Commercial

(For week ending June 3.)

PRODUCE.

Napier, May 28.—The Colonial Consignment and Distributing Company (Limited), London, cabled to-day as follows:—'There is a further fall of ⅛d per lb in Canterbury and North Island mutton. To-day's quotations are: Mutton—Canterbury, 3⅝d; Napier, Wellington, and North Island, 3½d. Lamb: First quality, 4⅞d, second quality, 4⅝d.

London, May 28.—Wheat: Manitoba, 3s 7d per bushel; La Plate, 28s 6d per 480lb.

Cheese and butter are quiet, and prices unchanged. Rabbits are flat, and prices unchanged.

London, May 31.—Frozen Meat: Sheep—Canterbury, light, 3⅝d; medium, 3 11-16d; heavy, 3 9-16d; Dunedin and Southland, 3½d; North Island, 3⅜d. Lambs—Canterbury, light, 4 13-16d; heavy 4½d; Dunedin and Southland, 4 9-16d; North Island, unchanged. New Zealand beef (180lb to 220lb): Fair average quality ox fores, 3½d; ox hinds, 4⅜d. River Plate sheep, 3 5-16d; beef, fores, 3 3-16d; hinds, unchanged. New Zealand sheep: Crossbred wethers and maiden ewes—Canterbury, light, 48lb to 56lb; Canterbury, medium, 56lb to 64lb; Canterbury, heavy, 64lb to 72lb; Dunedin and Southland, 56lb to 64lb; North Island, 55lb to 65lb. New Zealand lambs: Canterbury, light, 28lb to 36lb; Canterbury, heavy, 36lb to 42lb; Dunedin and Southland, 28lb to 42lb; North Island 28lb to 42lb.

Wellington, June 1.—The Agent-General cables, under date London, May 30:—'The mutton market is depressed. Average price to-day. Canterbury, 3⅝d; Dunedin, Southland, and W.M.E. Company, 3½d; River Plate 3⅜d; River Plate reduced ⅛d. This week there is a better tone. The average price on the lamb market today is: New Zealand lamb—Canterbury brand, 4⅞d; brands other than Canterbury, 4½d. The beef market is quiet. Stocks of New Zealand are light, and quotations are nominal. Hindquarters, 4⅜d; fores, 3¼d. The butter market is dull, at 95s per cwt; Danish, 97s. The cheese market is steady at 66s per cwt; new Canadian, 60s.'

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale—Butter (farm), 8d; butter (factory), bulk, 10d; 10½d booked. Eggs, 1s 6d per dozen. Cheese, factory, 6½d. Hams, 9d. Potatoes, £3 10s per ton (bags weighed in). Barley, 2s to 2s 6d. Chaff, £3 per ton. Flour, £10 to £11. Oatmeal, £10 10s to £11. Bran, £4 10s. Pollard, £6 10s. Retail—Fresh Butter, 10d. Butter (factory), pats, 1s. Eggs, 1s 9d per dozen. Cheese, 8d. Bacon, 11d. Hams, 10d. Potatoes, 5s per cwt. Flour: 200lb, 22s; 50lb, 6s 3d. Oatmeal: 50lb, 6s 6d; 25lb, 3s 6d. Pollard, 10s per bag. Bran, 5s 6d. Chaff, 2s.

Mr. F. Meenan, King street, Dunedin reports:—Wholesale prices only—Oats: Milling, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; feed, 1s 6d to 1s 9d. Wheat: Milling, 3s 9d to 4s 1d; fowls' wheat, 3s 5d to 3s 8d. Potatoes: Derwents, £3 15s, kidneys, £2 10s to £3 10s. Chaff: Old, £2 10s to £3 5s; new, £3 5s to £3 15s. Straw: Pressed wheat, 30s; oaten, 35s; loose, £2. Flour: Sacks, £10; 50lb, £10 15s; 25lb, £11. Oatmeal: 25lb, £10. Pollard, £6. Butter: Dairy, 8d to 10d; factory, 11d. Cheese: Old, 6½d; new, 5½d. Eggs, 1s 10d. Onions: Melbourne, £5 10s; Christchurch, £4.

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. (Limited) report:—We held our weekly produce sale at our stores on Monday, and submitted an average catalogue to a large attendance of buyers. There was good competition for most of the lines on offer, at prices on a par with late quotations. Values ruled as under:—

Oats.—There is good inquiry for prime milling samples, with which the market is only moderately supplied. Good, bright feed is also readily quitted, but for anything below B grade the demand is somewhat spasmodic. Quotations: Prime milling, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; seed lines, for which there is good inquiry, 1s 11d to 2s 3d; good to best feed, 1s 8½d to 1s 9½d; medium and discolored, 1s 7d to 1s 8d per bushel (sacks extra).

Wheat.—Millers' operations are somewhat restricted, and are confined for the most part to the purchase of a few choice lines of northern grown wheat. Most of the southern wheat, being a shade too soft for milling purposes, finds an outlet as fowl wheat. This is rather more plentiful, and prices a shade easier. Quotations: Prime milling, 4s to 4s 2d; medium to good, 3s 8d to 3s 11d; best whole fowl wheat, 3s 6d to 3s 7d; medium, 3s 3d to 3s 5d; broken and damaged, 3s to 3s 3d per bushel (sacks extra).

Potatoes.—Consignments coming to hand have been sufficient to supply local requirements, and sales on the basis of late quotations are difficult to effect. Quotations: Prime Derwents, £3 10s to £3 15s; choice, to £4; medium and other sorts, £3 to £3 10s per ton (bags in).

