Australian Chilling and Freezing Co.

The Australian Chilling and Freezing Co., Ltd., a London concern of which Sir Montague Nelson is chairman, first opened works at Aberdeen, on the Hunter river, in 1891, and in February, 1892, the S.S. Port Douglas took the first shipment of 13,000 carcasses of mutton. Mr. W. A. Benn, of Sydney (prominently connected of late years with the frozen rabbit business), was for many years manager of the company. The Aberdeen works at the start offered three forms of contract: first, to purchase delivered, fat wethers weighing 47 Lbs. and upwards, dressed, with shanks off, and kidneys and kidney fat removed, at 1d. per Ib. cold weight, all offal, including fat, to belong to the company, skin and wool to seller; second, partial sale, the company to make an advance of 3/4d. per Ib. on sheep, and in the event of the mutton selling on average above 3 1/8d. per Ib. the company returning shippers 75 per cent, of surplus, the offal to belong to the company, the skins and wool to owner; the third form, to consign on owner's account, the company treating the meat, and bagging and shipping it, as well as paying all charges for a consolidated rate of 2.20d., giving shippers an advance, and keeping offal and by-products as before. These works have had to contend with variable seasons and low London values for the excellent class of mutton and lamb exported, and their operations have benefited New South Wales and sheep growers more than the shareholders. Mr. R. C. McAclam is the manager of the company.

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