

Commercial

(For week ending June 4.)

PRODUCE.

London, June 3—An Australian cargo of wheat sold at 29s 6d.

London, June 6—Wheat—The market is quiet, with a lower tendency, owing to the favorable reports of crops on the Continent and in America. Cargoes are dull. Victorian and South Australian February and March shipments are quoted at 29s 9d. A Sydney cargo sold at 29s 6d. The American visible supply is estimated at 37,676,000 bushels.

London, June 8—Frozen Meat—Mutton—New Zealand sheep and lambs have declined 1d all round. River Plate crossbred or merino wethers—heavy, 3 11-16d; light, 3 13-16d. New Zealand beef (180lb to 220lb, fat average quality) Ox fores, 4d; hinds 4½d.

Wheat—An Australian cargo sold at 29s 6d.

Wellington, June 9—The Department of Agriculture has received the following cable from the Agent-General, dated London, June 7—'Dull sale for all qualities mutton, and a further drop in prices seems imminent. The average price to-day for Canterbury mutton was 4d. Dunedin, Southland, and W M E Co, 3½d; other North Island mutton, 3½d. The lamb market is depressed, and stocks are accumulating. The average price for Canterbury brand is 4½d. New Zealand lamb (other than Canterbury), 4½d. The beef market is weak. New Zealand hinds, 4½d; fores, 3½d. Butter is steady. New Zealand supplies are finished. Danish, 103s; Siberian, 91s; Canadian, 98s. The cheese market is dull, and buyers are holding back expecting prices to go lower than 56s. The hemp market is steady. Good fair Wellington grade—on spot, £55. June and August shipments, 89 10s. The stock is 384 tons, against 295 tons last year. Cocksfoot seed is firm. Buyers have been offering for Cocksfoot seed more freely. New Zealand, 17th standard, 49s.

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current—Whole-sale—Butter (fresh), 8d; butter (factory), bulk, 1s 1d; pats, 1s 1d; cash 1s 1½d; booked; eggs, 1s 3d per dozen; cheese (factory), 5½d; bacon farm, 7d; do, rolled, farm, 6d; hams, 9d; potatoes, £4 per ton; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; chaff, 14; flour, £11 10s to £12 10s; oatmeal, £13 10s to £14; bran, £5; pollard, £5 10s. Retail—Fresh butter, 10d; butter (factory), pats, 1s 3d; bulk, 1s 2d; eggs, 1s 6d per dozen; cheese, 7d; bacon, rolled, 9d; hams, 10d; potatoes, £5 per ton; flour, 200lb, 25s; 50lb, 7s 3d; oatmeal, 50lb, 8s; 25lb, 4s; pollard, 9s per bag; bran, 6s; chaff, 2s 3d.

Mr. F. Meenan, King street, reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Milling, 2s 7d to 2s 8d; feeding, 2s 6d to 2s 7d. Wheat (good demand): Milling, 4s to 4s 3d; fowls', 3s 3d. Potatoes, £4 10s to £4 15s. Chaff inferior to medium, £3 to £3 10s; prime, £4 10s. Straw (scarce): Pressed, £2; loose, none in market. Flour 200lb sacks, £11 10s; 50lb, £12 5s; 25lb, £12 10s. Oatmeal, 25lb £14 10s. Butter: Dairy, 7d to 9d; factory, 1s 1d. Cheese Dairy, 4½d; factory, 5d. Eggs, 1s 10d. Onions: Christchurch, £9.

Messrs Donald Reid and Co report as follows:—

Oats—Shippers have supplied a large proportion of their orders, and large deliveries of these are now be-

ing made. Buyers are not disposed to operate freely, for speculative purposes except in the case of prime quality, for which values are well maintained, medium and inferior lots being very difficult to place. Milling and good seed lines continue to meet with good demand. Quotations.—Milling and seed, 2s 7½d to 2s 10d; good to best feed, 2s 5½d to 2s 7d; inferior and medium, 2s 3d to 2s 5d per bushel (sack extra).

Wheat—Very little prime milling quality is offering locally and all such meets with ready sale. Medium sorts are more difficult to place, except as fowl wheat, for which there is good inquiry. Quotations. Prime milling, 3s 10d to 4s 3d; medium, 3s 5d to 3s 9d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 2d to 3s 3d; medium and inferior 2s 9d to 3s per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes—The market continues to be fairly well supplied, the quantity coming forward being more than equal to local requirements. Late values, however, are well maintained, as some buyers consider that future prospects leave some room for speculation at present values. Quotations. Best Derwents, £4 10s to £4 15s; medium to good, £4 to £4 7s 6d; other sorts, £3 5s to £4 per ton (sacks in).

