

FAT SHEEP—There was a fair yarding. Heavy-weight wethers sold at from 19s 6d to 20s 3d; freezers, 17s to 19s; backward and light wethers, to 16s 5d; heavy-weight ewes, 16s to 18s; medium, 13s to 15s 6d; others, 10s 9d to 12s 6d; merino wethers for freezing, 13s 3d. Fat ewes met with an irregular sale, but prices were practically the same as those of last week. There was but little competition for freezing sheep, and most of the better class wethers were taken by butchers.

STORE SHEEP—The entry numbered 11,276, for which the demand all round was good at last week's prices, but with a slight advance on breeding ewes.

PIGS—The supply was fairly good, but the market was somewhat irregular. Baconers realised from 35s to 47s 6d, and heavy-weights up to 57s 6d, equal to 3½d to 4d per lb; porkers, 22s to 34s, or 4d to 4½d per lb; stores, 12s to 17s; small pigs, 1s 6d to 9s.

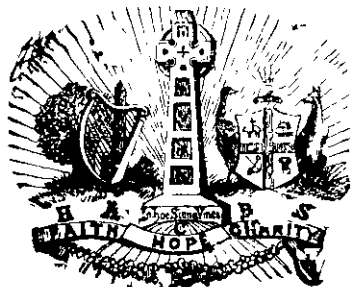
DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

Very few horses came forward for this week's sale, the principal entry being a score of New South Wales horses. There were plenty of buyers in the market, sufficient to have absorbed more than twice the number of the importation, but as the selection was not of the classes in demand here very few of the horses comprising it changed hands. There is a considerable demand for useful young draught mares and geldings—good workers; and we have a special inquiry for superior young draught geldings suitable for heavy pulling in town teams. We quote:—Superior young draught geldings, L40 to L55; extra good prize horses, L60 to L65; medium draught mares and geldings, L28 to L37; aged do, L18 to L25; upstanding carriage horses, L25 to L30; well-matched carriage pairs, L70 to L90; strong spring-van horses, L28 to L35; milk-cart and butchers' order-cart horses, L16 to L24; tram horses, L10 to L15; light hacks, L8 to L12; extra good hacks, L20 to L30; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, L2 to L5.

BATHS BUT NO BARS.

THE great Irish brewer who in 1891 was raised to the peerage of England as Lord Iveagh, put into the hands of certain trustees, about 11 years ago, the sum of £250,000, to be used in improving dwellings for the poor of London and Dublin. The buildings are all of bright red brick with small balconies and wide window-sills, to encourage the raising of pot plants. The doorways are dotted with bas-reliefs, conspicuous among which is one suggested by John Howard Payne's 'Home, Sweet Home.' Club rooms, reading rooms, music rooms and minor theatres are supplied, and various shelters for children whose mothers are out at service. Curiously, in these beautiful homes (for such they are, artistic, comfortable, and inspiring self-respect in the 8000 or 9000 population they shelter) not a drop of the brewer's own beer can be sold. Mineral water is on draft, but every form of intoxicants is banned. There are plenty of baths, but no bars.



HIBERNIAN-AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY, NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT, No. 3.

The Catholic Community is earnestly requested to support this excellent Organisation, for it inculcates a love of Holy Faith and Patriotism in addition to the unsurpassed benefits and privileges of Membership.

The Entrance Fees are from 5s to £4, according to age and time of Admission.

Sick Benefits: 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the next 13 weeks, and 10s a week for the following 13 weeks. In case of a further continuance of his illness a member of Seven Years' Standing previous to the commencement of such illness will be allowed 5s per week as superannuation during incapacity.

Funeral Allowance £20 at the death of a Member, and £10 at the death of a Member's Wife.

In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the admission of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct from the District Secretary.

The District Officers are anxious to open New Branches, and will give all possible assistance and information to applicants. Branches being established in the various centres throughout the Colonies an invaluable measure of reciprocity obtains.

W. KANE,
District Secretary,
Auckland.

THE WORLD'S EARLIEST PRINTERS.

It is said that the art of printing was known in China upwards of 900 years ago. In the time of Confucius B.C. 500, books were formed of slips of bamboo; and about 150 years after Christ, paper was first made; A.D. 745, books were bound in leaves; A.D. 900, printing was in general use. The process of printing is simple. The materials consist of a graver, blocks of wood, and a brush, which the printers carry with them from place to place. Without wheel or wedge or screw, a printer will throw off more than 2,500 impressions a day. The paper can be bought for one-fourth the price in China that it can in any other country. The works of Confucius, six volumes, 400 leaves octavo, can be bought for nine-pence.

