

May 30th.—A slight shock of earthquake was felt in Christchurch at 7.45 a.m.

June 1st.—Quarterly session of the Supreme Court met at Christchurch, before Mr. Justice Gresson. The calender was light, only ten cases being on the list.

The total cost of the assisted immigration to Canterbury for the year ending 31st March, 1863, when 2,058 statute adults were despatched from London, amounted to £26,754. Of the immigrants, 377 were sent for from the Province, and 1,681 were selected in England. The ultimate cost to the Province of these immigrants will be little more than £2 per head, provided the promissory notes given in part payment of passage money are duly met.

2nd.—Consecration of the Church of England Cemetery, at Christchurch.

July 7th. and 9th.—Festivities at Lyttelton and Christchurch in honor of the marriage of the Prince of Wales and Princess Alexandra. The ceremonies at Lyttelton were a procession composed of police, volunteers, watermen with boats and flags, odd-fellows, foresters, children of the various schools, fire brigade, members of Provincial Council and Municipal Council, accompanied by music, the bearing of banners and other decorations to the place selected for planting two memorial trees, which was accomplished with great eclat. In the afternoon, boat racing in the harbour for liberal prizes, and rural sports on shore, with a general illumination at night, wound up a most successful demonstration.

The appearance of Christchurch on Thursday the 9th will not easily be forgotten by the astonished spectators. Notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather, which for two or three days previously had been wet enough to damp the most enthusiastic loyalty, on the morning the houses were decorated with an incredible number of flags, evergreens, garlands &c., and as a glorious sun shone out about 10 a.m., the streets presented a spectacle never before witnessed in Canterbury. Not only all Christchurch, but all Canterbury were thronging towards the line of procession, everybody determined to enjoy themselves, despite the weather, and they did enjoy themselves. The programme, with the exception of the regatta, was much the same as that at Lyttelton, only on a much more extended scale, and the day's sports were concluded by a display of fireworks, the first ever attempted in Canterbury. The whole of the arrangements were conducted in a most satisfactory manner, and the result was a credit to the Colony. Besides liberal sums granted by the Provincial and City Councils, the money collected for the purpose by subscriptions, and expended by private individuals amounted to a total, which, considering the size of the Province and number of the inhabitants, would, if stated, perhaps be scouted as fabulous, but persons who are unacquainted with New Zealand prices, can have no idea of the enormous expense attending such a demonstration of loyalty as the inhabitants of Canterbury exhibited on this occasion.

28th.—The Canterbury Militia and Volunteers disarmed, and their equipments forwarded to Wellington for the use of Militia there.

August 19th.—Great ploughing match at Avonhead, no fewer than forty-five competitors started.

The mails forwarded to England this month contained 5273 letters and 6563 newspapers.

September 1st.—Quarterly session of the Supreme Court, the calendar was unusually heavy, there being twenty-five cases on the list, including a charge of murder, one of stabbing, and one of aggravated assault, two charges of house-breaking, three of cattle stealing, one of malicious killing of cattle, several of larceny, and two of embezzlement, two of perjury, and one of escape from prison. The criminal business occupied seven days. One of the civil cases decided, was of unusual interest. During the previous summer extensive bush fires had devastated a great part of Banks' Peninsula; the land had in most instances been fired to burn off the rank grass, and, from neglect of proper precautions, vast

quantities of bush were sacrificed. Mr. G. Holmes obtained £3000 damages from Mr. Hay, whose son had set fire to the grass on part of an estate belonging to his father, adjoining that of Mr. Holmes, on to which the fire had spread and destroyed an immense quantity of fine timber; the case occupied the Court two days.

2nd.—The ship Captain Cook, with emigrants from London, arrived at Lyttelton and was at once placed in quarantine, malignant fever having prevailed to an alarming extent during the voyage. About two hundred of the passengers were landed at Camp Bay and remained there about fourteen days, till the ship was admitted to pratique.

20th.—Riot at Lyttelton, created by volunteers who landed from the s. s. Auckland, en route for Auckland; five of the rioters were apprehended and three sentenced to short terms of imprisonment.

CANTERBURY DIRECTORY.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT.

Superintendent, Samuel Bealey.

Clerk to Superintendent, A. F. N. Blakiston.

Executive Council, T. W. Maude, J. S. Williams, R. Wilkin, H. P. Murray-Aynsley.

Provincial Secretary, T. W. Maude; Chief Clerk, G. Turner; Assistant Clerk, T. B. Ambrose.

Provincial Treasurer, C. C. Bowen; Chief Clerk, G. M. Bainbridge; Clerk, N. P. Thompson.

Provincial Solicitor, J. S. Williams.

Provincial Auditor, W. Thomson; Deputy Auditor, H. E. Alport.

Waste Lands Board: Chief Commissioner, W. G. Brittan; Commissioners: T. Cass, R. Packer, R. J. S. Harman, and C. C. Bowen. Receiver of Land Revenue, C. C. Bowen; Clerk, C. P. Soulsby; Messenger, J. B. Stansell.

Chief Surveyor, T. Cass; Assistant Chief-Surveyor and Inspector of Pre-emptive Rights, C. Davie; District Surveyors: J. C. Boys, C. R. Shaw, C. F. Pemberton, R. Townsend, M. Fraser, and W. Kitson; Assistant Surveyors: James Boys, E. Harman, W. S. Young, and L. Smith; Chief Draftsman, J. Williams; Draftsmen: A. Jarman, J. F. McCardell, H. S. May, and G. A. Reade; Timaru Land Office—Draftsman in charge, J. R. Fussell; Occasional (Contract) Surveyors: S. Hewlings, R. Park, H. J. Cridland, A. Beetham, and F. C. Wilson.

Railway Engineer, E. Dobson; District Engineer (Southern District), W. Williamson; District Engineer (Banks' Peninsula), J. F. Roberts; Surveyor, John Hoskyns; Draftsmen: E. Barnes, G. Dobson, R. S. Kelly, W. Blake; Clerk, G. F. Maskew; Pay Clerk, P. Westenna; Clerk of Works (Central District), J. Henwood; Clerk of Works (Northern District), J. Reston; Clerk of Works (Southern District), R. Simpson; Storekeeper, B. Leathwick.

Provincial Geologist, Julius Haast.

Keeper of Public Records, A. F. N. Blakiston.

Education Commissioners: Hon. H. J. Tancred, Rev. John Lillie, D.D., M. Rolleston, S. L. Sanders.