



LANGDON & STEEL, Family Butchers

178 & 180 COLOMBO STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

Telephone 790.

market, and the export of frozen mutton and lamb has become the mainstay of the farmers of the district, large and small, and 628,207 carcasses of mutton and 1,048,517 of lamb were exported during the year ending December 31, 1901. Vast as this output is, we believe that the industry is capable of still greater development. All the best breeds of sheep thrive on these pastures, and their absolute immunity from disease is conclusive evidence of the suitability of this province for the profitable raising of sheep. Previous to 1882, the inaugural year of the frozen meat trade, wool and wheat were the chief products. Farming has since assumed an entirely new phase, sheep-raising for mutton and wool being the most profitable branch. Large and small flocks of pure and cross-bred sheep are now kept on all farms, the object being the production of early lambs for freezing. The percentage of lambs is remarkably high in Canterbury, being for the paddocks 100 to 130 per cent., and for the hill and unimproved country from 40 to 60.

The Province of Canterbury can claim to possess one of the largest and most important butter factories in New Zealand, which is situated at Addington, close to Christchurch, and draws its supply from fifteen creameries located within a radius of twenty-five miles. The output of butter from this factory alone is 1,450,000 lbs. per annum. There are also flourishing butter factories at Tai Tapu, Seton, and Timaru, as well as the many cheese factories which are located on Banks Peninsula. Owing to the mildness of the climate, and the richness of the pastures, butter and cheese are of the finest quality.

There is no part of the British Dominions where the industrious man with moderate means can live in greater comfort than in this part of New Zealand. The land, it is true, is dearer than in some other countries, but the difference in price is far outweighed by other considerations, such as superiority of climate and the regularity of its seasons. "Seed-time and harvest" come and go, rarely disappointing the husbandman. How greatly these privileges are appreciated is shown by the fact that, when a farm is offered for sale there is always keen competition, the bidding running up to £20 and £30 per acre, which is also the case when Government offer farm settlements on the perpetual lease system.