HOW THE PARISIANS TAKE THEIR PLEASURE.

IN the notes secular and religious of a non-Catholic religious weekly the following lines are quoted from a recent letter of the Rev. Dr. C. A. Stoddard, telling 'how the people of Paris enjoy themselves':—

I saw 200,000 people the other day gaily dressed and happy as children, looking at a parade of agriculture and flowers. All was elegant and orderly; there were no quarrels or ugly words, but the people were like children in their excitement, exclamations and delight. The day was fine and I never saw a gayer sight. It was in the immense grounds of the Trocadero and the Champs de Mars. The Eiffel Tower was crowded with people, and a dozen balloons were full of people, and the gardens and lawns and grounds were full of beauty in color and arrangement, and at night there was a scene of bewildering enchantment and Arabian Nights' entertainment. Pleasure, laughter, merriment, childish glee, were everywhere, but there was no roughness, no ugly noises, nothing but amusement of the senses. Not a drunkard was seen, nor a riotous or gluttonous person, though thousands were eating and drinking. All the specially artistic exhibits in the agricultural processions, and in the flames and illuminations of the evening, were singled out for applause. Whole families were present from morning to night, eating their meals on the grounds, and the fête was a great success.

A PUSHING FIRM.

Messrs. DWAN BROS.,

HOTEL BROKERS, VALUERS, AND FINANCIERS,
WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON.

MESSRS DWAN BROS. are the chief hotel brokers, etc., in New Zealand, holding that position for many reasons. Originally associated with their father, Mr. Thos. Dwan, sen., auctioneer, etc., the brothers, Messrs. T. B. and L. Dwan, founded in 1880 the above-named business, which has grown enormously. Under the able tuition of their father they gained invaluable experience, and the prosperity of the firm is emphatic proof that they have demonstrated more than ordinary ability and study during their career. The offices of Messrs. Dwan Bros. are situated in Willis street, Wellington, and there at one time and another a lot of business connected with New Zealand hotels has been transacted. Each branch of their business dovetails into the other, and the firm do not go beyond it in any particular, neither being agents nor financiers except in relation to the hotel trade. All their time is therefore devoted to their speciality, and in this they have an expert knowledge of it, which is frequently taken advantage of. There is hardly a hotel in Wellington that has not gone through their hands, while they do business in this branch throughout the Colony, having been brokers for hotels from Auckland to Invercargill. Some idea of the size of this branch can be gained when it is stated that they frequently manage a sale of 20 hotels a month, their principal connection being in the Wellington, Hawkes Bay, and Taranaki provincial districts. It is justly said of Messrs. Dwan, Bros. that they never fail to carry through a transaction that they undertake, and that their name never appears as suing for a commission. What with their close relations with the trade and intimate knowledge, to say nothing of the cash at their backs, they are able to bring a sale off where others fail. For instance, should a client wanting to take over an hotel not have sufficient funds for the purpose, Messrs. Dwan Bros. can arrange the matter successfully when others fail, in this regard frequently acting as financiers. They are not only hotel brokers, but are hotel owners, having hotel freeholds as far south as Invercargill, and even on the West Coast one of their main lines is hotel valuing, a department in which they can pose as experts with authority. Thus only a fortnight ago Mr. T. Dwan was engaged by the Government as an expert valuer to sit on a case at Nelson to decide upon the question whether or not the agent of the Public Trust Office had made a mistake and sold a hotel there under its real value. He was associated in the case with Mr. Ponynon, the Public Trustee. The firm are called upon to value hotels in remote places. The success of Messrs. Dwan Bros. has been commensurate with their special knowledge. Besides being decidedly the biggest people in their line in the Colony, they are owners of considerable house property in Wellington, having a large army of tenants of their own in the city. For push, persistence, and expert knowledge they are not to be surpassed.—*New Zealand Times*, December 29, 1900.—*

Ashburton Residents

and the public generally are reminded that T. H. UNDRILL & CO., Tancred Street, Furnishing Warehousemen and UNDERTAKERS, deserve your patronage.