

JULY.

- 1st.—Mr. George Macfarlan elected to represent Lyttelton in the General Assembly.
 2nd.—The Canterbury Alliance held a Public Meeting in the Town Hall, Christchurch.
 5th.—Mr. Studholme elected to represent Kaiapoi in the Assembly.
 6th.—The Bishop of Christchurch departed to attend the Lambeth Conference.
 9th.—The Session of the General Assembly opened.
 11th.—The Meetings of the Christchurch Literary Society were suspended *sine die*.
 12th.—A large Meeting held in the Lincoln District, on the subject of Exporting Grain.
 13th.—The First Annual Meeting of the Northern Agricultural Association held.
 14th.—Ratification of Captain Wilson's Election as Chief Engineer of the Christchurch Fire Brigade.
 15th.—Public Meeting of the Unemployed held in the Town Hall, Christchurch. Presentation of the General Government District Prizes in Latimer Square.
 16th.—A Deputation from the Unemployed, Christchurch, waited on His Honor the Superintendent.
 18th.—Annual Meeting of the Lyttelton Colonists' Society.
 19th.—The Provincial Council Prorogued.
 29th.—Meeting of a Commission appointed by His Honor the Superintendent to enquire into the alleged Distress in Christchurch. Great Meeting at Hokitika, at which resolutions were adopted to endeavour to obtain Separation of Westland from Eastland.

AUGUST.

- 6th.—Inauguration of the Statue of John Robert Godley at Christchurch.
 7th.—Meeting of the Unemployed in the Town Hall, Christchurch. Anniversary Meeting of the Kaiapoi Total Abstinence Society.
 19th.—Kaiapoi Steeplechases.
 23rd.—The affairs of the Canterbury Musical Society wound up.

SEPTEMBER.

- 2nd.—Meeting at Christ's College of gentlemen interested in the Formation of Scholarships for New Zealand.
 14th.—Opening of the Christchurch Market Hall in Cathedral Square.
 16th.—Public Meetings were held in the Town Hall, Christchurch, and at Lyttelton on the subject of the Timaru Board Bill. Formation of the "Canterbury Agricultural Produce Export Company."
 18th.—Formation of the Christchurch Musical Society.
 19th.—Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.
 20th.—A Second Public Meeting, held in Christchurch, on the subject of the Timaru and Gladstone Board Bill. Capture of a Whale at Akaroa.
 21st.—Trout Ova introduced into Canterbury from Hobart Town, by Mr. A. M. Johnson, of the Acclimatization Society.
 26th.—The First Public Fountain in Christchurch commenced playing.

OCTOBER.

- 30th.—Annual Show of the Timaru Agricultural and Pastoral Association. Annual Show of the Oamaru Agricultural and Pastoral Association.

NOVEMBER.

- 5th.—Destructive Fire at Christ's College, Christchurch. Anniversary Dinner of the Licensed Victuallers of Canterbury.
 6th.—Annual Show of the Northern Agricultural and Pastoral Association.
 7th.—A Grand Bachelor's Ball, given at the Town Hall, Christchurch.
 8th.—Annual Show of the Canterbury Agricultural and Pastoral Association.
 13th.—Opening of St. John's School, Christchurch. Public Meeting in the Town Hall, Christchurch, to hear the Representatives of the City in the Provincial Council explain their views on the state of provincial affairs.
 20th.—Public Meeting at Christchurch to inaugurate the formation of a Financial Reform Association.
 21st.—The Inaugural Lecture delivered at the St. Albans Mutual Improvement Society. Public Meeting in Christchurch on the "Social Evil." Opening of the New Hall of the Colonists' Society of Lyttelton.
 23rd.—Public Meeting at Kaiapoi to consider a plan for protecting the North from the overflow of the Waimakariri.
 25th.—Another Public Meeting at Kaiapoi for considering what measures should be adopted to improve the interior communication of the North.

 NARRATIVE OF EVENTS.

THE history of the past year, whether viewed from a purely Provincial or Colonial stand-point, presents many incidents on which the political annalist will hereafter dwell, and from which he will date the inauguration of great changes in the Government of the country. Apart from politics, there is little on which it is possible to congratulate the Provinces or Colony. New Zealand, in common with most other British Colonies, has passed through a period of severe commercial depression, and the Province of Canterbury, if not the chief, has been at least a conspicuous sufferer. But the picture is not altogether gloomy, and there are events in the year's history of which the Province has just reason to be proud. These will be referred to in their proper place.

At the close of 1866, the Provincial Council had been in session for nearly three months. It had seen during that time two Ministries disposed of, and a third was in course of formation at the beginning of 1867. Mr. Stewart having resigned on an adverse vote, was succeeded by Mr. E. Jollie, as leader of the Government. But the latter had no sooner met the Council with a policy similar in most respects to that of his predecessor, than a "no confidence" vote was proposed and carried. Mr. Stewart returned to power, and retained command of the Government ship throughout the remainder of a stormy and not very useful or dignified session of the Council. Nothing was more obvious while the Council was in session than the extreme difficulty felt by the Government in arriving at even an approximate balance between revenue and expenditure. The former, so far as the land sales were concerned, had very sensibly decreased, and the Provincial debentures were unsaleable in the London market. The income which might be counted on with certainty was very limited, and there was no prospect of immediate relief from the disposal of the debentures. Under these circumstances, the work of the Council was mainly confined to the unpleasant but very necessary task of reducing the expenditure to the lowest possible limits. The relative positions of the Government and Council were very materially changed. In former days, when the exchequer was easy, the Government met the Council with a feeling of comparative independence, and with a policy which they were prepared to stand or fall by. They led the House, and received the