A BRIEF HISTORICAL SURVEY OF CANTERBURY, N.Z.

NOV. 1, 1876 to DEC. 31, 1879.

THESIS FOR M.A.
in the

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND.

November 1939.

PRESENTED BY: ANVIL

[Signature]

J. H. Barclay.
The aim of this historical study is to present a brief but comprehensive account of the fortunes of the province of Canterbury from Nov. 1, 1876 to Dec. 31, 1879. As the greater part of my material was situated in Christchurch, it follows that North Canterbury is more fully treated than the other districts within the Province.

Admirable reports of meetings and the activities of the people are contained in the "Lyttelton Times" and the "Press". These appear to have been more fully reported than is the case now-a-days, especially in regard to meetings. From these papers, I was able to gain an impression of the social life of the people which was confirmed by talks with Mr. E.R. Webb of Christ's College and Mr. A.A. Fookes of Ashburton as well as by material in some of the works consulted and noted in the bibliography. As I was unable to obtain some sources of parliamentary information, the chapter on "CANTERBURY AND THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT" deals with the politics of Canterbury as a whole rather than with the political careers of Canterbury members in detail.

There is no detailed work which covers this period of Canterbury's history. It is to be hoped, therefore, that this work will make some contribution to our knowledge of the "early days" of the Province.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface .................................. Page (i)

Bibliography ........................................... " (ix)

Map - to show provinces Oct.51, 1876 to face page (ix)

CHAPTER I.

HISTORY OF CANTERBURY BEFORE NOV. 1, 1876

A. GEOGRAPHICAL ........................................ Page (1)
   - Boundaries - Harbours - Climate - Flora and Fauna.

B. ACTIVITIES IN ENGLAND BEFORE DEC. 16, 1850 (3)

C. CANTERBURY SETTLEMENT AFTER DEC. 16, 1850 (5)
   - Difficulties of Pilgrims - Land Purchase Council - Gold discoveries - Provincial Status
   1853 - Railways - Problems arising on West Coast - Religion - Public Works and Immigration - Struggle between General Assembly and Provincial Councils.

D. CANTERBURY IN 1876. (10)
Canterbury's part in abolition struggle -

- Christchurch City election dispute -
Halt in Office.
CHAPTER III

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AS IT AFFECTED CANTERBURY

Map — Counties Nova, 1872

A. THE COUNTY SYSTEM

Number - Analysis of Act - Electoral Rolls and Elections - Permissive articles - County Council's Amending Act 1877 - First Meetings - Selwyn and Geraldine Counties adopt permissive articles - Conferences of County Councils - Conferences of Road Boards - Counties financial difficulties - Movements for sub-division - System a compromise.

B. HARBOUR BOARDS.


C. CHRISTCHURCH DRAINAGE BOARD.

Carruthers' Drainage Scheme - Protest against Carruthers' proposals - Ratepayer's Action - Board's action - Clarke's report - Sydenham dissatisfied - Board of Health.

D. CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL & OTHER BOROUGH COUNCILS.

Civic improvements to Christchurch - Southern exit to Cathedral Square - Municipal Office - water supply dispute - Survey of Christchurch - Meeting of Parliament in Christchurch - Sydenham and Hwangia achieve Borough Status - Thirru and Ashburton.

E. HOSPITAL AND CHARITABLE AND INSTITUTIONS.

Method of financing - Unemployed Hospital & Charitable Aid Board's Bill 1877 - Financial Arrangements Act 1876 - Medical Staff Dispute.
CHAPTER IV.

CANTERBURY IN ITS ECONOMIC ASPECTS.

- Effect of price levels in Canterbury -
- "Land Boom" bursts in 1878 - Volume of trade - Prices for primary produce -
- Agriculture comes to the fore - Interest in frozen meat experiments - Imported pests -
- River floods - Yield per acre of crops -
- Railways proposed and operating - District Railway Act 1877. Improvements on Railways -
CHAPTER V.

EDUCATION.

A. PRIMARY.
- Canterbury Provincial Ordinance 1876 -

B. SECONDARY.
- Christchurch Girls' High School -
- Christ College Grammar School -
- Christchurch Boys' High School -
- Timaru Boys' High School.

C. UNIVERSITY.
- Canterbury University College -
Subjects of instruction - Opening of New buildings - Extensions become necessary - Mining School lost to Otago - Establishment of Medical School postponed - Lincoln College established - Extension lectures - Museum and Public Library.
CHAPTER VI.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

- Differentiation between classes -
  Depravity of some types - Temperance
  Societies and movements for alterations of licensing laws -
  "Larrikinsim" - clash between "Orangemen"
  and Irish at Timaru - Asylums - Theatres -
- Religious life - Construction of Cathedral -
  Population - Unemployed meetings - Health -
  Daily life of the people - Newspapers.
CHAPTER VII

CONCLUSIONS - GENERAL SURVEY

- Politics - Local Government -

Economic Life - Education -

Social Life.

Page (69)
APPENDICES

A. Values of Export Trade of Canterbury Chief Products, 1876-9.

B. Cultivation of Land in Canterbury.

C. Table of Values of Exports & Imports of Canterbury 1876-9.

D. Table of Index Numbers and Prices for Agricultural & Pastoral Products

E. Showing types of Immigrants on "NORTHERN MONARCH"

F. Wages at Ruling Rates 1877

G. Canterbury Members of Legislative Council and House of Representatives.
BIBLIOGRAPHY.

A. PRIMARY.
Lyttelton Times Nov. 1, 1876 to Dec. 31, 1879 Christchurch Press
New Zealand Statistics 1876-79 Wellington
" " Statutes " " "
" " Hansards " " "
Journals to House of Representatives " " "
" " Legislative Council " " "
Appendices to Journals of House of Representatives " " "
" " Legislative Council " " "
New Zealand Parliamentary Record 1923 "

B. SECONDARY.
There is no History of Canterbury written as yet:
only occasional and incidental references to Canterbury
in the few histories of New Zealand that have been
published.
(a) Unpublished in the Library of Canterbury University
College, Christchurch.
J.V. Wilson - "ORIGINS AND INCEPTIONS OF CANTERBURY". 1915
H.K. Dickey - "HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY
NEW ZEALAND, VOL. 1 (1851-7)" 1924
A. Breward - "HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY
NEW ZEALAND, 1857-60" 1930
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.C. Pitcaithly</td>
<td>&quot;HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY NEW ZEALAND 1861-67&quot;</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.B. Campbell</td>
<td>&quot;A PERIOD OF EARLY SETTLEMENT OF CANTERBURY 1867-73&quot;</td>
<td>1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.R. White</td>
<td>&quot;HISTORY OF CANTERBURY, NEW ZEALAND 1873-76&quot;</td>
<td>1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F.A. Airheart</td>
<td>&quot;PUBLIC OPINION IN CANTERBURY ON THE ABOLITION OF THE PROVINCES&quot;</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.J. Gardner</td>
<td>&quot;EFFECT OF THE ABOLITION OF THE PROVINCES ON POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE NEW ZEALAND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES&quot;</td>
<td>1936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.B. Copland</td>
<td>&quot;WHEAT PRODUCTION IN NEW ZEALAND&quot;</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. MacKenzie</td>
<td>&quot;HISTORY OF THE CHRISTCHURCH CHURCH CATHEDRAL&quot;</td>
<td>1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H.P. Sigram</td>
<td>&quot;STORY OF CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.&quot;</td>
<td>1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.Hight &amp; A.F.H. Candy</td>
<td>&quot;HISTORY OF CANTERBURY COLLEGE&quot;</td>
<td>1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.D. Dobson</td>
<td>&quot;REMINISCENCE OF A. DUDLEY DOBSON&quot;</td>
<td>1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Salwyn Bruce</td>
<td>&quot;EARLY DAYS OF CANTERBURY&quot;</td>
<td>1932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.C. Anderson</td>
<td>&quot;JUBILEE HISTORY OF SOUTH CANTERBURY&quot;</td>
<td>1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.Hight &amp; D.J. Bamford</td>
<td>&quot;CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY AND LAW OF NEW ZEALAND&quot;</td>
<td>1914</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Batsman</td>
<td>&quot;THE COLONIST&quot;</td>
<td>1861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.R. Collier</td>
<td>&quot;LIFE OF SIR GEORGE GREY&quot;</td>
<td>1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.G. Butchers</td>
<td>&quot;YOUNG NEW ZEALAND&quot;</td>
<td>1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.B. Condcliffe</td>
<td>&quot;EXTERNAL TRADE OF NEW ZEALAND&quot;</td>
<td>1915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.W. Condcliffe</td>
<td>&quot;COURSE OF PRICES IN NEW ZEALAND&quot;</td>
<td>1914</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Various - "CYCLOPEDIA OF NEW ZEALAND Vol. 3" Wellington 1903
W. E. Reeves - "LONG WHITE CLOUD" 3rd. edit. London 1924
Rusden - "HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND 2nd. edit. " 1895
W. Gisborne - "NEW ZEALAND RULERS & STATESMEN" 1897
1840-85

G. E. Thompson - "History of the University Otago"
of Otago 1919
CHAPTER 1

HISTORY OF CANTERBURY BEFORE NOVEMBER 1st, 1876

A GEOGRAPHICAL

The province of Canterbury occupies about 15,000 sq. miles of the central portion of the South Island of New Zealand and is bounded on the south by the Waitaki River from the sea to Lake Ohau, thence by a straight line to the summit of Mt. Aspiring. From there the boundary on the western edge follows the main line of the Southern Alps until the headwaters of the Hurunui are reached; this river forming the northern boundary, while the eastern verge is the Pacific Ocean. The type of country varies from a rich agricultural plain of about 150 miles long and from 30 to 60 miles wide on the east to the hilly and mountainous area to the west suitable only for pastoral pursuits.

There are many rivers and lakes; the lakes nearly all being on a high level; of the rivers the Waimakariri only is navigable and then but to a limited extent. There are two good natural harbours, Akaroa and Lyttelton. The former, although it is the better of the two, is not used to any extent on account of its inaccessibility from landward; the latter is the chief port of the province and is connected with Christchurch both by road over Evans Pass and by railway through the Moorhouse, or Lyttelton tunnel. The only other port of importance is the artificial harbour at Tierra. In the early days of the province many inlets and river mouths were used
as ports of call for the fleet of coastal boats which has now been superseded by motor transport or railway uniting the inland and coastal producing areas with the two large collecting and distributing ports.

As it is a portion of an island, Canterbury does not experience any great extremes of temperature. The records of the monthly mean temperatures at the Christchurch Observatory for the period 1905-1934 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>60.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>60.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>57.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>53.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>57.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>43.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>44.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>44.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>48.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>53.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>55.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>59.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The rainfall which averages about 25" per year is not confined to any particular season but winter is generally considered to be the moistest period of the year.

Mean Monthly Rainfall (1922-34).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Rainfall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>2.3 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>1.8 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>1.8 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>1.7 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>2.6 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>2.5 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>2.5 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>1.8 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>1.9 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>1.9 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>1.6 ins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>2.4 ins.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The most frequent wind is known locally as the "nor'-wester"
Coming as it does across the Tasman Sea it loses its moisture in its passage over the Southern Alps and blows over the plain as a hot, dry wind. To the drying effect of this wind Canterbury mutton and grain have much to thank for their excellent quality.

As regards the native flora, tussock is the dominant grass; but now, largely displaced on the plains by English grasses it still remains on the highlands. Speargrass, tatu, and native flax are found scattered throughout the province. On the plains there are a few native trees but in the valleys of the highlands may be found the last of the forests in which are veronicas, fuchsia, native beeches and conifers. Elsewhere the trees, except for the native "Cabbage tree" belong to species imported and acclimatised.

Native fauna are mainly birds. Some are flightless like the kiwi and weka, but the introduced birds - the hawks, ducks, and gulls are more common.

B ACTIVITIES IN ENGLAND AND THE NEW COLONY BEFORE

DECEMBER 16, 1839

The first half of the 19th century saw the gradual growth and adoption of a new set of colonial principles. The chief advocate of these was Edward Gibbon Wakefield and, the most complete and successful of all ventures, was the Canterbury settlement.

In 1837 there was formed in England the New Zealand Association, the forerunner of the New Zealand Company, to advocate such leading principles expounded by Edward Gibbon Wakefield as
(1) the sale of land at a sufficient price to ensure a just balance of land, labour, and capital and (2) self-government in the Colonies. This body was also to apply the principles in the colonisation of New Zealand, then inhabited by the Maoris and a few hundred European adventurers. The Association did not function and gave place to the New Zealand Company, which from 1839, was responsible, either in itself or through associations sponsored by it, for almost all the original settlements in New Zealand.

During the 'thirties the idea of a Church of England colony grew in strength and by 1843 Wakefield was meditating upon one to be established under the auspices of the New Zealand Company. Native troubles and disputes with the Colonial Office, however, postponed the project until 1847 when Wakefield, at Balvern, met John Robert Godley who enthusiastically endorsed the idea of a Church settlement.

An essential feature of the Church of England Colony was that it should be attractive to the upper classes who were to provide the leaders. Godley having secured the sympathy of such prominent men as John Butt, Lord Lyttelton and the Bishop of Oxford, the following year saw the foundation of the Canterbury Association. From the fund obtained from the sale of land at Wakefield's "uniform and sufficient" price, money was to be set aside for a somewhat ambitious immigration, religious, and educational programme. Immediately difficulties arose but they were generally overcome; Godley himself went out to New Zealand in 1849. On December 16, 1850 the first four ships arrived with 791 passengers to find the land surveyed, immigration barracks erected, and a portion of the
road over Evan's Pass completed.

A few settlers and traders had preceded them. They were the whalers at such points as Kaikoura, Banks Peninsula and Timaru, the French and German colonists who had arrived at Akaroa in 1840 under Captain Langside, three or four families around the bays of Banks Peninsula and the Dean's family on the plains.

C. THE CANTERBURY SETTLEMENT AFTER DECEMBER 16th, 1850

On their arrival in Canterbury the "Pilgrims" were faced with many difficulties. The lack of a good road from the port to the plains, overcrowding of the immigration barracks, excess of clergy and school teachers, emigration of some of their number to the newly discovered goldfields in New South Wales and Victoria, the refusal of the Association to allow pasturage on easy terms — a difficulty overcome by Godley who consented to regulations encouraging the settlement by Australian pastoralists, and worst of all in the eyes of many, the absence of a bishop until the consecration of Bishop Harper on Christmas Day, 1856. Although these obstacles arose, the settlement received a better start than many an earlier one.

A Land Purchasers' Council had been formed before the colonists left England. It was to form a measure of communication between the colonists in New Zealand and the Canterbury Association in England. Between the two bodies a marked divergence of opinion soon arose. Godley and the Council desiring to encourage the Australian "squatters", while the Association wanted the Colony to remain an agricultural settlement as it had been planned. Godley's judgment and resolution saved the Colony from a severe
economic crisis and probable ruin.

