

Wood Turners.—F. Jones, George-street; P. Keogh, George-street.

Wheelwrights.—Charles Couzens, Princes-street; Watson and Gow, Princes-street; J. Neal, Princes-street; G. M'Intosh, Hope-street; P. Sherwin and Sons, Frederick-street; Pritchard and Co., Rattray-street; Lounie, Geggie, and Co., Rattray-street.

Wig Maker.—John F. Davies, Arcade.

Wine and Spirit Merchants.—A. Mercer, Princes-street; James Keenan, Princes-street; Jones and Williamson, Princes-street; John Fargie, Princes-street; James Gillon, Princes-street; S. S. and A. Lazarus, Stafford-street; James Finch and Co., Stafford-street; J. McLean and Co., Rattray-street; E. Quick, Rattray-street.

CANTERBURY.

NARRATIVE OF EVENTS FOR 1863.

THE events of the past year connected with Canterbury, political, commercial, and social, have been characterized by a steady and rapid, but healthy progress, as indicated by the judicious investment of capital, the absence of speculation, and, notwithstanding a large influx of population, an adequate demand for labor. Although not possessing the inducement of gold fields and their concomitant advantages, which are held out by a neighbouring province, yet the establishment of a considerable number of merchants and traders, attracted hither from the other colonies during the period over which our narrative extends, denotes that the high character of the resources of Canterbury is beginning to be more fully appreciated. The great increase in value of our exports as compared with those of the preceding year, offers the most conclusive proof of the sound basis on which our prosperity rests. The vigor with which public undertakings and private enterprises are prosecuted, speaks volumes for the energetic character of our population; prospects which a few years back seemed chimerical, even to the most sanguine well-wishers of the colony, are now being realized, and it is not going too far to say that the Province of Canterbury, so lately a wilderness, bids fair to become, at no very distant period, one of the wealthiest communities of the southern seas. But the most palpable evidences of the march of progress are exhibited in the changed aspect of the capital and the port town. In the former, under the vigorous administration of the City Council, miles upon miles of well-made and well-kept streets meet the eye, where, no longer back than eighteen months ago, nought but unbroken ground was to be seen. Noisome creeks have been filled up, bridges erected, and the lower parts of the city have been drained. Nor has ornament been neglected. Part of the Town Belt—a magnificent avenue which surrounds Christchurch—has been broken up and planted with umbrageous trees, so that in a few years hence the inhabitants may boast of a promenade and drive unequalled in New Zealand.

In the beginning of the past year the functions of the Municipal Council of Christchurch ceased, but only to start into being under the new name of the "Christchurch City Council." The same activity which the late corporate body displayed has been assiduously sustained by their successors. The works carried on by them have been chiefly the formation of streets. Since the corporation came into existence there have been eleven miles of roads well formed and metalled, and these have been very carefully and economically done at a cost of about £600 per mile, besides which there have been about two miles partially formed and metalled at a cost of £5 per chain. Spacious footpaths have been made, in nearly all cases, on both sides of the streets, the estimated total length of which is twenty-four miles, including over three miles kerbed with granite and gravelled—half the expense being defrayed by the Council. Three miles of main drains have been either cleaned out or made new, besides smaller drains in every direction, and culverts put in where necessary. The banks of the River Avon have been fenced at the most dangerous parts, while the river itself is in course of being cleared out, an operation which will contribute greatly to the salubrity and health of the city. The subjects of water supply and the introduction of gas have received the attention of the Council, but as yet without result; the urgent necessity for these indispensable requirements will, no doubt, prompt early measures for their accomplishment. A system of