

the magnificent block of buildings and business that we are in to-day, now conducted by his sons.

I remember A. J. White's arrival, also in the 60's. He bought a small furniture business down High Street, a little below his present buildings, from Mrs. Brown. I donot think he understood much of the furniture business in those days, but he was a born trader. He could buy and sell anything, and was willing to tackle any mortal thing. I remember selling him the whole fittings from one of the big immigrant ships - consisting of many thousands of feet of deal lumber delivered up the Heathcote River. He used to talk of it years afterwards and say he and I between us had introduced more bugs than had ever been introduced since. The whole of the fittings were full of bugs.

I remember George Whitcombe's start in Christchurch. He purchased a small stationery shop in the Triangle and it is pleasing to think all those names - although the Principals have all passed away - are still great and flourishing businesses.

There was one occurrence that Christchurch at the time felt, and perhaps now feels very proud of, that was the inauguration of the New Zealand Shipping Co. in the year 1871. This was a great feat for so small a population as there was at the time. Particular credit was due to Mr. J. L. Coater, who was then Manager of the Bank of New Zealand and the N.Z. Loan & Mercantile Co. At that time these two concerns were controlled by