In 1852 the Australian gold discoveries drew several settlers from the colony. Those who remained profited by the rising prices of foodstuffs exported to the "diggings" while the inflow of Australian sheep-farmers and capital gave new life to the settlement. The New Zealand Constitution Act of June, 1852, satisfied the desire of the colonists for self-government. Canterbury was to become a province of the Colony of New Zealand; it was to receive a generous measure of local government. In November 1852 the first Supreme Court was held at Lyttelton. Godley, confident that the settlement had been firmly founded, left for England at the end of the year. His place was taken by Henry Sewell who came out to wind up the Association's affairs and to transfer all its assets and liabilities to the Provincial Council.

In September 1853 the Provincial Council, which was to be responsible for the more local legislation and administration of the province, met for the first time. It originally consisted of twelve members and a Superintendent, but it was later enlarged to twenty-six members. Under Fitzgerald, the first Superintendent, the machinery of government was established on sound democratic principles. At the same time a moderate public works policy was pursued; but the Council did not provide a means of ready access to the sea until the completion of the Snares road in 1857. By the Provincial Waste Lands Act of 1854 the Council obtained control of the waste lands within the area under its jurisdiction.

In 1858 a new Council and Superintendent were elected, William Seton Moorhouse, the new Superintendent, pursued an extremely active/works programme, which included the Lyttelton...
tunnel connecting the port and the chief town by railway, the first telegraph line in the country and an extensive immigration policy. Fitzgerald returned to England to become the provincial immigration officer. The churches and schools were now making some headway; education was under the control of the provincial authorities who made provision for a general system of schools. Communication was improving and settlement was extending its boundaries; Kaiapoi, Rangiora, Ashburton, Timaru, Waimea, Geraldine, and Oxford were founded. Much of the land termed waste, was largely held by the "squatters" under a system of leasehold tenure.

Over 1,000,000 sheep had been imported to the Province by these large runholders by 1860.

After various vicissitudes the Lyttelton or "Moorhouse" tunnel was opened on July 15, 1867, the line being for some time a broad five foot three inch gauge. Later the line was extended both into the northern and southern portion of the Province. Although a start had been made to convert it to the present narrow gauge of three feet six inches by 1876 there still remained some unconverted track. By August 1866 the telegraph line was extended to link up with the remainder of the provinces of the Colony of New Zealand.

Because of his ill health Moorhouse resigned in 1863 to be succeeded by Samuel Bealey. The discovery of gold on the West Coast towards the end of the following year brought with it a train of difficulties. One of these was solved by the completion of the road over Arthur's Pass to Westland in 1866 but the miners refused to be placated and continued to agitate for the separation until 1868 when the County of Westland Act became law. Westland became virtually
a separate province by this act.

Bishop Harper's efforts to secure a cathedral for Canterbury were rewarded by the laying of the foundation stone of the building in Cathedral Square Christchurch on December 16, 1864. Until 1873 only the foundations were constructed; then, the work was carried some stages further. The completed Cathedral was not ready for worship until 1884 although services were held within the partially constructed building before that date. The clergy of the various denominations were zealous in their administrations and by 1876 most of the townships had built either churches or chapels. The Provincial Council had founded the museum and the Canterbury University College. The papers published in 1876 were the "Lyttelton Times" and "Press" in Christchurch; the "Timaru Herald" in Timaru; and the "West Coast Times" at Hokitika.

During the last three years of the provincial regime an active public works policy was pursued. Such major operations as bridges over the Waimakariri, Rangitata and Waoa rivers and the first large wharf at Lyttelton were completed. The first buildings of Canterbury College were begun and the Canterbury Public Library opened to the people. Pressing financial difficulties in 1875 caused the Provincial Council to reduce the subsidies paid to various institutions.

After the time of the departure from England of the first four ships until 1870 the standard required of the immigrants for character and physique was high. Towards the end of the period signs of deterioration became apparent and an endeavor was made
to maintain a just balance of the sexes and to encourage immigrants between the ages of fourteen and thirty-five. Until 1866 immigration was controlled by the Canterbury Association and thence to 1870 under that of the Provincial Council. Into Canterbury a constant stream of people, which altered as economic conditions changed, was flowing. In the two years previous to 1870 when the control of immigration passed to the Central Government by virtue of Vogel's "Immigration and Public Works Loan Act," over 2000 immigrants received assistance from the Canterbury Provincial Council. Henceforth the standard was not to be maintained; quality was sacrificed to quantity.

The earlier 'seventies were dominated by the growing struggle between the Provincialists and the Centralists for political supremacy. In the abolition movement the part played by the Canterbury people is easy to judge. By their lack of a strong united provincial public opinion and their general apathy the people did much to aid the cause they neither avowed nor disavowed. The "Press" and the "Timaru Herald" advocated abolition of the provinces; the "Lyttelton Times" the reform of the existing system. There was, however, a general dissatisfaction with the Provincial Council on such points as finance, municipal government, and education, as well as the general administration of the province. A feeling of anxiety pervaded the province concerning the future of the land fund, upon which the province had relied in the past years for a large measure of its revenue. At the subsequent elections the Abolitionists won the day. A new era began for Canterbury, as well as for the rest of New Zealand, when the act for the abolition of Provincial Government became law on November 1, 1876.
Canterbury, in 1876, had a population of 75,715 of which number only a small proportion was urban. The statistics for 1876 show the populations of the four chief towns to be:

- Christchurch: 12,815
- Timaru: 5,000
- Lyttelton: 2,902
- Kaiapoi: 1,002

The remainder of the people were distributed throughout the province where they were engaged in farming pursuits. Canterbury, who had originated the idea of assisted immigrants, was now reaping the benefits of her policy.

In 1873 the control of education had passed into the hands of the Provincial Council which from time to time voted large sums for educational purposes. By 1876 it had granted Canterbury University College large land endowments amounting to 303,590 acres. Under the strict control of the provincial authorities more and more children attended the schools and the standard of scholarship was improved. Although the provision for primary education was satisfactory, that for higher education left much to be desired. Christ College Grammar School, founded and controlled by the Anglican Church and the Christchurch High School -- now the Christchurch West High School -- which had been bought in 1874 from the Presbyterian Church by the Provincial authorities, were the only two secondary in the province. Canterbury University College had commenced its first session in temporary quarters in June 1875. There were also
many private denominational schools dotted throughout the province.

In the sphere of justice, the early 'seventies witnessed the
construction of the Supreme Court buildings in Christchurch and the
establishment of a District Court at Timaru. Gaols had been
built at Lyttelton and Timaru and an asylum for the insane was
situated at Addington.

In the country district increasing areas were being brought
into cultivation although most of the land was still held for
pastoral purposes. The agricultural returns for 1876 as compared
with those of 1874 are as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Holdings</th>
<th>No. of Acres</th>
<th>Per. broken</th>
<th>Acres under cent. crop.</th>
<th>Per. green</th>
<th>Acres sown</th>
<th>cent. crop.</th>
<th>Acres grass</th>
<th>Per. grass</th>
<th>Acres sown</th>
<th>cent. crop.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>3,969</td>
<td>61,365</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>120,013</td>
<td>27.1</td>
<td>16,643</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>245,518</td>
<td>554</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>4,175</td>
<td>63,823</td>
<td>10.4</td>
<td>146,342</td>
<td>23.9</td>
<td>51,986</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>352,951</td>
<td>574</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An examination of the exports of the province during the
immediately
years preceding 1876 show the great importance of the agricultural
and pastoral industry. Wool, the chief export was valued in 1874
at £315,127 and in 1876 at £1,009,736. The number of sheep in the
province was nearly 3,000,000. To the frequency of the various
Agricultural and Pastoral Associations' Shows, which stimulated the
farmer to improve his stock or produce, was due, in no small measure,
the excellence of Canterbury farm products.

The economic life and activities of the province had been
aided by the improvement in transport and communication, the
expenditure of large sums of money in harbour works, and the establishment of the New Zealand Shipping Company in 1873. A favourable balance of trade was shown in 1876 the value of the exports being £1,601,745 and the imports £1,279,389.

Canterbury in 1876 thus presented a picture of wealth and development which had become the envy of the other provinces. The table following shows the debts of the provinces after they had been credited with their assets taken over by the General Assembly on November 1st, 1876:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Debt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auckland</td>
<td>£1,019,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taranaki</td>
<td>£184,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>£600,897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawke's Bay</td>
<td>£119,779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td>£207,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlborough</td>
<td>£32,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canterbury</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westland</td>
<td>£40,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otago</td>
<td>£1,191,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£3,584,748</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thus Canterbury owed only £70 out of a total provincial debt of £3,584,748.

The next three years which form the period of this study are largely taken up by the effort of the people to suit themselves to the altered political conditions under one central government and the deepening economic depression.
CHAPTER 2.

CANTERBURY AND THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

Undoubtedly the passive attitude of the Canterbury residents had contributed in no small measure to the strength of the forces which made for abolition. They were apathetic. One thing, and one thing only, interested Canterbury - the Land Fund. When the "abolitionists" declared themselves in favour of its "localisation" Canterbury was satisfied. It allowed the provincial councils to pass away.

As the burning question of the decade had been the relationship of the provincial councils and the central government, the last election had been fought on one issue - "Abolition". Members had been elected to the "House" on this question alone. Hence, as a result of the passing of the "Abolition of the Provinces Act, 1875", the Parliament immediately outran its mandate. For the remainder of its term of office the Atkinson Ministry's sole policy was the maintenance of the "status quo". It could not, however, retain the allegiance of all its adherents. Gradually some hived off to form a "Middle" party.

At the commencement of the 1877 session there were in the House of Representatives three parties; the Ministry, the Middle, and the old Provincial parties.

In Canterbury the two major newspapers, the "Lyttelton Times" and the "Press" - both published in Christchurch - supported divergent policies on the abolition question. With
abolition a "fait accompli", they continued their political allegiance to their respective parties. The "Press" which had supported abolition remained an Atkinson paper while the "Lyttelton Times" staunchly supported Grey. Thus the Radical became Tory and the Conservative, Liberal.

The three years 1877, 78, 79 were to see a new orientation of New Zealand political theory. Sir George Grey was the man to force the change. When the 1877 session opened the old abolitionist party under Major Atkinson was in power. Even the most ardent supporter of the party could see that all was not well. Its native policy, the rise of the "middle" party, and the "Waka Maori" case all foreshadowed trouble. Accordingly Sir George Grey, aided by the middle party under the leadership of Messrs. W. Montgomery (Salwyn) and W. Rolleston (Avon), came into office on Oct. 13, 1877.

For two years Grey remained Premier. On Oct. 8, 1879 the Liberal party was ousted from office. It was not the last ministry to suffer as a scapegoat for financial depression.

The Canterbury representatives in the General Assembly were all men of standing. All were diligent in pursuing the interests which they thought best for New Zealand, yet each jealously guarded the well being of his own electorate. In the Atkinson ministry, the Hon. C.C. Bowen (Kaiapoi) was Minister of Justice, and Commissioner of Stamp Duties until Jan. 5. 1877 when he resigned, the Hon. E.R. Richardson (Christchurch City) was Minister of Lands. The Hon. J.T. Fisher (Hastings) in the

1. For Canterbury Members of House of Representatives & Legislative Council see Appendix C, page 166.
"Grey" ministry was Post-Master General and Commissioner of Telegraphs. After Oct. 8, 1879 the Hon. J. Hall (Selwyn) was Prime Minister and the Hon. W. Rolleston (Avon) was Minister of Public Works. During Sir George Grey's term of office, no "Middle" party man held ministerial rank.

Immediately after the abolition the people of Canterbury began to doubt whether the localisation of the "land fund" (i.e. the moneys received from the sale of crown lands) would be maintained, as promised by the "abolitionists".

On Dec. 5, 1876, the "Press", in an editorial, showed some concern at the trend of political opinion. On Jan. 11, 1877 the "Lyttelton Times" was more disturbed at a speech, in favour of complete centralisation of the fund, made by the Minister of Lands, the Hon. D. Reid. By May the "Press" declared itself in favour of a compromise. "A portion of it should be retained to defray the cost of roads and local public works". By August that paper was in favour of complete centralisation. It feared that if the land fund were not centralised, land and income taxation would be imposed. Throughout the "Lyttelton Times" maintained the right of Canterbury to retain the moneys received from the sale of crown lands within its confines.

The writing on the wall became plainer when, on Aug. 23, 1877, Mr Reader Wood (Parnell) moved for the inclusion of the land fund in the ordinary revenue in order to ease the financial situation. The following day the motion, however, was negatived. Every Canterbury member voted against the motion. Weers.

---

- "Press" editorial May 8, 1877.
Stafford (Timaru) and Wakefield (Geraldine) were in favour of partial centralisation. On Aug. 25., the "Lyttelton Times" deplored the action of Mr Reader Wood in trying to break the abolitionists' bargain. But it was the very party which that paper supported that nationalised the fund. By the Financial Arrangements Amendment Act 1877 the land fund was included in the colonial revenue; twenty per cent, however, was, by clause 6, to be distributed in the form of subsidies among the counties. Left with only a portion of their precious land fund the Canterbury people bewailed its loss like that of a favourite child. The "Lyttelton Times" compared the Government with "the forty thieves and Ali Baba".

Soon after the prorogation of Parliament by Commission on Oct. 31, 1876 the "Lyttelton Times" declared that the prorogation was unconstitutional. The Commission had proroged Parliament in the name of the Governor, but not in the name of the Queen. As the Counties' Act became law the day following the end of the session, it followed that, if Parliament had not been proroged, the new counties would have been illegal. The wish was father to the thought; the counties were there to stay. The extended prorogation to June 15., 1877 and again until July 19. also came under its fire. On Dec. 20., 1876., the "Press" declared that "even if the case do go to the Privy Council, it could not affect any anxiety as to its outcome. The prorogation was constitutional."
When Parliament met on July 19, 1877 and the true state of the parties became apparent, the "Press" felt much apprehension — this though it had previously said of the Opposition "There was never anything so completely devoid of organised life". It was true. Until the "Maori" scandal there was nothing to unite the forces of Opposition. Mr Larnack's (Dunedin City) no-confidence motion followed on closely and "The Combination of the Middle and Grey parties has proved too much for the Government".

"Having no strength it relied upon the weakness of its opponents" said the "Lyttelton Times", describing the fall of the Atkinson Ministry. The old provincialists were overjoyed. The Canterbury Members who supported Mr Larnack were Messrs. J.R. Brown (Ashley) J.T. Fisher (Hastings) W. Montgomery (Akarora) W. Rolleston (Avon) and W. Wakefield (Geraldine). Mr Fisher was, for his past services, rewarded with Cabinet rank. On Nov. 2, a few days after his assumption of office, Grey narrowly averted defeat upon a motion of no-confidence. The Speaker's casting vote saved the new ministry. Each Canterbury member voted in the same way as on the previous motion. When the actual fall of the Atkinson Ministry became a certainty, the "Press" said

---

5. "Press" Editorial on Opposition, June 29, 1877
5. "Lyttelton Times" Editorial on fall of Ministry Oct. 19, 1877
"Not a single person who has any political character
will consent to join him (Grey). Office has attractions
for Mr Montgomery but with Sir George Grey it has lost its
charm. Even Mr J.M. Brown has declined to offer."

Early in September, that paper had characterised the
proceedings of the House as scarcely edifying and "— a
mutual bespattering of foul abuse" as to the Ministry it
said, "For their own sakes, and in memory of past services,
we wish they could retire on better ground".

