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The London Wool Sales.

London, February 9.—The first sales of the 1901 wool auction sale closed today with offerings of 9,231 bales of destrable. Strades, including good new
clips. Competition was brisk, and all
but the best scoureds sold at full rates.
Superior greasy was in sellers' favor.
Cross-breds were firm and sold readily.
Several parcels of good greasy were
withdrawn to await better prices.
Cape of Good Hope and Natal were in
good demand and sold with a better
spirit, notwithstanding the depression
during the interval between series.
The sales opened strong and animated
at an average advance of 5 per cent.
for merhos, especially the better
grades. This level was maintained for
a few days, but when immediate needs
of buyers were filled prices receded to
the unsatisfactory condition of new
clips greasy. A good selection of
cross-bred greasy, particularly northern New Zealand, brought out spirited competition. Bright qualities suitable for America opened 5 per cent.
higher and maintained this advance to
the close. Lambs of good quality were
scarce, but the smal' offerings of this
grade did not attract much competition. Cape of Good Hope and Natal
was in strong demand and when the
sales opened, sold at an advance
ranging from 5 to 7½ per cent. The
prices gradually weakened, however,
and closed unchanged at 5 per cent,
below the November values. The sales
were well attended, buyers were present from all sections. Germany was
a good competitor. France was reserved, and the home trade, while not
a keen buyer, secured its full share
of the offerings. The sales as a whole
closed generally becter, with the established level of values maintained.
Of the 338,000 bales available, 261,759
were catalogued. Of the 75,000 were
sold to the continent, 5,000 to America,
1,400 to the home trade and about 94,
000 were held over for the second of the 1901 wool auction sale closed today with offerings of 9,231 bales of deseries. The arrivals for the second series number 120,781 bales, including 47,000 forwarded direct.

Stuttering employer (writing a let-ter)—"B-b-b-b-oy, hand me a b-b-b-bl-bl-ol—"

Office boy-"A blotter, sir, do you wish?"

Stuttering employer—"Never mind n-n-n-now; the ink has d-d-d-dried."

Tess—"So she's to marry the son of the wealthy Mr. Millyuns. How on earth did she manage to land him, I wonder?"

Jess—"She's musical, you know, and so it's no trouble at all for her to catch an heir."

Mrs Sparks—"Can't you get that stove pipe together, John."
Rev. Mr. Sparks—"No. I cannot, Mary; and if it wasn't that I'm a minister of the Gospel I'd kick the whole damned lot to pieces."

Teacher—Who can name the bones of the skull? Bobby—I've got 'em all in my head, but I can't think of them.—Atlanta

Constitution.

"If an empty barrel weighs ten pounds what can you fill it with to make it weigh seven pounds?" asked Senator Depew of Senator Spooner. "Have to give it up," replied Mr.

Spooner.
"Fill it full of holes," answered Mr. Depew, and they both laughed.—New York World.

Grace Greenwood, leaving a tea party after telling a funny story, was begged to stay and tell another "No," she said, "I can't get more than one story high on a cup of tea."—Youth's Companion.

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