s, or 4d to 4½d; large stores, 22s to 32s; suckers and weaners, 9s 6d to 13s.

EXPORT OF GOLD FROM THE COLONY.

A return of the gold entered for duty for exportation from New Zealand for last year places the aggregate quantity for the Colony at 373,616oz, and the value at L1,439,602. This is a decrease in quantity of 15,942oz and value of L73,571 on the amount entered for the previous year. The value of the precious metal exported from Auckland was L605,398; Otago, L521,629; West Coast, L295,733. The total amount of gold exported from the Colony from April, 1857, to date is 11,608,901oz, and the value L57,406,100. This total was distributed among the districts as follows:—Auckland, value L9,817,315; Wellington, L706; Marlborough, L338,562; Nelson, L6,650,221; West Coast, L18,074,276; Canterbury, L297; Otago, L22,517,899; unknown, L824.

THE WEEK'S DREDGING RETURNS.

During the week ended Monday, February 4, returns were reported from the following 37 dredges, the total yield being 7900z 11dwt 23gr, or an average of 21oz per dredge:—

Empire (Waipori), two dredges, 47oz 16dwt 3gr; Golden Gate (Miller's Flat), 46oz 3dwt; Manuherikia (Alexandra), 151 hours, 44oz 16dwt 6gr; Matau (Clyde), 42oz; Waimumu (near Gore), 116 hours, 39oz 4dwt; Gold Queen (Dumbarton Rock), 120 hours, 39oz; Perseverance (Alexandra), 36oz 4dwt 9gr; Stirling (Glenore) 34oz 9dwt; Golden Beach (Alexandra), 88 hours, 34oz 6dwt 16gr; Success (Waipori), 136 hours, 31oz 7dwt 17gr; Enterprise No. 1 (Alexandra), 29oz; Waimumu Central (near Gore), 120 hours, 27oz 1dwt; New Alexandra (Alexandra), 4 days, 24oz 5dwt 12gr; Alexandra Eureka (Alexandra), 23oz; Otago (Miller's Flat), 22oz 10dwt; Gabriel (Tuapeka Flat), 21oz 12dwt; Molyneux Hydraulic (Alexandra), 20oz 10dwt; Charlton Creek (near Gore), 128 hours, 19oz; Golden Treasure (Miller's Flat), 18oz; Tuapeka (Tuapeka Flat), 18oz; Waimumu Extended (near Gore), 125 hours, 17oz 8dwt; Chicago (Alexandra), 15oz 12dwt 15gr; Enterprise No. 2 (Alexandra), 13oz 14dwt; Morning Star (Manuherikia), 180 hours, 13oz; Olrig (Manuherikia), 126 hours, 12oz 14dwt 18gr; Evans Flat (Tuapeka), 12oz 3dwt; Unity (Clyde), 11oz; Chatto Creek (Manuherikia), 5 days, 10oz 10dwt; Upper Waipori (Waipori), 124 hours, 10oz 9dwt; Golden Bed (Miller's Flat), 10oz 4dwt; Lawrence (Tuapeka Flat), 8oz 12dwt 3gr; Inchdale (near Palmerston), 95 hours, 8oz 4dwt; Paul's Beach (Beaumont), 8oz; Richard's Beach (Kawarua River), 7oz 9dwt 20gr; Globe (Waikaka), 7oz; Inch Valley (near Palmerston), 91 hours, 6oz 5dwt. Total, 7900z 11dwt 23gr.

—All genuine Dunlop Tyres have the well-known name and trade mark of the company legibly stamped on the outer cover and air tube. Cyclists should therefore experience no difficulty in detecting bogus makes which are often foisted upon the unwary.—**

A little wonder is the Broadcast Patent Seed-sower sold by Morrow, Bassett, and Co. For sowing turnip, rape, grass and clover seed it has no equal, while for oats, wheat, and barley you have only to see it to know its value. A boy can work it. Sow four acres per hour, and any quantity up to six bushels per acre. Price only 20s.—**

THE FLOWERY KINGDOM.

BITS OF CHINA OLD AND NEW.

WESTERN AND EASTERN DIPLOMACY.