With the close of the session on December 11th, the
members of the House of Representatives spent the recess, as
usual, in addressing their constituents. The electors
were given a full account of the work done in Parliament
as well as one for the proposed business of the next session.
These addresses, as a feature of political life, were greatly
appreciated by the people. The highlight of the recess was,
of course, the tour throughout the country by the Premier,
Sir George Grey. In Canterbury he visited Timaru, Wainate,
and Ashburton, as well as Christchurch. In his address
at Christchurch, in the Oddfellows Hall, on March 16th,
1877 he held "The most successful meeting that has ever
waited upon a premier from the people of Canterbury".

With his eloquence and his newly enunciated policy of
"freedom of franchise, equality of representation, fairness
of taxation, and justly liberal land laws" he completely
persuaded the audience to his side. The Opposition vented

its anger in sarcasm. At this time Sir George Grey had, undoubtedly, the support of the majority of the Canterbury electors.

The year 1878 was marked by a popular agitation, on the part of the people, for more representatives in Parliament. The existing electorates had been marked out some years previously. Canterbury, by reason of its increasing population, was at a disadvantage in member strength in comparison with the other provinces. All papers argued in favour of a readjustment of electorates. "The "Press" and the "Lyttelton Times" each considered that more electorates in the province would aid its cause. In this matter, as in others, they undoubtedly voiced the opinion of the people.

On Aug. 10, 1878 the "Lyttelton Times" published a table showing the population of the provincial districts, the number of representatives returned, as well as the number to which each district was entitled upon a population basis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>No. of Representatives to which entitled</th>
<th>Actual No. of Representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Auckland</td>
<td>84,661</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taranaki</td>
<td>9,463</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>51,068</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkes Bay</td>
<td>15,015</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlborough</td>
<td>7,557</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>2½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td>28,128</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westland</td>
<td>16,932</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canterbury</td>
<td>91,922</td>
<td>18½</td>
<td>14½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otago</td>
<td>114,469</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From this table, it is apparent that Canterbury had a clear case for a larger representation. The movement did not reach fruition, however, within the period. As a result, on March 25, 1879 the "Press" charged the Ministry with failing to legislate for the re-distribution of seats through fear of losing its majority.

Shortly before the end of 1878 session Mr. S. E. Shrimski's (Waitaki) motion to hold the next one in Christchurch was carried by one vote. Dissenting Canterbury members were Messrs. Fisher, Rolleston, and Montgomery. Christchurch, of course, did all in its power to bring the scheme to success, but in view of the obvious difficulties in posting away from its departments of government Parliament met again in Wellington.

As the "Lyttelton Times", a ministerial journal, was given all Government advertisements pertaining to Christchurch the "Press" soon raised the cry of favouritism. "The Government favours only those that support it". On the same day, June 8, 1876, it offered to publish gratuitously any Government advertisement. Responsible Ministers and the "Lyttelton Times" both pointed out that the "Lyttelton Times" tender for the advertisement contract was lower than that of the "Press", that it had a larger circulation, and that it was the old provincial gazette. As such, it was still, on some matters, an official publication.

1. See Chapter 3 page 47.
Before the enunciation of Grey's policy in 1876, members of the House of Representatives had voted more as individual than as party members, and until the opening of the 1879 session, he had a sufficient following to maintain his majority. Early in that year it became apparent that his loosely knit party was beginning to break up.

A conspiracy, between some members of the Opposition and dissatisfied members of the government, arose. It was proposed to bring together all dissatisfied elements in the House in order to form a new party. The conspiracy was betrayed on April 4, 1879, by a faulty telegraph message which, instead of being delivered to the Hon. G.H. Waterhouse was sent to the Hon. Colonel Kitmore, the Colonial Secretary. In Canterbury, the Hon. J. Hall and Messrs. Stevens, Rolleston and Wakefield were implicated. The "Lyttelton Times" enjoyed the discomfort of those concerned; but the "Press" on April 26, said "It was manufactured by the government press to bolster up the ministry."

When Parliament met on July 11, 1879, the fall of the Ministry was imminent. Weakened by the defection of men like Mr Pallance, who was unable to work with the despotic Grey, it fell before an amendment proposed to the address-in-reply debate on July 25. The amendment charged the ministry with financial incompetence. Only two Canterbury members, Messrs. Fisher and Turnbull, voted for the Government. Mr Montgomery paired for the Ministry. "The vote arrived at yesterday afternoon was not on the grounds of policy: but
simply on the proved incompetence and utter untrustworthiness of the Ministry". The action of those men like Hay, Ball, and Brown, who had "gone across the House" was classified as "The marching of the noble order of rats". The "Lyttelton Times" used the same words to describe the defaulters. In the light of subsequent events the fall of the ministry may be attributed to financial extravagance - when Hall entered office Grey had left only £60,000 in the Treasury to meet £3,500,000 in Bills - and the overbearing manner of Grey.

Sir George Grey, to the disgust of the Opposition, asked immediately for a dissolution. This, the Governor granted, and Parliament was dissolved on August 11. Writs were issued, the elections held on September 19, and the new Parliament met on September 26. On July 25, the "Gazette" had claimed that "The proper course for the Ministry in the present complication is to appeal to the people, and the right thing for the Governor to do is to grant a dissolution in order to let them make that appeal. A moribund parliament has no right to dispose of the great issues of electoral, financial, local government and native affairs question."

After the dissolution candidates for parliamentary honours "stumped" the country. For the first time in New Zealand history there were two contending parties. They were
the Liberals under Sir George Grey, and the Opposition under the Hon. J. Hall - which had no policy. Excitement was rife. "From uproar they proceeded to violence" was the report on the meeting held in Christchurch by Sir George Grey.

The result of the elections, which gave --- on first sight --- a doubtful majority for the Liberals, was acclaimed by the "Lyttelton Times", as a success for the Government. At the same time it claimed that if many electors had not been disfranchised by their own carelessness the majority would have been more substantial. On Sept. 11, the "Press" published the following to show that Canterbury "stood behind" the Hon. J. Hall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREYITS</th>
<th>OPPOSITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H. Allright (Lyttelton)</td>
<td>Hon. J. Hall (Owyn)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. T. Fisher (Heathcote)</td>
<td>E. J. C. Stevens (Ch'Ch City)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir G. Grey (Ch'CH City)</td>
<td>C. C. Bowen (Kaiapoi)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. E. Andrews (Ch'CH City)</td>
<td>E. G. Right (Coleridge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Montgomery (Akaroa)</td>
<td>E. Wakefield (Geraldine)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Turnbull (Timaru)</td>
<td>W. S. Moorhouse (Ashley)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>J. Studholme (Gladstone)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W. Rolleston (Avon)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Future events were to show that this party's valuation of the members to be correct. In the same issue the "Press" accepted Sir George Grey as a member for Christchurch City; it dismissed Mr. Andrews as a nonentity. Great regret was expressed, however, at the defeat of Mr. Richardson (Ch'Ch City) "A man who has served the City well and long".

Greater interest than usual in the Canterbury elections was fostered by the actions of the leaders of the two parties. The Hon. J. Hall resigned his seat in the Legislative Council on Aug. 20, in order that he might stand against Mr. C. A. Fitzroy. Sir George Grey as well as standing for his old seat, Thames, also stood for Christchurch City. "The Press" on Aug. 26, thought that his action in standing for two seats was most unwise, though not illegal. He would not be helping his party as he could not hold both. Mr. Richardson, the defeated candidate, petitioned Parliament to have the election for Christchurch City upset on the grounds that votes had been accepted from unfranchised persons.

A Parliamentary Select Committee including Messrs. Moorhouse and Allright set up to inquire into the legality of the election reporting on Oct. 26, unseated Grey and declared Richardson to be duly elected. The ground of the decision was that Grey could not hold both seats. As the writ from Thames was returned before that from Christchurch City, he was therefore member for Thames. This decision reversed that of 1876 which gave the member the right to choose the electorate which he wished to represent.

The "Lyttelton Times" immediately saw a similarity between Sir G. Grey's and John Wilkes's case—the electors
of Christchurch were virtually disfanchised. The legality of the House in declaring Mr Richardson elected is open to doubt. A wiser course would have been to recommend the issue of a writ for a by-election. Mr Allright, the new Liberal member for Lyttelton, suffered such odium for his action in the unseating of Sir George Grey, as the Committee's decision was made by a majority of one. He voted against Grey.

By the time of the opening of Parliament on Sep. 24, the "Lyttelton Times" had become less optimistic. "The chances are, we think, in favour of the Ministry, but in view of coming uncertainties, to surmise is always to lose time.

On Friday Sept. 26, the Hon. J. Hall gave notice that he would move an amendment to the Address-in-Reply to the effect that, while the Opposition was prepared to carry out the programme of Government, it had no faith in the Ministry as constituted. When the division took place on Oct. 3, the Grey Ministry had been defeated by two votes. As the "Press" asserted they would, so the Canterbury members voted. On Oct. 6, the Hon. J. Hall became Prime Minister and Mr W. Rolleston, Minister of Crown Lands, Immigration, and Education.

Hall, with astuteness took for his policy that of Grey. He thus enlarged his majority by "winning over" some of the Liberals who were dissatisfied with the leadership of Grey. By pursuing an enlightened political programme, as well as putting the country's finances on a sound basis, Hall

laid the foundations of a long Conservative Ministry. Until the Liberals could find another leader and enunciate a fresh policy they were to wander in the political wilderness.

The session ran on with nothing to make it noteworthy. Mill, with a small majority, was trying to make his tenure of office safe. The Opposition, on the other hand, was riding its time, and hoping for another swing of the political pendulum. After the prorogation of Parliament on Dec. 19, 1879 the "Lyttelton Times" summed the position up thus: "Except for the total collapse of the Liberal party, the session was of the ordinary type, dull, profitless, and procrastinating." 17.

SKETCH MAP OF CANTERBURY
November 1, 1876.
to show County boundaries in the Province

Towns - • Timaru
Provincial Boundary —
County Boundary —

From "Canterbury Times"
Dec 23, 1876.
CHAPTER 3

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AS IT AFFECTED CANTERBURY.

"Probably nine-tenths of the people of the Colony have only the vaguest idea of the system of government under which they are now to live".

"PRESS" Nov. 16, 1876.

A. THE COUNTY SYSTEM.

On Nov. 1, 1876, some system of local government was required to fill the vacancy created by the abolition of the provinces. The Counties Act of 1876 set up a system of rural government which is still in force today, with some modifications. New Zealand was divided into sixty-three counties of which eight old roughly coincided with the province of Canterbury.

Subject to the sanction of the crown each county had the right, if the people domiciled there so desired it, either to amalgamate with another county or to sub-divide itself. All counties were to be divided into "ridings" and "outlying districts." Provision was made for emerging the old "road boards" into the counties.

The controlling body of the county was to be a council. It consisted originally of nine members exclusive of the Chairman. By the County Council's Amendment Act of 1877 the numbers were fixed at nine inclusive of the Chairman. All people over the age of twenty-one who were on the county riding or outlying districts electoral roll or were the holder of a miner's right, were entitled to vote. The electoral roll was constituted on a property basis. It allowed plural voting. Rateable property

1. Actually many of them afterwards became counties while others did become merged into the county.
valued at less than £50 entitled the elector to one vote. For each succeeding £50 up to £150 another vote was recorded. Property valued for rates at between £150 and £350 carried four votes. If valued at over £350 the property entitled the holder to five votes. The holder of a miner's right was entitled to one vote only.

As the rolls were unprepared for the first election, the act provided that every person who was entitled to vote at a "Road Board" election or at an election of a Member of the House of Representatives in an "Outlying district", or held a miner's right was deemed to be a county elector. The first elections were held on Dec. 22. 1876. Future elections were to be held on the second Wednesday of November in every third year after 1876. Except for certain common disqualifications, every elector was eligible for election to the council.

As a corporate body, the council was to have fairly extensive powers. It could enter into contracts, make by-laws, establish and maintain charitable institutions, libraries, places of recreation, markets, control hawkers and peddlers, pounds and slaughter-houses as well as build and maintain roads and bridges. If the full act were in force all moneys were to be paid into the county fund account. If it were not they were to be paid into the public account. The revenue of the county was obtained from rates, tolls, grants from the General Assembly, moneys under the Financial Arrangements Act of 1876 fines, fees. Under articles 138-145 of the Counties Act 1876 council was empowered to raise special loans. They were not to exceed four times the general rate which might be
levied in one year.

The whole Act was not necessarily brought into force at once. "The Council may at any time within three months after its first meeting, determine by resolution that such part as is mentioned in the third schedule shall not come into force in the county: and the chairman shall forthwith send a copy of such a resolution to the Colonial Secretary".

If such a resolution were passed, by article 12, the Council could meet to transact business only under articles 30, 54, 56, 68. It could thus meet to adopt a petition praying for boundary alterations, to appoint or receive the resignation of a chairman and "on or before March 31 in each year to determine by resolution as provided in the Financial Arrangements Act of 1876, the proportion in which moneys shall be divided among the Road Boards and outlying districts comprised therein, and in the case of outlying districts shall direct in what works the money shall be expended, and under whose superintendence the works shall be carried on."

If the Council did not meet under article 68 or forward a resolution to the Colonial Secretary, the Governor, by article 31 of the Financial Arrangements Act 1876, was empowered to appoint a commission to decide the moneys payable.

Under section 3 of article 12 of the Counties Act any Council, which had not accepted the full Act, might hold a special meeting to determine by way of resolution

2. Article 12, Counties Act 1876
3. Article 68, Counties Act 1876
its acceptance of the full Act. Such a resolution was to be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary; it came into force the day following and was irrevocable.

As difficulties were found in the working of the Act, the County Council's Amending Act 1877 was passed. In general, it gave the council more power over the Road Boards. Article 3 simplified the borrowing powers for any county which accepted the "permissive articles". The county was empowered to raise by loan or overdraft a sum of money which did not exceed four times the receipts of the Road Boards during the previous year. Article 5 granted the Governor power to exercise authority over tolls where the full Act was not in force.

Following close on the elections of December, the first meetings of the Councils were held on Jan. 4, 1877. As no one was sure of the extent of powers of the County Councils, the utmost confusion reigned. The only business transacted, except by the Waimate County Council which adopted the "permissive articles", was the election of Chairman. Within three months, however, all the other counties except the Selwyn and Geraldine counties accepted them. As these two found themselves hampered by their action they decided to adopt the articles. On Jan. 24, 1878 the Selwyn Council adopted the "permissive articles" after two previous attempts. These attempts were declared illegal upon technicalities. This example was followed by the Geraldine Council on Dec. 23, 1879.
It was thought by some people that the Counties Act would provide a perfect system of local government. The abolitionists in particular applauded it. Public opinion as expressed by the newspapers was favourably impressed by the class of councillors elected. The "Press" said "There is very good reason to believe that the whole duties devolving upon the new bodies will be intelligently and effectively forwarded". But perfection in local government was not reached. With the non-adoption of the "permissive articles" it was doomed to mediocrity. The numerous conferences of road boards and county councils held in the next few years showed this. On June 22, 1877 the county councils of Canterbury, except those of Waimate and Akaroa met in conference. Prominent among resolutions passed was one "That the old Province be divided into two counties: the Rangitata to be the dividing line, and that the councils should be elected by the road boards to stop dissensions ensuing between the local bodies".

