I could walk. But I really developed into being able to climb up the tallest gum trees that were about the place, This was an asset later on when we were paid threepence a dozen for sparrows eggs, and many of these were obtained from the high trees. What I can remember, was looking down the well, and seeing the likeness of myself reflected in the water. Unfortunately I overbalanced and fell in. Fortunately my brother William was near bye, and also mother, but I was nearly a "goner" before they were able to clutch hold of my petticoats and pull me out. The well lid was studiously kept closed afterwards. Then their was the first occasion of remembering getting a slapping, & that was when I and my younger brother were having great fun in a neighbours paddock, chasing the little Lambs, It was great fun until mother chased us, & then the fun was over. There was a great day in 1868, when the Duke of Edinborough. I think the second son of the

late Queen Victoria, who made a trip & ~~come~~ to New Zealand, in the ship "Galatea" He commanded the vessel himself. It was not that we had any connection with him, but it was that Father had gone to Christchurch to the celebrations that were being held & taking all the rest of the family with the exception of Mother, my young brother Lancelot & Sister & myself. Mother had just removed a lot of hot ashes from the fireplace, & Lance tripped over & sat down amongst them. I cannot say whether the marks of the burns still remain but they were pretty severe. Then there was the experience of a very severe earthquake, which shook down a good many chimneys. Then there was a very disastrous flood, which occurred in the month of February when the river Selwyn overflowed its banks, and came rushing downwards through by our place. The crops at that time were cut, but I can call to mind seeing the sheaves