The Western world, though its armed forces hold the Chinese capital, finds itself foiled by the craft of the Chinese Court. Last week the ministers of Europe (says a Home exchange) agreed to amend the terms of the conjoint note, which, it is hoped, will smooth the way to peace. The terms as amended are a victory for the Empress Dowager. Instead of demanding from her the death penalty on the officials guilty of the recent massacres the Western Governments now content themselves with asking her to inflict 'the most severe punishment befitting the crimes' of the murderers. No names of the persons guilty are specified. The whole matter, both of persons and punishments, is left in the Empress's hands. As she is herself the most guilty of all, we imagine she will find some way of conscientiously escaping the unpleasant duty thus committed to her by outraged Europe. The whole episode shows how difficult it is to deal with the wily Chinese, and it should be sufficient to warn us of the danger of undertaking a work which neither we nor all Europe combined have power and money to bring to a satisfactory conclusion. The 50,000 soldiers now in Peking might as well be in Timbuctoo for all the influence they exert on the Chinese Court at Singan-fu.

FEARFUL SLAUGHTER OF PRIESTS AND NUNS.

A special dispatch from China to the Cologne *Volks Zeitung* of December 3 reports a fearful mission slaughter in the Province of Shansi. The first victims, the dispatch says, were a Catholic Bishop and his coadjutor and four European priests, Franciscans, Italian and French.

The governor invited them to his house, pretending to give them better protection, but when they arrived their hands were tied. Then the governor himself poniarded them all. Next the governor went to the Bishop's residence with a number of soldiers and seized six Marseilles Sisters. He promised them money and distinguished husbands if they would renounce Christianity, which they unanimously rejected. Thereupon the governor stabbed them and also a number of Chinese priests, 30 Chinese Sisters, and 200 orphans from three to 16 years of age.

Fifteen seminarists, who hid themselves in a cistern, were, the dispatch adds, tied to stakes and forced to drink the blood of the first victims. They were then killed.

A Chinese priest and two Christians who attempted to escape were cut and put in a small hut, where they were burned.

AN APPRECIATION OF BISHOP FAVIER

Baron Hayashi, the new Japanese Minister to the Court of St James, speaks thus of a Catholic Bishop whose name has for some time been very much before the public in connection with the Chinese crisis: 'Bishop Favier, of the Catholic Cathedral, saw that trouble was coming long before it arrived, and often he went to the Legations to impress upon them the necessity of preparing for the storm. He told members of the Tsung Li Yamen also, but no one heeded him. The Bishop had been many, many years in China, and was in charge of the Cathedral that Chinese money and labor had erected. He had been both earnest and tolerant in his labors, and had lived a life of absolute simplicity. He allowed himself 16 shillings a week for his entire personal expenses. Besides this he was a man of profound learning in Chinese classics, so that in every way he appealed to Chinese ideals of what a man should be, and indeed the natives loved and revered him.'

THE BISHOP OF PEKIN.

Monsignor Favier, Bishop of Peking, will arrive in France in March. The chief object of his journey is to arrange with the Government the question of the special indemnity to be granted to the Congregations in China. It appears that the Italian missionaries, of whom there are great numbers in Mongolia, intend to request M. Delcasse to make a claim also on their behalf.

A TRIBUTE TO CATHOLIC MISSIONARIES.

For some time past newspaper writers and others (says the *Catholic Times*) have poured torrents of reproaches on the missionaries in China. As a rule those who are most bitter in their attacks upon the heralds of the Gospel know little or nothing about the work they have been doing or their motives and methods. It is pleasant to contrast with this hostile and unenlightened criticism the tribute which, according to the 'Annals of the Propagation of the Faith,' Mr. Norman, a Protestant, pays to the Catholic missionaries in China. They are, he affirms, the object of much greater regard amongst the natives as well as amongst foreigners than the Protestant missionaries; and the result of their labors is undoubtedly more successful. The Catholic priest settles in China once for all, adopts the native costume and the people's way of looking at things, and inures himself to subsist on the most modest means. He converts the worship of ancestors—the vital point of the belief of every Chinaman—into the honoring of the saints, teaches his converts a prayer for the Emperor, is subject to one authority only, and preaches and practises only one doctrine. Mr. Norman, who cannot be charged with being prejudiced in favor of the Catholic propaganda, feels that he would be wanting in honesty were he not to declare that he has conceived a profound respect for the Catholic missionaries he has met with in China, both as regards their character and their work. Testimony such as this is really valuable because it is that of an experienced investigator.