Chaff.—We submitted about 40 tons at our sale on Monday. About half of this was very prime bright oaten sheaf from the Lakes and Otago Central Districts. Prime quality met with good competition at prices slightly in advance of late quotations, but the demand for medium quality was slack, and sales difficult to effect. Quotations: Prime oaten sheaf, £3 10s to £3 15s; good do, £3 to £3 7s 6d; medium, £2 10s to £2 15s; light, inferior, and straw chaff, £1 15s to £2 5s per ton (bags extra).

Turnips.—We quote best swedes, 15s loose; 20s bagged.

WOOL.

Wellington, May 27.—The Department of Industries and Commerce has received the following cablegran from the Agent-General, dated London, May 26:—The wool sales closed with a good tone all round, and a further advance for medium and coarse crossbred wool. Estimated values of New Zealand wools are as follow: Fine crossbred, 11d to 1s 1d per lb; medium, 9d to 9½d; coarse, 6d to 8½d; superior merino, 1s 1½d to 1s 2d; average, 11d to 1s; inferior, 9d to 10d. All lambs' wool from ½d to 1d per lb higher than the closing rates of March sales.

HIDE SALES.

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

We held our fortnightly sale of hides at our stores on Thursday, May 28, when there was an average attendance of buyers. Bidding was keen up to a certain limit, but it was at once apparent that the extreme prices paid for heavy hides a month ago were not to be obtained Light and heavy-weight hides held their own, extra heavy ox hides being a shade easier than last quotations. This was expected owing to a heavy fall in the Australian market for heavy stout ox hides. Our best prices for ox were 6½d for two lines averaging 80lb and 71lb; 6¼d for three lines averaging 81lb, 80lb, and 67lb; and 6d for two lines averaging 73lb and 70lb. In cow hides we sold three averaging 63lb at 5⅝d, four averaging 68lb at 5½d; 16 averaging 63lb and 60lb at 5⅝d; two averaging 60lb at 5½d, and two same weight at 5¼d. The highest money price we obtained was £2 5s for one hide weighing 96lb, which sold at 5¼d. Our catalogue comprised in all 341, and actual prices paid at our sale were as follow:—Prime heavy ox hides, 5⅝d to 6½d; medium, 4⅞d to 5½d; light and inferior, 2⅞d to 4¼d; prime heavy cowhides, 5d to 5⅝d; medium, 4⅝d to 4⅞d; light and inferior, 3⅜d to 4¼d; yearlings, 3s 6d to 5s 6d; calfskins, 4d to 2s 10d.

LIVE STOCK.

THE ADDINGTON MARKET.

There was a fair yarding and a good attendance of buyers at Addington market.

Fat Cattle.—230 head yarded, the bulk of which were of good quality. In consequence of the large supply the sale was rather dragging. A feature was a line of magnificent bullocks from Masterton, which sold at £14 15s to £18 5s; ordinary steers, £6 7s 6d to £10; heifers, £5 17s 6d to £9; cows, £5 to £9 2s 6d. Beef, 25s to 27s per 100lb.

Fat Sheep.—A large entry, which included a fair proportion of first-class ewes and wethers. Butchers again competed eagerly for the best ewes, giving beyond the limits of export buyers. Prices for wethers were unchanged, but ewes were decidedly firmer. The range of prices was Wethers, extra heavy, 22s to 30s; best freezing, 18s to 21s 9d; lighter, 15s to 17s 6d; merinos, 10s 6d to 13s 9d; ewes, extra heavy, 22s to 28s; best butchers', 16s 6d to 19s; lighter, 12s to 16s; merinos, 6s 7d to 8s 3d.

Fat Lambs.—The entry of 2000 contained a fair proportion of first-class quality. Export buyers competed keenly, and last week's values were maintained. Tegs, 15s 3d to 17s 8d; freezers, 12s 6d to 15s; butchers', 11s to 14s 8d.

Pigs.—A large entry, and the quality good, but curers having reduced limits the sale was dragging. Baconers, 45s to 69s, equal to 4½d per lb; porkers, 30s to 40s, equal to 4⅝d to 5d per lb; stores, 13s to 26s; weaners, 7s 6d to 12s.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

For Saturday's sale the entry was a poor one. The few horses forward were a mixed lot, and the attendance of the public at the hour the sale commenced was meagre. It gradually increased, however, and a few sales were effected at excellent values considering the indifferent quality of the stock offered. The chief sales made were as follows:—Draughts: Chestnut gelding, eight years old, at £50; bay mare, nine years old, at £47; bay mare, 10 or 12 years old, £37; bay mare, very old and stiff, £22. Light harness horses: Piebald gelding, young, for butcher's cart, £29; bay gelding, 6yrs., spring-carter, £27; brown cob gelding, 6yrs., for milk-cart, £26; brown mare, aged, spring-carter, £23. We quote: Superior young draught geldings, £50 to £55; extra good, prize horses, £56 to £65; medium draught mares and geldings, £36 to £48; aged do, £25 to £35; upstanding carriage horses, £30 to £35; cart and butchers' order-cart horses, £18 to £25; tram horses, £16 to £27; light hacks, £10 to £15; extra good hacks, £18 to £25; weedy and aged hacks and harness horses, £4 to £8.

(Owing to Wednesday being a postal holiday we have to go to press on Tuesday evening, and are therefore unable to give a report of the Burnside Stock Market.)

BEATH AND CO., DRAPERS CHRISTCHURCH. Are worthy of our Support