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suitable for development purposes. However most amongst them, were men ^{& women} of fine stamp & quality. There were no steamships at that time and all had to come in the sailing vessels. Lyttelton was a very busy port, and the Harbour full of vessels, which on their return trips to England carried the grain away. That was about all the kind of cargoes available.

Then came a period of very deep depression and it was only after the discovery of the Refrigerating, that the country took a turn. Before that, Boiling down establishments were erected and the sheep were killed and boiled down for the tallow. A leg of mutton could be purchased for less than what a pound costs now. The only sheep my father ever had he bought a line of 200 hoggets for 1/6 each. Fattened them on rape and sold for 3/6 per head. When a sow farrowed, we killed the little piglets, as it did not pay to keep too many. Of course as far as the Producer was concerned, we did not starve, as there was

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plenty of potatoes & meat. It was marvellous what a change came over the country, when the frozen meat industry started. It was found to be a better proposition to grow fat sheep & lambs, than to grow wheat, and consequently the area under cultivation diminished greatly.

During this depression, very many of the farmers who were being financed by the Banks were unable to meet their commitments & were quickly turned off. But no wonder, when accommodation could only be obtained by paying the enormous sum of from 8 to 10% for the money. No mercy was shown, & if a man had a few hundred pounds to invest & went to the Bank to enquire as to any openings. It was generally met with the reply, "Oh yes, we have just the place that will suit you", & he was given put on the place of some poor unfortunate, & often the same fate attended him later on. It was under these conditions until later under the Right Honourable R. Seddons govern