



POST OFFICE, ASHBURTON

succeeded in obtaining a resilient leather, possessing extreme lightness, toughness, and a resiliency not yet obtained with the ordinary methods of tanning. The leather possesses many of the characteristics of rubber, at the same time being impervious to the injurious action of chemicals, heat, moisture or the ammonia from street horse manure, the most destructive agent to the fabrics now used as a foundation on which to build the rubber tyres. The resilient leather takes the place of the fabric, giving a tyre of great stability, light-running and puncture resistant. The leather tyre is covered with an outer rubber, which when worn can be repeatedly renewed at little cost; the advantage of this is self evident. Judging from the public acceptance and approval Mr. Lightband has already met with, we predict for him a most successful future, which would be only a fair reward for a useful improvement. Mr. Lightband is sanguine of shortly placing on the market other useful lines for which the resilient leather is adapted. It may be interesting to note that Mr. C. D. Lightband is a grandson of the late Mr. G. W. Lightband, who in Nelson as early as 1845 commenced tanning and dressing leather and who, previous to arrival in New Zealand in 1841, obtained experience as foreman tanner with Messrs. Dent and Co., far famed for their resilient leather gloves. Mr. C. D. Lightband is indebted to some extent to hints when a boy from his grandfather for the success he has now obtained.

MATSON, H., AND Co.—The illustration on page 221 represents an Alley-way in the Wool store of Messrs H. Matson & Co., and shows the bales as they are displayed for the inspection of intending purchasers. In this connection, it may be of interest to give a few particulars of the advance which has been made in the production and sale of the chief sources upon which Canterbury had to depend for many years for its revenue. In fact, during the fifties and well into the sixties wool was the only product which was exported in any quantity. The return supplied to the Government at the close of 1850, just at the time the Pilgrims arrived in the historical first four ships, shows that there were 1,900 bales shipped for that year from the district of Canterbury from sheep that had originally been

BALLANTYNES ARE THE LEADING DRAPERS IN N.Z.