The two leading papers in Christchurch expressed divergent views. "We welcome these resolutions as containing a moderate and sensible view of the present anomalous position of the counties in the system of local self-government and of the direction to find improvement". This paper, the "Lyttelton Times", claimed that there was a necessity for the simplification of local government. The powers of the road boards and counties overlapped too much. The "Press", on

June 23. criticised the conference of the so-called counties representatives' "as a hole in the corner affair, got up, on the face of it, for the purpose of making public certain foregone conclusions." It claimed that there was nothing radically wrong with the system. It required a few minor adjustments.

And a month later, Road Boards replied with a conference. On July 20th, they adopted the following resolutions: (1) That the Road Boards were working satisfactorily, (2) that there was no need for the County Councils and Road Boards to have concurrent powers, (3) that in the place of the County Councils there should be a bi-annual conference of the Road Boards in the provincial district. In the light of these two conferences some change appeared to be necessary. But it was not made. Strife continued throughout the period between the two sets of bodies. Only a radical change could alleviate the position.

As time went on, despite the large borrowing powers of the Council, their finances became more involved. Of these powers the Lyttelton Times, that irreconcilable opponent of the new system said "Unless a public body has sufficient security to offer it has no excuse for becoming a borrower, and Parliament has no right to authorise its borrowing". In not paying promptly the land tax subsidies due to the counties the central government further complicated their finances. On May 31, 1878, an editorial in the

7. Lyttelton Times Editorial
Jan.23,1877
"Lyttelton Times" expressed surprise at the six months' delay in the payment of the land subsidies to the local bodies. In the same manner the "Press" on June 2, 1879 called attention to the fact that broken promises by the ministry were not infrequent in respect of payment of subsidies.

Although the Ashburton, Selwyn and Waimate Counties showed balances of £45,000, £37,000 and £20,000 respectively in December 1879, the other counties led a hand to mouth existence. It became imperative for them to find some other source of revenue than the subsidies received from the land fund. On Dec. 12th, 1879 the "Lyttelton Times" predicted "That direct taxation by means of rates, will have to be resorted to, there can be no doubt".

There had for some time been movements for the subdivision of the Geraldine and the Ashley counties. Although each movement had become stronger by the end of 1879 no decision had been made.

Thus the county system which had been heralded with both praise and derision managed to stumble along the first three years hobbled by the financial stringency riveted upon it by Parliament. The system was by nature a compromise. As such it was given powers which clashed with those of the Road Boards. Bickering and financial wastage was the result. The passing years were, in future, to see in some cases the total eclipse of the Road Boards; in others, the original county divided up into smaller counties which were to be the old Road Boards with a new name.
Before the abolition of the provincial councils, the Canterbury Provincial Council had controlled the ports of the province. There were four of them: Lyttelton, Timaru, Kaiapoi, and Akaroa. From Nov. 1, 1876 each except Akaroa which was placed under the direct control of the Governor-in-Council, was vested in a separate Harbour Board. Each Board, was, however, subject to control in some respects by the Marine Department of the central government.

The Lyttelton Harbour Board as constituted by the Lyttelton Harbour Board Act of Oct. 31, 1876 consisted of two members nominated by the Governor, two elected by the Christchurch Chamber of Commerce, two by the Selwyn County Council, two by the rate-payers of Christchurch, one by the rate-payers of Lyttelton, and the Mayor of Lyttelton "ex officio". The Board first met in Jan. 1877 when it merely called for designs for the seal, chose the place of meeting, and set up a by-laws committee. The other Boards followed its example at their inaugural meetings.

There was then, as there is now, dissatisfaction amongst certain business interests in Christchurch at the inaccessibility of the port. The railway tunnel and the Evans Pass road, via Sumner, did not compensate the loss of a city port. Hence, at the first meeting of the Ratepayers' Association in Christchurch on March 1, 1877 it was resolved
"that the time has now come when our canal reserve should be used for the purpose originally intended". The question was shelved. The Lyttelton Harbour Board in which was vested the control of the reserve, considered that it was inadvisable to spend large sums of money to form a new port when at Lyttelton there was adequate accommodation. The agitation for a city port has never died.

The original Lyttelton Harbour Board Act had not provided for the Board the land and equipment necessary for its functions. This was remedied by the Lyttelton Harbour Board Land Act which became operative in Nov., 1877. Wharves, jetties, piers, and breakwater then came under the jurisdiction of the Board. Throughout the years 1876-79 inclusive the Board greatly improved the Lyttelton Harbour. Railway trucks were laid on the wharves. On Jan.26, 1878 the Board decided to build a graving dock. In the following October a contract was made with Messrs. Ware and Jones, the only tenderers, to construct it for the sum of £70,844.13.4. Work began almost immediately.

Since, like all other local bodies of the time, the Lyttelton Harbour Board was hard pressed for ready cash an amending Act of 1878 gave it power to borrow up to £200,000.

In Timaru the Harbour Board consisted of four members appointed by the Governor, one by each of the Road Boards of the district, and the Mayor of Timaru "ex officio". When the first meeting of the Board was held it controlled only a landing station in an open roadstead, but it was empowered by the Timaru Harbour Board Act 1876 to construct
a harbour. Public feeling in the town demanded that the Board should lose no time in taking action. At a meeting held on July 9, 1877 resolutions were passed urging the Government to assist the Board, and demanding that land be reclaimed and the harbour works pushed on. This meeting was countered by one at Temuka on July 20 when the residents there protested against the possession of the balance of power in the Harbour Board by the members for Timaru.

On Aug. 16., the Board advertised for competitive plans for a harbour suited to the locality and for a competent engineer. After the plans of Sir John Coade had been submitted to the Marine Department, the Board was notified on April 28., 1878 that the entire scheme had been approved. Immediately the breakwater construction was begun. Although the work was hampered by breakages in defective machinery, it progressed steadily.

The port of the town of Kaiapoi was controlled by the Waimakariri Harbour Board. The members consisted of the Mayor of Kaiapoi "ex officio", representatives of the ratepayers of that town, of the Eyreton Road Board, and the nominees of the Governor. From its inauguration the Board was in difficulties. In no small measure these were caused by the troublesome bar at the river mouth, the nearness of the port to its powerful competitor, Lyttelton,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. A small town 12 miles north of Timaru.</th>
<th>g. For extent and nature of trade of these two main ports see Appendices A &amp; B.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
and the decline of coastwise shipping incidental to the improvement in the means of land transport. Lack of necessary money for maintenance also hampered the Board. It had no funds available to pay its employees, and it was not empowered as were the Boards of the larger ports to raise money by way of loan. The greatest portion of its revenue came from wharfage dues which were declining each year. As early as Jan. 15, 1877 the opinion of the "Lyttelton Times" was that "Kaiapoi as a port is doomed."

Unable as it was to fulfill its function the Waimakariri Harbour Board passed, at a meeting on Sept. 3, 1879, a resolution asking the Kaiapoi Borough Council to take over its duties and responsibilities. On Sept. 26, residents of the district met and resolved "that this meeting considers that the Waimakariri Harbour Board should continue to exercise its functions, and that its members possess the fullest confidence of the public of the town and district". Thus encouraged the Board struggled on.

Little was heard of the Akaroa Harbour throughout the three years 1876-79. Its development pursued a tranquil course under the control of the Governor-in-Council. Coastal shipping alone, as at Kaiapoi, visited this port.

C. THE CHRISTCHURCH DRAINAGE BOARD.

The most troublesome question with which the local bodies of Christchurch were faced was that of the drainage of the City and the surrounding areas. This was of particular difficulty owing to the land on which the City is situated. The land was flat and originally of swamp like quality.

In 1875 the Christchurch Drainage Board Act empowered the Board to formulate and carry out plans for the drainage of the district. The Board thus set up was charged with another function, that of a local Board of Health. The keeping of pigs and cows within the City, the disposal of the night-soil into the river, and stagnant pools of artesian water, all were exercising disastrous effects upon the health of the people.

About the middle of 1876 the Drainage Board commissioned John Carruthers M.I.C.E. to report on the drainage necessary for the City. His report, presented on Jan. 29, 1877 was adopted immediately. A storm of protest from the public, against some proposals of Carruthers, arose at once. The outlet into the Heathcote and Avon Estuary, the compulsary adoption of water closets, and the difficulties of flushing sewers were the points seized upon by the opponents of the scheme. On Feb. 14, at the premier meeting of the Ratepayers Association, the scheme was condemned as not being in the best interests of the health of the community. On Feb. 1, 1877

---

11. See Chapter 6
12. See over
the "Press" already had taken part in the campaign.

"We must hope that before the Board can carry out their plan of converting the estuary into a cess-pit there will be sufficient pressure put on them to induce them to forego entirely their pernicious intention." As the struggle continued the ratepayers demanded a plebiscite on the scheme. The attitude of the general public of the day was expressed thus.

"We do not see how the Board can be justified in refusing to comply with so reasonable a request”

Mr John Oliver, president of the Ratepayers’ Association, on May 21st, presented to the Drainage Board the resolutions passed at the previous Association meeting. Members of the Board then signed a manifesto in which they agreed to adhere to Carruthers’s scheme, but if, within one month, a petition signed by half the ratepayers called upon them to resign they would do so. To obviate this necessity, nine days later, on May 30th, a conference was held between the Board and the Association. A compromise was reached, Carruthers being asked to modify his design.

But his modified plan did not meet with approval from the public. Accordingly another prominent civil engineer, Mr M. Clarke was asked for a report which was presented on April 1st, 1878. In many respects his plan resembled that of Carruthers but he succeeded in over-riding all criticisms. On April 5th, the Drainage Board adopted his report "in toto" and the drainage system of Christchurch, today, is based.

12. "Press" already had taken part in the campaign.

mainly upon his proposals. On the same day the "PRESS" declared that it was more or less satisfied with the report. The same paper, on May 14th, writing on the acceptance of Clarke's report said, "The action thus taken appears to be, on the whole, wise".

The Board had now to contend with another difficulty - the attitude of the newly formed Borough of Sydenham. It claimed that the Drainage Board was not paying enough attention to Sydenham in comparison with its larger and contiguous neighbour, Christchurch. On Sept. 15th, 1878 the Borough decided to circulate the Avon, Heathcote, and Riccarton Road Boards of its intention to call a meeting of those bodies to consider the formation of a new drainage district and board. Unfortunately, in view of later day developments, the other bodies were not in favour of the proposal and it was dropped.

Another function which the Drainage Board had to discharge was that of a local Board of Health. After the business as a Drainage Board was concluded it was its practice to adjourn for a few minutes before sitting as the Christchurch Board of Health. In this capacity it did good work. Such matters as the forbidding of the keeping of pigs area, and the supervision of poultry and cattle within the city area were amongst its new regulations. Unfortunately the Board of Health, although it could make regulations, could not always enforce them for lack of funds. As the Act had been badly drafted it provided no means with which to repair the finances of the Board. "We have over and over again drawn attention to the
defective provisions in this behalf in the acts of the Assembly.
An active policy for the improvement of the City's amenities was pursued by the Christchurch City Council. On Jan. 19, 1877, a vote of £13,000 was passed to help defray the cost of improving the existing footpaths, and on March 26 of the same year it was proposed to extend the street lighting system by the erection of a further twenty gas standard lights. "The street lights will remain alight until four a.m. instead of at one or two o'clock as we consider the lights are now extinguished at a time when they are most required for the safety and good order of the City". More bridges across the Avon River were constructed and proposed, the houses of the streets numbered for the first time, and the first building by-laws were passed during the years 1876-79.

Both in spite of and because of its progressive nature, the Council became embroiled in disputes with the citizens. In Oct. 1876 the Council decided to widen Colombo Street at the southern exit from Cathedral Square. It was proposed to buy a strip of land thirty feet wide from Mr. Morten. Some slight interest was aroused but the question was lost sight of during the heat of the drainage dispute. It lay dormant until suddenly,

16. Now well known as the "Bottle-Neck".
17.A portion of the Land where the United Service Hotel now stands.
on March 4, 1877, the Council passed a resolution that, if possible, it would buy the whole of Morten's ground and there erect city chambers. The existing offices were old and un worthy to the dignity of the City. They were described as having "not room enough to swing a cat in them". The whole scheme was to cost £30,000. But the Ratepayers' Association opposed the proposal and on March 13, 1877 it asked that a poll be taken on the question. Public feeling was against the purchase and, on the eve of the poll which decided against the scheme by 14 votes to 114, the "Lyttelton Times" said "We should like to see every vote recorded and against the transaction. Mr. Morten will be able to enjoy his property in peace, and comfort while the ratepayers will get rid of an annoying question." The "Press" had previously, on Jan. 16, shown remarkable foresight when it declared "There can be no doubt as to the desirability, not to say the necessity, of widening Colombo St. by buying Morten's property". If the burgesses had approved of the scheme they might have solved a problem which has become more and more acute as the years passed by and is still unsolved today.

About the middle of 1878 the question of a municipal water supply came to the fore. It was evoked by the outbreaks of fire in the city with which the fire brigade had been incapable of dealing. Owing to the plentiful supply of artesian water, which was readily available to each householder on his lot.

16. Lyttelton Times Editorial Aug. 15, 1877
there had been developed hitherto no municipal high pressure system. Clarke, the Drainage Board's consulting engineer, drew plans for a supply which were rejected. A Water Supply Committee of the City Council was set up to sift all information relating to the proposed sources of supply, the Avon and Heathcote Rivers, the Waimakariri River and artesian bores. In its report submitted to the Council, on Feb. 10, 1879 the Committee selected the Waimakariri source as the most suitable to the city. At the same meeting of the Council a deputation from the Christchurch Fire Board pressed for the immediate installation of a high pressure water supply to cope with fires in the city.

On March 10, four engineers submitted reports which endorsed the Council's scheme. Artesian bores were satisfactory for private houses but as few of the streets were kerbed and channeled the water was making the land waterlogged. All bores should have, therefore, taps fitted. The engineers could not agree, however, as to the details of the intake. Although public interest was aroused and expressed itself in letters to the papers, both for and against the Waimakariri scheme, the question was not pursued further by the authorities. "The water supply question has drifted into a most unsatisfactory position. The duty of the City Council is clear. It should give "carte blanche" to the engineers they have consulted for the scheme upon which the council is experimenting is not supported by professional by opinion. It is, on the contrary, very much opposed by two engineers".

At the same time, it may be added, the Council scheme was supported by the other two engineers. A stalemate ensued which continued until the end of the year.

Although the land in Christchurch was becoming increasingly built upon it had been surveyed only roughly. A party of government surveyors, therefore, arrived early in September 1878 to make a detailed survey of the city. With an increasing population it was necessary that the survey be precise. The survey was completed on Dec. 4. of that year.

"It will be well that a certain professional gentleman can no longer say "It is impossible to say whether Christchurch is here or in Kaiapoi." On completion of the work it was found that the original survey although not exact, had not been seriously in error. In the suburbs the people had encroached, in places, as much as four or five feet on to the street line or their neighbour's property: in the business area, on the other hand, where property was more valuable, and more care had been taken, there was little encroachment.