Chaff—The market is still barely supplied with prime oaten sheaf, for which there is strong inquiry, with ready sale on arrival. Medium and inferior lines are still in over supply and are extremely difficult to quit, even at a slight reduction on late rates. Quotations.—Prime oaten sheaf, £4 to £4 12s 6d; medium to good, £3 5s to £3 15s; inferior, £2 10s to £3 per ton (bags extra).

Turnips—A few good swedes were offered, which sold at 17s per ton loose (ex truck).

WOOL.

London, June 6—The Bradford wool market is very firm. Common sixties, 21½d; supers, 22½d.

Messrs Stronach Bros and Morris report as follows:—We held our usual fortnightly sale of hides at our store on Friday, 6th inst., when every representative of the trade was present. Our catalogue was a very large one, and comprised 315 hides and calskins, and these were all cleared at, on the whole, satisfactory prices. Recent cables have not been so promising during the last two weeks, and in consequence values are barely as high as those ruling a fortnight ago, but even with this we are sure vendors will be well pleased with the returns. Our top prices were: For ox 5½d and for cows 5½d per lb the money values per hide for the former were £1 10s 3d and for the latter £1 3s 4d. Actual prices obtained were as follows:—Prime ox hides, 5d to 5½d; good, 4d to 4½d; light, 3½ to 3¾d; sloppy and sluggy, 2½d to 2¾d; prime cow, 4½d to 4¾d; good, 3½d to 4½d; light, 3d to 3½d per lb; calf skins, 1s 3d to 2s 8d each.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

Fat Cattle—184 yarded, mostly useful sorts, with a few heavyweights. There was a slightly improved demand. Beef realised 19s 6d to 21s 6d per 100lb. Heavy steers, £9 to £11 10s; steers, £5 15s to £8 10s; heifers, £5 10s to £8 10s; cows, £4 17s 6d to £8, and £8 15s for extra heavy.

Fat Sheep—Over 6000 penned, mostly ewes, with a few good lines of freezing wethers. Owing to the block at the factories, exporters were not keen, and vendors did not reap the expected advantage of winter reductions in freights. Freezing wethers and secondary ewes were easier, but prime fats were in good demand for coast trade. Prime heavy wethers, 18s 9d to 19s 9d; freezers, 16s

to 18s 6d; lighter sorts, 14s 10 to 15s 6d; prime ewes, 16s to 17s 11d; down to 7s 6d. 133 North Island wethers were taken by butchers at 15s 9d to 18s 1d, and 180 fell to graziers at 14s 10 to 15s.

Fat Lambs—1100 penned, mostly unfinished sorts, and the market was weaker, exporters holding off. About half the entry was passed. Freezers 10s 3d to 12s 8d; inferior 8s to 9s 10d.

Store Sheep—4661 penned, a mixed entry and a poor demand, the bulk being withdrawn. Wethers made 10s 2d to 11s 3d and 13s; 947 two and four-tooths from Marlborough being passed at 11s 4d. In ewes a large line of six and eight-tooth halfbreds (in lamb) sold at 11s 4d to 11s 6d, and two and four-tooths at 12s; aged sorts, 2s to 4s 8d and 5s 10d; and sound mouthed, 10s 9d.

Pigs—300 penned. The scarcity caused an improvement in all classes. Baconers, 35s to 45s, or 3½d to 3¾d per lb; porkers, 20s to 31s 4d; stores, 10s to 23s; suckers and weaners, 4s to 6s 6d.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs Wright, Stephenson, and Co report as follows:—The supply this week was meagre in the extreme, only some 20 odd horses being entered, most of them draughts and medium draughts, and five or six ordinary class and inferior light horses. The draughts, with the exception of four from the country, were about the poorest we have seen in the yards for some time. There was an eager demand for good, fresh sound draughts, and the few of such entered brought excellent prices, as follows:—Bay gelding, 5 years, £46; brown gelding, 8 years, £45; brown mare, 9 years, £42; bay gelding, 6 years, £39; bay gelding, aged, £36; and one good spring dray gelding, aged, £31. Mr Malcomson's team sold up at £31, the wagon at £28 10s, and the harness at full rates. The sale, as far as demand and prices were concerned, was most satisfactory, but the number of draught horses forward was disappointing. Sound, good useful draughts are wanted, and we strongly recommend consignments. There is also good inquiry for spring van horses—young and upstanding. Strong harness horses are also wanted. We quote: Superior young draught geldings, £40 to £50; extra good, prize horses, £52 to £60; medium draught mares and geldings, £30 to £38; aged do, £16 to £25; upstanding carriage horses, £30 to £35; well-matched carriage pairs, £80 to £90; strong spring van horses, £30 to £37; milk-cart and butchers' order cart horses, £18 to £24; tram horses, £12 to £17; light hacks, £10 to £15; extra good hacks, £18 to £25; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, £3 to £7.

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