

walked back with it on his shoulder. The mud of the Ferry Road - deep, tenacious mud and miles of it - nearly conquered him, but at last he got home thoroughly exhausted, but with his iron.

I have often marvelled how my father managed to purchase, import and instal his first Steam Engine and Foundry Plant. I can remember the Boiler in particular, because it arrived late on a Saturday, and my brother John got inside it in his Sunday clothes early next day. His action was unfavourably criticised.

The first cast was the occasion of a function when all the notables came and speeches were made. It also brought out all the neighbours to watch the great blaze from the cupola, and the molten metal being run. This was in 1857, and the engine then started was in constant use until 1895.

WATER SUPPLY.

Those whose homes were near the river availed themselves of that clear cool stream, but those more remote dug wells. These were not very deep and they did not act as collectors of water, but as a means of tapping an underground stream. Looking down our well, which was close to where this building now stands, we could see the clear stream running at the bottom.

The first Mayor of Christchurch was Mr. Wm. Wilson - a man of