Following the resolution passed by the House of Representatives on Oct. 29th, 1879 to hold the next session of Parliament in the South Island the Christchurch City Council decided to enlist the support of the other boroughs in the South Island to establish the claim of Christchurch to be the seat of government. On March 24, 1879 the City Council

---

21. Prof. Bickerton of Canterbury College, an ex-member of the City Council.
22. See Chapter 2.

---
resolved, "That considering Christchurch is the most convenient centre in the South Island, the Government be respectfully requested to place a sum of money on the estimates for providing a suitable residence for the Governor of New Zealand, at, or near the city, and that a committee be appointed consisting of his Worship the Mayor, Messrs. Ayres, Gapes, Jenkins and Wilson to see what sites are available for such a purpose, the result of their enquiry to be forwarded to the Government". Three days later the Mayor communicated with the other South Island borough councils. All expressed their willingness to co-operate and a conference was to be held As the motion in the House was rescinded nothing came of the scheme.

Towards the end of 1876 and during the earlier part of the next year an agitation for municipal government arose in Sydenham, a suburb of Christchurch. It achieved borough status on Sep. 20, 1877. On Oct. 29, the first meeting of the Council was held. Immediately disputes arose between the Sydenham Borough Council and the Christchurch City Council. As the northern boundary of Sydenham was the south belt of Christchurch (now Moorehouse Avenue) trouble arose over the maintenance of this street. It was, of course, under the joint control of the two bodies. Each side strongly urged its cause. By April 1879 the Sydenham Borough Council wanted St. Asaph St. to be the boundary of the two areas; the Christchurch City Council desired that Sydenham become incorporated in the city as a portion of greater Christchurch. This
scheme had been mooted a year before. Already the suburbs of Papamui, Avonside, and Phillipstown had signified their desire to come into the City. The end of the year saw no alteration in the situation.

Of the other boroughs, the chief interest lay in the creation of the new borough of Rangiora and the waterworks projects at Timaru and Ashburton. At Rangiora, a township about twenty miles north of Christchurch, the residents desired to form a borough. A resolution was passed at a meeting of ratepayers on Nov. 14, 1877 asking the Government to constitute Rangiora a borough under the Municipal Corporations Act 1876. Regulations gazetting the Borough were issued on May 16th., 1878.

As a result of numerous fires, and growing populations, the boroughs of Timaru and Ashburton decided that an adequate water supply was necessary. The Timaru Borough Council which had previously brought a small water race from the Rangiora River decided to put the matter of the enlargement of the race before the ratepayers. When on Dec. 16, 1877 the ratepayers sanctioned the scheme, the Council embarked upon an estimated expenditure of £30,000. Before completion the alterations cost the municipal authorities over £20,000. At Ashburton on Oct. 6, 1879 the Council passed resolutions enabling it to proceed with its plans of a water supply drawn from the Ashburton River.
Until Nov. 1., 1876, the Hospitals and other charitable institutions had been under the control of a local body subordinate to the Provincial Council. On Nov. 1., by article 22 of the Abolition of the Provinces Act 1875, the cost charges of hospitals and charitable aid institutions became chargeable upon the consolidated fund: unless, of course, those charges were defrayed in some other manner. In Canterbury they had been previously met by a judicious mixture of public subscription and provincial subsidy. As the public subscriptions continued the State held that it was not liable for any part of the hospital or charitable aid. The revenue of the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board was therefore less than in the previous year.

Another difficulty of the Board lay in the action of the unemployed in drifting from the country to Christchurch. Here the problem was acute, for not only had the Board to provide for the destitute of the City, but for those of the rest of the province as well. The "Press", on April 13., 1877, thought that, as a hopeless situation had arisen, the whole question should come before the House during the next session.

An abortive Hospital and Charitable Aid bill was shelved after the second reading in 1877. It was to put the onus of supporting the charitable institutions upon the government.
Both papers criticised it. The "Lyttelton Times" said that State aid "dried up private charity and cost more in proportion". The Press criticised it because it did not give enough State aid.

A deadlock ensued until the "Financial Arrangements Act" 1878 made some alterations to the system. Under this Act if the Government had to maintain the charitable institutions it was to deduct the cost of the maintenance from the Land Fund subsidies payable to the local bodies concerned. If, however, as was the case of the Christchurch Hospital & Charitable Aid Board, the institutions were maintained by public or other subscriptions, the Treasury would grant a pound for pound subsidy on all moneys obtained. To raise the moneys necessary for the maintenance of the institutions and benevolences, the boroughs of Christchurch, Lyttelton, Kaiapoi, Akaroa, Rangiora and Ashburton, as well as the counties of Selwyn, Ashley, Akaroa and Ashburton agreed to subscribe, as from Nov. 1, 1878, moneys in proportion to their populations. The Board would then, with the subsidies, be able to make revenue equal expenditure. As it was felt that it would have no permanence the compromise was not well received. In the year 1878-9 the Board did manage to meet expenditure by its revenue.

Another controversy enmeshed the Board in 1879. Until that year there had been no definite term of appointment for a medical practitioner to the Hospital. On Feb. 11, 1879 the Board,
although it was satisfied with the way the members had discharged their duties, dismissed its entire medical staff. It immediately called for applications for the vacancies. It was hoped that the Board would thus obtain the best possible services. There were loud protests from the general public: but the action of the Board was upheld by the Colonial Secretary. The Board met on March 23 to appoint a new staff. As the old staff did not apply to retain their positions, there was left only a portion of the profession upon which the Board could draw.

The "Lyttelton Times" in an editorial voiced the opinion of the general public, "When the Board saw that they were not going to get the whole professional field to select upon, they ought to have withdrawn from their position". Although a new staff was appointed, the Board was not allowed to pass the remainder of the year in peace. In carrying out its duties it had to face a hostile general public and an unfriendly medical profession. On several occasions petitions were sent to the government praying for the removal of the Board. They were, however, all refused and the Hospital and Charitable Aid Board was left to work out its policy.

25. March 26, 1879.
CHAPTER IV

CANTERBURY IN ITS ECONOMIC ASPECTS 1876 - 79

Throughout the world prices fell for agricultural and pastoral products in the later 'seventies of last century. There were, of course, temporary improvements in price, On Canterbury, an essentially primary-producing area, these fluctuations in price, however small, produced a profound effect. Although prices were gradually falling after 1874 Canterbury was still prosperous until 1879 when a sudden drop occurred. The real condition of affairs had been hidden, for a time, from the people by the "land boom" which burst in 1878 and the extensive public works policy of the Central Government enunciated in 1879 by Mr J. Vogel (afterwards Sir Julius).

Each year, however, the volume of trade increased. More and more immigrants were pouring into the province; more and more land was being cultivated yet the value of Canterbury's export trade declined.

In the years 1878 and 1879 an unfavourable balance of trade is shown. The deficit of 1878 was caused in no small measure by the extension of public utilities such as railways, telegraphs, and equipment for the ports. To the fall in prices of agricultural and pastoral prices, the unfavourable balance of 1879 may be ascribed. It will be noticed from the table on page 97, that Great Britain and the British possessions were then, as they are now, the chief sources of supply as well as the best customers of Canterbury. They

1. See appendix
2. See appendix
B. page 96
C. page 97
far outstripped all other sources.

In Appendix D, the index numbers and prices of the chief products of the land are set forth. Wool for 1876 is classed as super fine. Apart from that of wool, all prices rose in 1877, wheat and wool fell very slightly in 1878 and all prices fell in 1879 except for that of barley which again showed a considerable rise. As barley was one of the least important products, there being only 17,862 acres under cultivation, the rise did little to alleviate the depression. In 1880 prices again rose only to fall again in 1881. To the 1879 is generally attached considerable importance; for it marks the commencement of a new era - the "depression of the 'eighties."

Although the number of sheep in the province increased, yet there was a remarkable change over to agricultural farming. Appendix B shows the increase in the acreage of wheat, oats, barley, green crop, and sown grasses. Dr. D.B. Copland in his "Wheat Production in New Zealand" considered that the years 1877-80 were the first period in a typical Jevonian Cycle - progress was slow but sure. "Except for the supply of wool which the sheep afforded and in their possible use as manure, they were of little value. Consequently of the two pursuits (agricultural and pastoral) wheat growing was more profitable and prosperous." As the price of wheat made agricultural pursuits more profitable than pastoral ones, there began the system known as "Bonanza" farming. The tendency began to convert large estates,

5 Dr. D.B. Copland G. Lyttelton Times editorial
Wheat production in New Zealand on page 196 August 31, 1878
which had been used extensively for sheep grazing in the past, to agricultural purposes.

The fall in the price of wool made the people look for some other staple product besides wool and grain. In Australia experiments were being made in freezing meat. If these experiments could be proved successful, then the surplus mutton of Canterbury would prove of use. "We see no reason why frozen meat should not be immediately added to the list of New Zealand exports." When the process of refrigeration was perfected, it proved to be the salvation of the country in the 'nineties.

Each year, however, the farmers had much with which to contend other than the falling prices of the produce. Some years previously, in an effort to make New Zealand more like England, rabbits and sparrows were liberated. Both rapidly became serious pests to the farmer. The rabbits ate the grass off the land in many places to such an extent that the sheep were unable to live; the sparrows attacked the ripening crops. By the spring of 1878 the sparrows had become such a menace that the farmers united to combat them by spreading poisoned grain at certain times of the year. In 1877 South Canterbury experienced a severe drought.

Each year, the rivers, fed by the melted snow from the Southern Alps, rose and caused disastrous floods. The worst floods of the period occurred in September 1878. All the rivers were flowing high. The Waimakariri washed away the railway line at "Chaney's Corner" near Kaiapoi and later flooded the town. Communication was maintained by coaches. The Rangitata washed away three spans

6. "Lyttelton Times" Editorial
Aug. 31st, 1878.
of the new railway bridge and the Waitaki river was in the heaviest flood for twenty years. "Several thousand sheep and a large number of cattle have been drowned in the Waitaki Valley." In the same month 'nor-west gales swept the province. Trains were delayed on the north line; in Kid and South Canterbury chimneys were blown over, windows blown in and small buildings demolished. The yield per acre of the crops was, on the average, fairly good during the years 1876-79. For these years oats averaged 36 bushels to the acre, barley 31 bushels to the acre, and wheat 29 bushels to the acre. Some of the wheat of the 1878-9 season was shipped to England, The sample was reported on favourably by the English agents --"The Chertsey Pearl is a very fine sample, being as the bakers say, almost perfect, and will, we think bring a very satisfactory price."

With the change from the provincial system to that of a centralised state, the full purport of Sir Julius Vogel's public works policy became apparent. Everywhere transport facilities were extended. Canterbury had been the first province to establish a railway. Under the new system it was to extend the railways. From Nov.1, 1876 to December 31, 1877 numerous new lines were opened for traffic. On Feb 1, 1877 the main south line was opened as far as Oamaru, the first centre of importance in Otago; nineteen months later, on September 6, 1878, the first train carrying the Governor, the Marquis of Normandy ran to Dunedin, the Otago capital. The crowded train carried, besides the vice-regal party, members of Parliament, civil authorities and some of the general public.

7 Lyttelton Times report September 26th, 1878.
Dunedin was reached at nine P.M. fifteen hours after leaving Christchurch at six in the morning. Immediately regular passenger and goods services were established between the two towns. On Jan. 22, 1879 Invercargill, the southernmost town in New Zealand was connected with the northern centre. Some branch lines were opened and others extended.

The original lines that were laid down by the Provincial Council were on a wide five foot three inch gauge. As three provinces had established different gauge lines the General Government decreed that in New Zealand the standard gauge should be three feet six inches. Thus, as some of the old line still remained in Canterbury between Christchurch and Amberley, it had to be altered. On Sunday December 20, 1877, a gang of men numbering between five and six hundred converted thirty miles of line. The following day the new Christchurch railway station was opened, on the site of the present station in Moorhouse Avenue.

Before the abolition of the provinces the Provincial Council had ordered materials for the proposed line to Alford Forest in Mid-Canterbury. These supplies however, were appropriated by the central government to help complete the main south line. To enable the settlers of country districts to enjoy the advantages of railway transport the "District Railways Act of 1877" was passed.

"It supplies the inhabitants of isolated country localities with the means of helping themselves and we hope to see it largely taken advantage of during the next few years." The people of the Alford Forest again combined and formed the "Rakaia and Ashburton Forks

---

3 Press editorial
Nov., 23, 1878.
Railway Company" under this act. After disputes with some landowners on the matter of compensation, the first sod was turned on Nov. 19., 1873. Similarly the people on the southern side of Banks Peninsula formed the "Akaroa and Little River Railway Company" to construct a line through Little River to Akaroa. The construction of the line was begun on July 9., 1879 when Mr. Parkinson, chairman of the Little River Road Board, turned the first sod.

"In the late 'seventies the importance of connecting Christchurch and the West Coast was again brought into prominence, also the question of routes." At Hokitika, the capital of Otago, in a meeting held, on July 31., 1879 it was proposed, "That a railway be constructed via Mount's Pass to Otago as being the most suitable to the needs of the West Coast." A few days later on August 12., at a public meeting in Greymouth it was proposed to construct a railway line from Mosley in North Canterbury to Blenheim on the West Coast. This proposal was supported strongly by the residents of Canterbury. In 1879 a commission reported that the Arthur's Pass route was the shortest and most practicable. The present Midland line, constructed many years later, follows this route through the Oliva tunnel.

Other railways of major importance that were proposed were the interior main line along the base of the foothills from Temuka to Oxford, and the continuation of the north line to Marlborough.

(At the present time both of these lines are uncompleted, although the present Government is rapidly extending the north line.) One proposal for the north line was that it should be constructed to

the Hurunui River, the northern boundary of the Province. Of this, the "Press" on June 26, 1879 said, "It would be against the interests of the public to construct a railway to the property of a landowner; on the other hand it would advance the public interest to take it through the property of the landowner." The landowner whom the proposal would benefit was the Hon. William ("Ready-Money") Robinson, owner of the extensive Cheviot Hills station.

Various improvements were introduced on the Canterbury railways. In April 1878, "cowcatchers," appliances for clearing the rails from straying animals and other obstructions, were used on the engines for the first time. The "black system" of semaphore signals, the most advanced in New Zealand, was introduced on Dec. 16, 1878 between Lyttelton and Addington. On the same day a double line, to cope with the increased traffic, was opened between the Lyttelton Tunnel and Addington. "Spark arrestors" to stop flying cinders from the engines, and postal sorting vans were also among the improvements.

Other means of communication were not neglected. Roads were improved and extended by the various Road Boards, and port facilities were extended both at Lyttelton and Timaru. At Timaru, after a long struggle with Parliament in finance, the Harbour Board began to construct an artificial harbour in November, 1878. Apart from the jealousy of North Canterbury, there was dissent in South Canterbury. Many foresaw the problem of shifting shingle which today is the source of so much trouble. The people of Timuka desired that the future port of South Canterbury be in the Milford Lagoon. Finally upon the report of Sir John Cooke -- an eminent
English marine engineer — Timaru was chosen as the site for the harbour. At Lyttelton, the main port of the province, there was a considerable extension of facilities. More wharves were built, railway lines laid on to the wharves, cranes provided, a graving dock planned, a mole built to protect the inner harbour, and a steam tug made available for shipping. On Jan. 29, 1877 the "Lyttelton Times" said, "It is not too much to say that it is at the present moment the safest and most expedient of the large, much frequented harbours of the Colony." But, two and a half years later, on June 21, 1879 a gale blew several vessels from their moorings out to sea. The following day was spent by the new tug in towing the vessels back to port.

A newer form of communication made rapid strides; by Nov. 3, 1877 all important settlements in the province were linked together by telegraph. Canterbury was linked with the remainder of New Zealand by telegraph and cable while Australia was joined by submarine cable. These services were all government owned and operated. On Feb. 5, 1878 from High Street in Christchurch to Woolston on the outskirts of the city, there was opened the first private telegraph in New Zealand. More were soon to follow.

The need for a new, cheap yet rapid form of public transport was felt in Christchurch. To satisfy this need, in January 1878, the Christchurch Tramway Company was formed. It proposed to run tram-cars drawn by small steam locomotives in and about the city. Negotiations with the Christchurch City Council, Sydenham Borough Council, and the various Road Boards concerned were completed on

11. For export trade of Lyttelton and Timaru see Appendix A, page. 🟦.
March 26, 1878. The service was to be inaugurated within two years. There was some criticism levelled at the project as it involved the grant of a monopoly to a private company. Towards the end of 1879 the first of the rolling stock arrived from England and Dec. 1st of that year the construction of the first line, from the Railway Station to the Square was completed.

There was a large increase every year in the volume of goods carried by the railways. During each grain season, there was a shortage of railway freight wagons. "The grain season is not much more than begun; the principal pressure on the railways has not yet come; but complaints of the scarcity of trucks are rife, both in the northern and southern districts." Despite the order of some hundreds of trucks by the Railway Department the evil persisted; the demand for trucks continued to exceed the supply. In the same way, although the Lyttelton Harbour Board improved the port facilities, it could not cope with the loading and unloading of vessels. In the Autumn months, the busy season, it was by no means common for a farmer to have to wait a month for his grain to be transported and for a vessel to wait a fortnight for the use of a crane. In 1877 the position had become so bad that some ship owners refused to send their vessels to Lyttelton because of the loss that occurred while they were lying in port.

Owing to a variety of causes there was an acute shortage of labour in 1878. This led in the following year to the renewal of immigration on an extensive scale. In January 1879 the first

12. "Press" Editorial
March 27th 1878.
of the ships arrived bringing labourers of all occupations.

With the fall in primary prices this influx of new people did much to cause the unemployment which was rife in that year.

There occurred at akatore, in South Canterbury, on Nov. 13th.

and 16th, 1878, a serious "bush" fire. 12 It destroyed the greater part of what was one of the last "stands" of native "bush" in Canterbury. Some "nesterers" had been burning "tussock" when the fire swept out of their control into the trees. It spread round the hills burning everything in its path; trees, timber mills, houses, all were destroyed. Nearly forty families were destitute and an appeal for help was made throughout Canterbury and Otago. Although the first estimates placed the damage done as high as £100,000, it was finally assessed at £40,000. The total insurance was only £2,000.

Prices of land were still high in 1878 just before the "land boom" of the 'seventies burst. In June of that year, Messrs. H. Catton and Company, a Christchurch firm of stock and station agents, sold some land at Sealey Station about 14 miles from Christchurch for £28 - 8 - 0. an acre. Consideration for the improvements on the property were not included in this price. This price corresponded roughly with those ruling today. Prices of urban land were correspondingly high.

In 1878 a great amount of building was in progress in

---

14. Term used in Australia and New Zealand to denote a forest or large cluster of trees.
15. Shepherds.
Christchurch. Many of the old temporary wooden structures were being replaced by permanent stone and brick buildings. The activity proved a "blessing" to carpenters, masons, bricklayers, and skilled tradesmen of all types. Their wages rose and a large amount of overtime was worked. There was, however, a scarcity of bricks in the face of the increased demand for better buildings and the construction of brick sewers by the Christchurch Drainage Board.

On Sept. 1., 1878, Timaru suffered the greatest shipping disaster that had occurred in New Zealand up to that time. As yet Timaru was an open roadstead and goods were transported to the shore by "lighters" from the ship which rode out at sea. About ten in the morning the sea became rough. A strong sou'easter sprang up and drove five vessels -- the "Melrose," "Palmerston," "Fanny," "Glimpse," and "Baping" on the rocks to the north of the anchorage. There was some loss of life as well as the destruction of the ships and goods and desruption of services.

During these years a variety of secondary industries were springing up. Included among them were such diversified processes as the manufacture of preserved meat, vinegar, bacon, woollens, tallow, and beer. With the growing importance of these industries there arose the demand by the manufacturers for protection of their industries. On Sept. 6., 1879 the first meeting was held in the Oddfellows Hall, Christchurch, of the newly founded "Association for the Encouragement of Native Industries and the Fostering of Protection." Their plea was, of course, that
of the infant industry. This year was marked also by the passing of the first definitely protective tariff by the Parliament of New Zealand.
Chapter 9. Education.

"No country which possesses a popular constitution

can afford to remain without the means of

popular education."

Professor Cook in his opening address at
Canterbury College March 10, 1879.

--------

A. Primary.

Towards the close of the Provincial regime and for the first twelve months of the new era, the educational system of Canterbury was regulated by the Canterbury Provincial Ordinance of 1875. This enactment made it compulsory for every child to attend school unless the parent could prove that the child was receiving instruction equally as good as that of the district school. Each householder was required to pay a flat rate of £1 per year to defray expenses, and for each of his children at school a further 10/- up to a maximum of £1.

This Ordinance made education compulsory up to the age of thirteen years, but it was not free. A change was to be made, however, in the Education system just as it had come shortly before in the general Government's system of the country. In view of this change to centralism nothing could be more natural than the desire of the general government to shape and control the entire education of the country. The Education Act of 1877 achieved this end by superseding all the former Provincial Council Ordinances.
Some of the provisions of this Act which came into force on January 1st, 1876 were almost revolutionary. All public or primary education was to be under a government department, at the head of which there was to be a Minister of the Crown and a Secretary. The central authority was to control directly the inspectorial system. The country was divided into Education Districts each with an Education Board. Although there had been one provincial Canterbury Board of Education, there were, henceforth, to be two Boards. One was to be in North Canterbury comprising "All that area of our colony being the counties of Kaikoura, Amari, Cheviot, Ashley, Akaroa, Selwyn and Ashburton as described in the Counties Act 1876, and including all the boroughs therein", the other in South Canterbury taking in that area consisting of the Counties of Geraldine and Waimate and the various boroughs therein.

Under the Boards were School Committees, each to exercise some control over the care of the grounds and buildings of each particular school with the object of maintaining community interest in that School. The teachers were to be appointed and paid by the Boards. The Boards were elected by an indirect system through the School Committees. The Committees were directly elected. The Boards drew their revenue from endowments and the consolidated Fund of the Government. The Department paid a capitalisation grant on the rate of 23.15.0 for each child on the average attendance. Some of this money was again passed on to the School Committees who supplemented their share

---

1. Education Act of 1877, 2nd Schedule.
by raising money by concerts and other social entertainments.

The subjects for instruction were set under clause 84 of the Act. They were:

Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English, Grammar and Composition, Geography, History, Elementary Science and Drawing, Object Lessons, Vocal Music and (for girls) Sewing, Needlework and the principles of Domestic Economy. Attendance for at least half the year was compulsory for children between the ages of five and thirteen living within two miles of a school. Section (11) of the same clause stated that education was to be free and "entirely secular in nature".

The radical change of removing religious instruction from the curriculum received much criticism. Religious bodies held meetings to try to obtain some form of religious instruction. Parents also met to discuss the proposed Bill in August 1877 when its provisions became known for the first time. All, except the Roman Catholic Church, condemned its religious aspect. This attitude of the Catholics, was due to the various incidents that had occurred when teachers had tried to force Protestant doctrines upon Catholic children. To them anything would be better than the intolerable interference. On May 12, 1877 a specially convened meeting of the Teachers' Association discussed the proposed Bill - its real meaning being not then known. A resolution to be forwarded to the Government was passed. It stated "that education be free, compulsory but religious and unsectarian, supported by a conscience clause". On June 8 the "Press" said in a leader, "The religious question
is a mere bug-bear. It is not a difficulty raised by the parents or the teachers. It is created by certain sections of the clergy and it has its origin not in a genuine zeal for religion but in a desire for domination"; it is to be noted that the "Press" was an ardent supporter of the Government. Previously the "Lyttelton Times" had criticised the policy of the Government in abolishing the old "rate" and asked how the schools were to be financed. It deplored the tendency for everything to become a charge on the country as a whole. Although much criticism was levelled against the Act, the system it established has remained in its most essential features until the present day, as the basis of primary education.

One result of the Act was not foreseen by its framers. The idea of free education appealed to many people who insisted that it included the free distribution of books and other necessary materials. The Act was silent on this particular point. They persisted in this attitude until the North Canterbury Board summoned and obtained judgment against parents who refused to pay for their children's books which had been provided by the Board.

The returns for the years in this period show the expansion of primary education facilities in Canterbury.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Schools</th>
<th>1876</th>
<th>1877</th>
<th>1878</th>
<th>1879</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No. of pupils on the roll</td>
<td>14,412</td>
<td>15,513</td>
<td>North Cant.</td>
<td>1,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Average attendance</td>
<td>9,845</td>
<td>10,736</td>
<td>South Cant.</td>
<td>2,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>North Cant.</td>
<td>10,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>South Cant.</td>
<td>1,877</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The figures tabulated above are for the whole of Canterbury in 1876-77, after that, for the two board districts. In four years the number of schools increased by thirty-two. The total number of pupils on the roll and the average attendance increased. It will be noticed, however, that there was a large discrepancy between the total roll number and the average attendance. The reason for this is found in the condition of the roads and of other means of transport and in the desire of the farmers to obtain cheap labour. This they secured in part by keeping the children at home on the slightest pretext to do odd jobs. The three larger schools were the East Christchurch with 1,088 pupils, West Christchurch with 968 pupils and the Timaru School with 899 pupils.

Every system has its critics and there were some in the teaching profession who condemned the training given to student teachers, particularly on account of the poor standard of education required of them.

Primary school teachers were trained at the Normal School. The Provincial Council had taken steps in 1876 towards its foundation. It was opened on Feb. 17, 1877 and on January 1, 1878, by the 1877 Act, passed to the control of the Department. The "Press" in an editorial on April 16, 1877, claimed that the Normal School training should be technical, professional, and that the students should attend Canterbury College in order to obtain the liberal education.
which was necessary for school teaching. Two years later, March 8th, 1879, Mr Howard, Principal of the Normal School, submitted to the North Canterbury Board his report on the training of teachers. In it he complained that, although on the whole the students' course had been satisfactory, they had been unable to take lectures at Canterbury College. For this he gave the following reasons: -

(a) The university lectures were too advanced for the students in training who were unduly taxed by their efforts to conform to the requirements of the course.

(b) Only a limited number of subjects could be taken at Canterbury College.

(c) The University year commenced in March when teacher training ended and terminated just when students were ready to commence their course at the Normal School. He hoped however that the students would be able to take a degree course later on.

Something must have been wrong with the course of training when such an eminent authority spoke in this manner. The system as it was continued until, within a few years, the University session and that of the Normal School were made to coincide. But, as in 1879, the standard of education of the average person was not required to be of a very high order, the existing arrangement was thought to satisfy all reasonable requirements.
The years 1876-79 were epoch making in the history of secondary education in Canterbury. Until 1876 the only "higher" school had been Christ's College Grammar School which had its roots in the very foundations of Canterbury itself. Now, however, facilities were to be extended. The Christchurch Boys' High School, the Christchurch Girls' High School, both under the control of the Canterbury College Board of Governors, and a Timaru High School for both sexes were established.

In 1875 Rolleston, then Superintendent of Canterbury, had seen the necessity for some public institution that would bridge the gap between a girls' primary education and her University course. Action was soon taken. Tenders were called for a new building at the corner of Hereford St. and Antigua St. (now Rolleston Avenue). Although the new buildings were to be open for use on January 1, 1879, the school opened in part of the Canterbury College buildings on September 13, 1877 with a roll of ninety. The first headmistress was Mrs. G. Ingle.

When, on April 17, 1877, the proposed course of instruction became known, the "Lyttelton Times" said that it included everything for a liberal education: the pupils would also have an opportunity of acquainting themselves with the details of cooking, and the education which it was intended to impart would be as practical as possible. The "Press" said that it looked forward to the day when the girls would be as
accomplished in the kitchen as in the drawing room. The fees per term were three guineas for junior and four guineas for senior pupils.

The immediate popularity of the school justified the action of the Board of Governors. It became necessary to find a larger site. In 1878 the College purchased half an acre on the corner of Montreal & Armagh Streets. The new buildings on this site were not completed until 1882 when the school was shifted, the old building being utilised by the newly founded School of Art.

As Christ's College Grammar School was an expensive institution maintained by the Church of England, there were many boys who were unable to obtain a secondary education. To rectify this omission in January, 1877, the Professorial Council of Canterbury College advised that a high school for boys be established. The Board of Governors received a grant of £15,000 and an endowment of 200 acres for maintenance. In January 1878 they bought land in Worcester St. contiguous with Canterbury College. In May Mr C.C. Bowen, in a far-sighted criticism, condemned the new site because the grounds were too small. His protest was unsuccessful. The school suffered from a lack of adequate playing grounds until 1926 when it was moved to Lower Riccarton. Although the buildings, which were built of stone in a Gothic style, were commenced in 1879, the school was not opened until 1881.

Timaru also was anxious to be provided with post-primary education by the State. The original proposal to establish
a District High School - an appendage to the existing primary school - gave way to the demand for a fully equipped High School capable of providing instruction up to the University Entrance Standard. On September 13, 1878 a meeting was held in Timaru at which it was resolved to ask parliament for a Bill, similar to the Waitaki and Southland High Schools' Acts, to endow such an institution. Resolutions were also passed relating to the type of endowments required. In the meantime the Canterbury College Board of Governors had been taking preliminary steps to found a school in Timaru. By the Timaru High School Empowering Act of 1878 the Government granted £6000 and vested the proposed school in a board. On January 21, 1879 the first meeting of the new Timaru High School Board was held. It was decided to ask that all effects relating to the proposed new school and held by the Canterbury College Board of Governors be transferred to the newly constituted board in Timaru. At the end of the month this was done. Until the opening of the school in 1880 preliminary work was in progress.
By November 1, 1876 that body then known as Canterbury University College and affiliated to the University of New Zealand had supplanted the old Collegiate Union from which its founders had dreamed a University would arise. It had not as yet any permanent buildings of its own. Classes were conducted in the Oddfellows Hall Lichfield St., and in a portion of the Mechanics Institute, at the corner of Hereford St. & Cambridge Terrace. The subjects available were: Greek, Latin, Modern Languages, English Literature, Higher Mathematics, Jurisprudence on Logic and Moral Philosophy, Physical Science, and Natural Science. Lectures were given in two terms of fourteen weeks and thirteen weeks respectively.

1877 was a year of great progress. The student roll stood at seventy-seven, and the new College buildings were opened on June 7 by His Excellency the Marquis of Normandy, the Governor of New Zealand. The buildings comprised the Main Entrance hall, the two right hand lecture rooms, a Board room and various offices and studies. The opening was an historic occasion, but the public did not attend in large numbers. Addresses were given by the Chairman of the Board of Governors and the Chairman of the Professorial Council on behalf of their respective bodies.

In the evening a conversazione was held to commemorate the opening of the Museum. To this large crowds were
drawn to witness what were then regarded as proofs of the wonder wrought by science. Most novel of all were the electric lights which floodlit the building and picked out objects as far distant as the Square which was about three-eighths of a mile away.

At the commencement of the 1878 session all classes were transferred to the new building and the temporary "corrugated iron" science block. All students were then required to wear full academic dress of the regulation gown and tucker within the college precincts. To this day Canterbury College is the only university college in New Zealand where students are required to wear gowns.

By 1878 when the number of students had increased to ninety-seven an eastern wing was built and opened up for use in the second term of 1879. In that year the College issued its first calendar containing all information required about the College at the 1878 examinations. James Hay and Frederick Pitchett distinguished themselves by being the first students to qualify as graduates of the College. The degrees were conferred on August 6, 1879.

But the Board of Governors was also interested in other spheres of knowledge - Mining, Medicine, and Agriculture. As to the Mining School it is only necessary to record a Government proposal in February 1877 to establish a school either at Otago University or at Canterbury College. On March 3, the Board of Governors intimated to the Government that it would establish a School of Mines if the General Assembly would vote £300 towards the initial cost and a further £150 per year. The
Government considered the charge too high. As there had been
an embryo Mining School at Otago University since 1871
this was enlarged and by 1879 the full school was in opera-
tion.

The Medical School on the other hand had been
sanctioned by the Provincial Council on September 15th, 1876.
In March 1877, the Board of Governors was approached by the
Medical Council to determine the grounds on which the Medical
School could become a department of Canterbury College.
A special committee was set up to consider incorporation.
On July 16 after serious impediments had been overcome it was
resolved to incorporate the Medical School. The School,
had, however, no connection with the Public Hospital.
To meet this difficulty the Board on February 1st, 1878 decided
to request the Government of the day to legislate so as to
enable the College to enter into relations with the Hospital
Sir George Grey, then premier, was interviewed. At the inter-
view he promised to assist. Unfortunately by a turn of the
political wheel he fell from power to be succeeded by the
Hon. John Ball. The new Colonial Secretary advised the
Board of Governors that in view of the hard times the Govern-
ment had no money to spare for the Medical School. The
Provincial Council's endowment for a School of Medicine
remained. The small income from it helped to maintain
the departments of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, as part
of their work consisted in preparing medical students on
the intermediate stage before proceeding to the Medical
School or the University of Otago.

The School of Agriculture was a more successful venture. At its inception Canterbury was given endowments for an Agricultural College. Towards the end of 1876, a permanent committee was set up to report on the administration of the accumulated funds held for this purpose. On March 7, 1877, tenders were called by the Committee for a "piece of land suitable for an experimental farm and Agricultural School, to be comprised of varying quality land of from about 150 to 300 acres in extent and to be within fifteen miles of Christchurch, and three miles of a Railway station". Land was purchased at Lincoln. By March 1879, the area held was 302 acres.

A course of instruction was drawn up. Scholarships were offered. Owing to the small number of students offering, however, it was decided to waive the entrance examination and to have the scholarship standard on that of the fifth standard in the primary schools. The buildings were completed, and on July 19, 1880, the school opened with eight students on the roll.

Some mention must be made of the popular science lectures given by Professor Bickerton of Canterbury College. This distinguished scientist was the first of the professional staff to be appointed. Apart from his professional chair, he was a member of the City Council and held other positions in the city. On January 5, 1878, he commenced a series of lectures for country people. They were all in some way connected with farming. The first, on "Manures", was given at
Beeton. During the winter of that year he gave weekly popular lectures in Christchurch on Electricity and Magnetism and its relation to Man. Such was the introduction of the Canterbury settlers to the earlier type of University extension work. It was much appreciated in the Country as it increased the amenities of life as well as the interest of the farmers in their daily work.

Two other educational institutions - the Museum and the Public Library were controlled by the Board of Governors of Canterbury College. The Museum does not appear to have made a strong appeal to the community. The "Press" was of the opinion that Sir Julius Von Haast was wasting his time in laying its foundations when he should have been making a geological survey of Canterbury. Many letters were written to the papers complaining of the lack of accommodation, reading materials and cleanliness in the library. We have the testimony of a visitor in a letter which was written to the editor of the "Lyttelton Times" on March 27, 1877. He said "the reference library is without a doubt the best in the country, the reading rooms are equally the worst".
CHAPTER 6
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

Probably at no other period in the history of Canterbury did the life and manners of the different strata of society suffer such variations as it did in the late seventies of last century. There was a well-founded wealthy aristocracy side by side with a large body of unemployed in the small population of 100,000. People were beginning to think in terms of a more refined life. This was expressed, for example, in the demand for certain civic amenities.

It does not mean, however, that the people had reached that decadent stage when one class lives parasitically upon the others. All, even the "squatters" had to do their share in the work of the day. The majority of the men were engaged in occupations on the land: but in the towns a variety of secondary industries was springing up. Hours were long, but compared with those in the Old World, wages were good. In the colony a higher standard of life was obtained.

The high wages and the rapid expansion of public works help to explain the increase in the number of hotels and drinking dens that infested the settlement. The "Press" describes a scene in Gloucester St. Christchurch thus:

"Drunken rowdies crowding on the footpath, degraded women running about from bar to bar: language unfit for the ear of any decent person scattered about lavishly; dirt and disorder rampant: such are the characteristics of the neighbourhood.

1. A term used to denote a large landowner.
2. See appendix F.
of the theatre any night of the week." All the newspapers as a result, decried these evils and temperance meetings became popular throughout the province in 1877. All thinking people desired to put an end to the menace which loomed so large. Drunkenness was the curse of the country. Many a young man, vigorous, useful, and full of hope arrived in the country only to end his life in drunkenness or a shameful death. "We might make use of them to our own profit and to their advantage --- all there is needed is a little combined effort." The temperance meetings led to the foundation of numerous Temperance societies and Mr Fox's abortive Local Option Bill of 1877. Other schemes were proposed. The "Press" on May 27, 1879 demanded that the government should review the licensing laws. The same paper claimed that there should be fewer and better "public houses" and shorter hours. Of all the proposals, the most concrete was that of one society which issued a prospectus for a Temperance Hotel where no intoxicating liquors were to be sold. In 1878 company organizing this hotel had its capital fully subscribed.

It must not be thought that the temperance advocates had an easy time. The licensing trade was also well organized. Towards the end of May, 1879, the clash came in the Borough of Sydenham. There, both sides held meetings to discuss the merits of our increased number of public houses. Great interest was shown. Each party "packed" the meetings of the

other so that neither side could claim a clear cut decision.
One result of the movement, however, was that the people of
Canterbury had been shown that there was an evil to be
remedied.

During the winter of 1879 there spread throughout the
province a practice which became known as "larrkinism". Bands
of youths wandered about doing damage, more or less wilful, to
property. They were, no doubt, labouring under the delusion
that this was a form of humour. The most objectionable form
of the practice was soon suppressed after the leading spirits
had been punished by the courts. The evils caused by
"hoodlums" noisily parading the streets in the evenings and on
Sundays persisted, however, until more prosperous years
when the provision of free secondary education gave more varied
and intellectual forms of recreation.

A most unfortunate event occurred on Boxing Day 1879
which showed that the new settlement was not completely
free from the factionism and sectarianism of the "Old Land".
In Timaru and Christchurch organised street processions of
"Orangemen" were attacked by bands of Irish immigrants. The
incidents were deplored by all sane people in no uncertain
terms. "We deplore the fact that the partisanship of
another country should be transported to New Zealand".

The numbers of the insane who had to be confined to
institutions showed an alarming increase. The demand for
accommodation was far greater than could be met by the existing
institutions. In the report of the Director General of

7. Objectionable BeHAVIouR
Asylums, published on September 16, 1876, was contained some disturbing information. The Addington Asylum was over-crowded, but, what was worse, there was an increase of eleven among the inmates. To house the two hundred patients in a reasonable manner, the necessary alterations would cost at least £30,000. No extensive building was done so that at the end of 1879 the position had become worse still. In the estimates of that year, however, provision was made for some extension of the existing buildings.

But there was much that was good in the life of the people. In the towns the theatres provided all types of entertainment. For the cultured, there was the opera. In December, 1877, the Italian Royal Opera Company presented at the Theatre Royal in Christchurch - "Il Trovatore", "Il Barbanie de Saviglia", "Pipiet", "Un Balie in Maschira", and Gounods "Faust". Other touring companies presented several plays of Shakespeare. Those people who desired a lower standard of entertainment were well catered for by the vaudeville "shows" which ranged from the clever to the "risque". The theatre clearly played a much larger part in the normal life of the townspeople than in later times.

The religious life of Canterbury was also in a very healthy state. The various denominations had, by this time, become firmly established and many district churches were built. The most notable church under construction was the Christchurch Cathedral. It had been in the course of construction for some years, and, at the end
of 1879, it was still uncompleted. Although not yet completed special services were held within its unfinished walls on December 16, 1878, and 1879, i.e. the anniversary day of the arrival of the first settlers.

Although the construction had been stopped for some years owing to the lack of finance, by 1876 work had been re-commenced. In the autumn of 1877 an unforeseen hitch occurred. Owing to a lack of suitable vehicles for the carriage of the stone pillars for the nave of the building from the quarry to the Railway at Amberley, and from the Christchurch Station to the site in Cathedral Square, work was held up. All the available waggons were needed for the carriage of grain. Nevertheless, in May, 1877, it was proposed that all the "Pilgrims" should unite to erect two columns at the intersection of the nave and the transept. In the following year the Cathedral Commission was instructed to proceed with the Clerestory and the Rose window, the total cost of this was not to exceed £1,500. At the same time Bishop Harper, who was attending the Lambeth Conference, was trying to interest English people in the Cathedral.

Money was still hard to obtain. Accordingly in 1879 a special synod was called to discuss the finance of the Cathedral. It was decided to raise a loan of £10,000 of which £8,000 was to be spent on the building. In the meantime finances were restricted and workmen could be engaged only at a daily rate. At the end of the year, however, English finance provided £50,000 on loan, largely as a result of Bishop
Harper’s exertions in England. The work was now rapidly pushed on to completion.

Meanwhile, the other religious bodies had been doing their share. They were as active promoting the religious life of the people as the Church of England, though, owing to the peculiar character of the origin of the Canterbury settlement, they did not stand out so prominently. Their interests inclined more towards providing means of social welfare and education. This interest in education is shown by the statement of the Rev. J. Elmslie at a meeting of the Presbyterian Church Extension Association on January 6, 1877.

"I hope that the wealthier members of the Church will keep this (the establishment of professorial chairs at Canterbury College) in view in the matter of legacies and bequests".

Previously the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church had authorised the attendance of their theology students at Canterbury College to further their general academic studies.

In 1878 a census of the colony was taken by the General government. The following figures, taken from the results of the census, indicate the relative strength of the four chief denominations in the Canterbury district.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Denomination</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church of England</td>
<td>46,301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterians</td>
<td>16,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methodists</td>
<td>11,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Catholics</td>
<td>10,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>7,058</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Canterbury was still predominantly a Church of England settlement, about fifty per cent of the population being of

During 1876-79 the population of Canterbury grew steadily. Both the natural rate of increase and the immigration rate were constant. The large increase in the number of immigrants in 1879 may be ascribed to the fact that the Government was active in bringing to the notice of intending emigrants at "Home" the comparative prosperity of New Zealand as compared with Great Britain. The real force of the depression had not yet reached New Zealand. The population changes are shown in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Natural Increase</th>
<th>Immigration</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
<th>Birth Rate per 1000</th>
<th>Death Rate per 1000</th>
<th>Marriage Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1875</td>
<td>2,607</td>
<td>2,740</td>
<td>78,715</td>
<td>44.54</td>
<td>12.51</td>
<td>8.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>3,037</td>
<td>2,169</td>
<td>84,062</td>
<td>47.02</td>
<td>11.96</td>
<td>8.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td>3,130</td>
<td>2,546</td>
<td>86,665</td>
<td>44.99</td>
<td>10.59</td>
<td>8.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>3,654</td>
<td></td>
<td>96,104</td>
<td>44.94</td>
<td></td>
<td>7.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100,199</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In five years the population increased by over one quarter.

After the passing of the provincial councils the central Government pursued an active immigration policy. There was, however, a great deal of discontent in Canterbury arising from the labour problem. On the one hand the employer could not obtain workmen; on the other - the labourer could not get work. The trouble lay in the fact that a great part of the work available in the province was seasonal. On August 4, 1877.
283 unemployed held a meeting in Christchurch to protest against the renewed immigration policy of the Government. They claimed to be destitute. The situation was eased by the City Council providing relief for them by employing them on public works.

By 1879 the question of unemployment had become more serious. In the winter of that year the unemployed held meetings in Kaiapoi, Rangiora, Waimate, Timaru, and Christchurch. Most of these men were new arrivals. At a meeting in Christchurch, on May 17, 1879, there was some plain speaking. "Sir Julius Vogel ought to be hanged, not by the neck, but by the heels, for the lies that he'd told". "The Government brought us out and should find work for us". The men had found out, like so many others before them, that life in a new land was not all milk and honey.

The Christchurch City Council and the various borough councils approached the Government. Colonel Whitmore, Colonial Secretary, replied on May 23, that the Government could do nothing to help the men. A few days later it was decided to employ them on local public works. To help these unfortunate people a Benevolent Aid Society was formed in June, the chief mover in its formation being Bishop Harper.

At various times in the years 1876-79 proposals were made for the improvement of the drainage and water supply of Christchurch. Lack of good drainage had led to an abnormal

---

amount of disease in the city. Diptheria and typhoid fever took heavy toll. On the average there were between thirty and forty cases of typhoid each month. It was imperative that an improvement be made.

In Christchurch and each of the country boroughs of Timaru and Ashburton the question of a municipal water supply was before the people. In Christchurch each individual household had its own artesian well, as there was an abundant supply of artesian water at several levels. There was no supply, however, stored in reservoirs to give volume and pressure sufficient to satisfy the needs of a fire brigade. Plans were made to establish a city water supply, the need having become all the more insistent after the numerous fires of 1878-79. In the other centres, as the people were dependent on rain water, a water supply was necessary.

No account of the social conditions would be complete without some account of the daily life of the people of the time. On the whole, life was simple. In the towns, no doubt many advantages were to be had. In the country, it was still rude and lonely for the average person. But there was another side to the life of the people. This was found amongst the wealthier "Squatters". These land owners had their large well furnished, comfortable town houses as well as the "Big" house on the "station". It was by no means unusual for the "squatter" of those days to maintain several acres of

11. A large leaseholder of land.
12. Owner's house.
13. A large country estate
garden, to keep numerous servants, and to live in a luxury which has not yet been again equalled in New Zealand.

From time to time the newspapers tell of the simple pleasures of the people. Farmers pitted their skill in ploughing matches. The annual shows of the Agricultural and Pastoral Associations were largely attended. Year by year they became more like the English Fair with its booths and its "cheap-jacks". Various pastimes were indulged in by the people. Tennis, golf, rugby football and cricket clubs were all flourishing. Tennis and golf were, of course, as yet for the wealthy privileged few. Rugby football fixtures were played with Otago and South Canterbury by North Canterbury teams.

The popularity of cricket received a remarkable spurt by the visit of Lilliwite's English Eleven in 1877. The Canterbury side, with eighteen men, before a crowd of between eight to ten thousand in South Hagley Park, were defeated by thirty-three runs. Almost a year later in January 1878 an Australian eleven played and defeated a Canterbury fifteen by eight wickets and seventeen runs. Soon afterwards a Canterbury eleven toured Australia but without success. In 1878 a Hunt Club was formed in Christchurch. The first meeting was held at Rangiora, and the second at Waimea.

Dancing was a favourite pastime of the people, rich and poor alike. In the country they gathered in some farmers' barn, some of the dancers having ridden long distances to attend and pass the hours by dancing to the strains
of a violin and an accordion. In the town the more formal ball was "the thing". Here there would be a full dance orchestra and, in place of the barn, a dance hall. Everyone would be in full evening dress. The ball was a thing of beauty as the dances of those days demanded rhythmic movement and dainty steps. On every important social gathering or civic occasion, such as the visit of the Governor, there would be a civic ball attended by the aristocracy of the day.

On December 16, of each year, the Province remembered its founders. On this day there would be special church service followed by sports and picnics. Excursions were held to various parts of the province. In 1878 they were run to Akaroa and Timaru from Christchurch. At some time during the day the Bishop and clergy of the Church of England would hold a special commemoration service. These services were held within the unfinished walls of the Christchurch Cathedral in 1878 and 1879.

In the late seventies of last century the province was well served by newspapers. The leading papers were the "Lyttelton Times" and "Press" in Christchurch, and the "Timaru Herald" in Timaru. The two Christchurch papers were published daily and, until December 31, 1878, consisted of four pages. Their price was two pence per copy. On January 1, 1879 the "Press" reduced its price to one penny; simultaneously the "Lyttelton Times" became an eight page newspaper. Both claimed to have the largest circulation in New Zealand; both issued a weekly paper.
The "Lyttelton Times" published the "Canterbury Times", and the "Press", the "Weekly Press". These "weeklies" were popular with the people in the "Backblocks" and in all other places not in daily communication with Christchurch. It was the golden age of the country newspaper. "The Geraldine Chronicle", the "Temuka Leader", the "Ashburton Guardian", the "Malvern Times" and the "Waimate Times" were all founded between the end of 1876 and December 31, 1879. These papers were all either weekly, or bi-weekly.
CHAPTER 7.

CONCLUSIONS - GENERAL SURVEY.

During the period from Nov. 1, 1876 to Dec. 31, 1879, a new orientation of life - politically, economically, socially - was forced upon the people of New Zealand.

After a period of marked prosperity they were to be plunged into a period of economic depression - the "depression of the eighties". The fall in values gave a fill-up to "liberalism", new industries were tried out, fresh channels of commerce offered, and the desire for state control of social services grew apace.

In spheres of political activity, both local and central, it was a time of trial and error. The Atkinson Ministry was found wanting, while that of Grey was proved ineffective. At last the country found political peace under the Hon. J. Hall, who, like Disraeli, stole his opponents' programme. Major Atkinson fell from office because his work was completed, Sir G. Grey because of his maladministration of finance and temperamentally incompatibility with his colleagues. The Hon. J. Hall, a popular Canterbury man, precise and methodical, rose to the treasury benches on his financial policy.

During these years, however, the Liberals under Sir G. Grey held a commanding position in the political arena. There was never a moderate status with the public:
they were either intensely popular or intensely unpopular. Sir G. Grey, it was who enunciated the political theory which led to the rise of the Liberal Labour party more than a decade later and subsequently that of the Labour party. He remained in power long enough to split the people of the Colony, including Canterbury, into two definite political factions. The proposed land laws of the liberals were in no small measure the cause of their defeat in Canterbury. The landowner became alarmed, for the urban areas were strongly "Grey-ite". There is a close parallel with the present political situation.

The acts which set up the new system of local government are perfect examples of the average New Zealand parliamentary legislation - hasty, ill-designed, and cumbersome. The county system was totally unsuited to either the needs of Canterbury or the whole country. In the place of the Provincial Council, which should have been adapted to more modern needs, numerous overlapping local bodies came into existence. Chaotic conditions resulted and have existed ever since. The Counties fought the road boards but could not maintain their strength. Pettifogging local opinion was to bring about, in time, a subdivision of the counties. In the first years of their existence, the movement for subdivision began.

The constitutions of the harbour boards, too, showed the inability of the legislature to grapple with realities.
The Lyttelton Harbour Board's failure to control the land and property necessary to its existence, the Waimakariri Harbour Board's lack of necessary finance, the proposal to set up a Milford Harbour Board in opposition to the Timaru Harbour Board (luckily the proposal was dropped) and Akaroa left with no harbour board at all—all these exemplify the Legislature's failure to grasp the realities of the situation. Even in the case of Lyttelton several amending acts were necessary. Yet the boards, although thus handicapped, had to carry on.

The government of the day, in the vexed question of the Hospital and Charitable Aid Boards finances, pursued to perfection the policy of "Shilly-shally", unable to lay down any consistent line of policy. As a result, the boards were left, the greater part of the time, with inadequate finances. The deepening depression and the consequent influx of the "unemployed" into the towns made their position worse. Only the compromise of Nov. 1, 1878 saved them from insolvency.

In instituting a sewerage system the Christchurch Drainage Board showed the growing civic consciousness of the people. The Board had much with which to contend: conservative ratepayers voiced a powerful opposition to the scheme, while the flat and swampy nature of the ground presented physical difficulties. But all of the difficulties in effecting this
work of vital importance to a city were overcome.

The worth of the borough councils and the Christchurch City Council was demonstrated by the extension and increase of civic amenities, such as water supply, extended lighting after dark, and better layout and paving of streets. These were made imperative by the growth of the urban areas. On the whole, the citizens supported the civic authorities. There is one glaring instance, however, where an unwise public opinion forced a progressive council to forego its policy and so hamper a future generation. What a difference it would have made had the Christchurch City Council been empowered to widen the southern exit from Cathedral Square! The majority is not always right.

Canterbury gained more than it suffered from the lavish public works and immigration policies of the governments in the preceding years. The total amount of production from primary sources rose, due to the increased number of holdings until 1878. After that intensive farming helped to maintain an increase in production. Better transport facilities were provided. With the drought of 1878 and the fall in the prices of wool in 1879, farmers began to look for some other more paying product. More and more land was devoted to crops and interest was shown in the Australian experiment in transporting frozen meat to England. The fall in prices of primary produce, and the consequent bursting of the "land boom" made their effects felt on all classes.
The rich had to curtail expenditure, farm labourers lost their positions, and the tradesmen suffered more and more from bad debts. The pinch developed into a strangling squeeze.

In educational progress the late seventies were the golden era. The new free primary education, the newly established secondary schools, the comparatively new course were all estimated to enhance the social value of the Province.

The far-sighted founders of Canterbury's educational system were building on firm ground. In the future, countless children would enjoy a blessing denied to their fathers—a well conceived system of formal education for every child up to a reasonably advanced age. Although some institutions were lost to Otago, yet the fathers of Canterbury education began the building of a great tradition.

The daily life of the people showed the stage to which the province had attained. Earlier settlers had progressed financially and were able to lead, for the time being, a life of comparative comfort, yet, the country was still "new". The great majority of the people led a life typical of that in a newly opened up country—hard working, honourable, yet in many cases prone to hard drinking. There were, however, many evidences of the culture that should mark the growth of a more permanent settlement. The number of churches and schools, the construction of the Cathedral, the increase in the number of boroughs, and the improvements in communications and transport were all indications of real progress. One notable feature of the years 1876-79 was that over two-thirds of the population in Canterbury was rural. In the country large
holdings of land were giving place to small, "bonanza" farming was changing to intensive cultivation, while in the towns secondary industries were increasing. The people were becoming more temperate and more interested in affairs of the mind. All these tendencies were in evidence in the late 'seventies. The years 1876-79 form the first part of a period of extensive change in the political, economic, and social life of Canterbury.
VALUES OF EXPORT TRADE OF CANTERBURY (CHIEF PRODUCTS) 1876-79.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1876</th>
<th>1877</th>
<th>1878</th>
<th>1879</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lyttelton</td>
<td>Timaru</td>
<td>Lyttelton</td>
<td>Timaru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>£231.899</td>
<td>3.005</td>
<td>15.956</td>
<td>441</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20.972</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cents</td>
<td>£268.493</td>
<td>13.206</td>
<td>20.400</td>
<td>2.180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20.974</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>£100.236</td>
<td>7.993</td>
<td>186.710</td>
<td>9.678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>266.846</td>
<td>40.066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>269.305</td>
<td>458.049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserves</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.704</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skins</td>
<td>£13.798</td>
<td>10.770</td>
<td>4.148</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12.424</td>
<td>1.050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tallow</td>
<td>£253.569</td>
<td>42.971</td>
<td>53.554</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>40.115</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool</td>
<td>£1099.736</td>
<td>981.874</td>
<td>910.068</td>
<td>96.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>332.572</td>
<td>44.956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>£3311.188</td>
<td>470.091</td>
<td>228.219</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>£3.328</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No product imports for ports given in New Zealand Statistics.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of Holdings</th>
<th>No. of Acres under Crop</th>
<th>Sown Grasses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Free - held</td>
<td>Part held</td>
<td>Green Land for-merly broken up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rented</td>
<td>Free- held</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Part rented</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Land broken up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Oats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Barley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td></td>
<td>4175</td>
<td>57.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>72.522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16.820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>57.068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td></td>
<td>4478</td>
<td>92.417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>76.032</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16.047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>66.992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td></td>
<td>5069</td>
<td>147.255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>86.815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13.757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>78.351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>41800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>206.038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>115.384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879</td>
<td></td>
<td>4663</td>
<td>173.895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>128.384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17.062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>116.963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>479725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>115.354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPENDIX E.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1876</th>
<th>77</th>
<th>78</th>
<th>79</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Imports From</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>828.315</td>
<td>826.954</td>
<td>1,156.376</td>
<td>1,026.703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Colonies</td>
<td>410.432</td>
<td>463.596</td>
<td>745.527</td>
<td>577.726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sources</td>
<td>40.542</td>
<td>58.389</td>
<td>169.450</td>
<td>153.414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1,279.269</td>
<td>1,348.939</td>
<td>2,051.353</td>
<td>1,757.843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exports To</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>1,629.382</td>
<td>1,698.586</td>
<td>1,502.817</td>
<td>1,227.922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Colonies</td>
<td>162.355</td>
<td>178.873</td>
<td>231.592</td>
<td>141.980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other States</td>
<td>10.017</td>
<td>1.506</td>
<td>20.045</td>
<td>19.336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>21.301.764</td>
<td>1,878.964</td>
<td>1,754.454</td>
<td>1,589.238</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TABLE OF INDEX NUMBERS FOR AGRICULTURAL & PASTORAL

**From**

DR. J. W. Mc. ILRAITH'S "COURSE OF PRICES IN NEW ZEALAND".

In this table the standard price of the article is its average annual price over the decade 1890-99. These were computed on prices ruling in Christchurch, the chief farming centre of New Zealand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>1876</th>
<th>1877</th>
<th>1878</th>
<th>1879</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheat per bushel</td>
<td>Price Index No.</td>
<td>3/5 - 100</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barley per bushel</td>
<td>Price Index No.</td>
<td>3/3½d</td>
<td>4/9</td>
<td>5/0½d</td>
<td>5/8½d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oats per bushel</td>
<td>Price Index No.</td>
<td>1/6½d</td>
<td>2/8½d</td>
<td>3/10½d</td>
<td>2/11½d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merino per lb.</td>
<td>Price Index No.</td>
<td>7-9/10d - 100</td>
<td>11½d</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half-bred Gressy per lb.</td>
<td>Price Index No.</td>
<td>9½d - 100</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>10½d</td>
<td>10½d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gressy per lb.</td>
<td>Price Index No.</td>
<td>9½d - 100</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### EXTRACT FROM "LYTTELTON TIMES" JAN. 14, 1879.

The following is a list of the trades and occupations of the immigrants to arrive per ship "NORTHERN MONARCH" due about January 25th.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trade</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farm Labourers</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General &quot;</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardeners</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarryman</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherds</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpenters &amp; Joiners</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheelwrights</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masons</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bricklayers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ironmoulder</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoemakers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Papermaker</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyer's labourer</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single women</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General servants</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooks</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housemaids</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairymaids</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matron</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NATIONALITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotch</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welsh</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel Islands</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male Adults</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female &quot;</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male Children</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female &quot;</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infants</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td>355</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX

WAGES ON RATING RATES IN 1677.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Married Couples on Farm or Station</td>
<td>£60-70 per year and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cottage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherds</td>
<td>£50-60 per year &amp; found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gardeners</td>
<td>£50-55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single farm labourers</td>
<td>£40-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masons, Bricklayers, Carpenters &amp; Plasterers</td>
<td>8/- to 12/- per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights, Coachbuilders, Plumbers, Coopers</td>
<td>9/- to 10/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Cooks</td>
<td>£30-40 per year &amp; found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General domestic</td>
<td>£20-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX

CANTERBURY MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 1876-79.

Acland, Hon. John Barton Arundel
Brett Hon. De Renzie James
Buckley Hon. George
Gray Hon. Ernest
Hall Hon. John till August 20th, 1879
Peacock Hon. John Thomas
Peter Hon. William Spence
Wigley Hon. Thomas Henry - became resident in Canterbury.
APPENDIX G.

CANTERBURY MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 1876-79.

A. BEFORE 1879 ELECTION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Constituency</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bowen</td>
<td>Hon. Charles Christopher</td>
<td>Kaiapoi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown J.E.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ashley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisher J.T.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Heathcote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitzroy C.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Selwyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery W.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Akaroa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moorhouse W.S.</td>
<td>Ch'Ch City</td>
<td>Lyttelton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murray-Sydney H.P.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Lyttelton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richardson Mon. Edward</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch'Ch City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolleston W.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Avon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stafford E.W.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Timaru - till</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stevens G.E.J.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch'Ch City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wakefield E.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Geraldine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wason J.C.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coleridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teschemaker F.W.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gladstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnbull R.</td>
<td></td>
<td>(in place of Stafford)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

† MEMBERS IN 1879 PARLIAMENT.
APPENDIX

NEW MEMBERS AFTER SEPTEMBER 10TH., 1879.

Allwright H. ... ... ... Lyttelton
Andrews S.P. ... ... ... Christchurch City
Hall Ron. John ... ... ... Selwyn
Studholme John ... ... ... Gladstone
Wright E.J. ... ... ... Coleridge

THE LIBRARY
CANTERBURY UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
CHRISTCHURCH, N.Z.