8. Whenever any pre-emptive right shall have been heretofore granted or created under that part of clause sixty, hereby repealed, and the building, enclosure, plantation, cultivation, or other improvement in respect of which such pre-emptive right has been granted or created, shall, at any time after the passing of this Act, be proved to the satisfaction of the Waste Lands Board thereupon to give notice to the holder of such pre-emptive right, requiring him to cause such additions to be made to such, building, enclosure, plantation, cultivation, or other improvement as shall make it of the value of fifty pounds; and if the holder shall not in the judgment of the Waste Lands Board have complied with such requirement within one calendar month after the notice aforesaid shall have been left at the homestead or principal station on the run on which the land included in such pre-emptive right, then the pre-emptive right hand thereupon become open for purchase, as if it had not been so uncluded: Provided and ways that no pre-emptive rights shall become forficited and void on account of such any such improvements may stand.

9. It shall not be lawful for the holder of any right of pre-emption to raise from any land included therein, any cercal, root, or other crop, except for *bona fide* use, on the run of which the land included in such right of pre-emption forms part, or on any run which is being farmed in connection therewith. Any person offending against the provisions of this section shall, on conviction thereof before any two Justices of the Peace, be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

10. If the holder of any pasturage license shall have erected or made, or shall hereafter erect or make, any building, fencing enclosure, or other improvement on Crown Land included within his license, but not included in any pre-emptive right, and such land shall be purchased by any other person than such holder, he shall be entitled to remove such building, fencing, enclosure, er other improvement within three months from the date of his receiving a written notice of such purchase from the Waste Lands Board.

11. If any person shall have erected, or shall hereafter erect any fence upon any Waste Lands of the Crown within the said Province of Canterbury, it shall be lawful for the Superintendent, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, by writing under his hand, to direct such person to make such gates or other openings at such places in such fence as shall be thought necessary ; and if such person shall not comply with such direction within one calendar month after the receipt thereof, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, to be recovered in a summary way.

12. If any person shall wilfully injure or destroy any fence which has been, or may hereafter be erected by the holder of a pasturage license upon Crown Lands included within his license, such person shall, on conviction thereof before any two Justices of the Peace, be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.

CROWN GRANTS.

FEES.

All Crown Grants which we to passing of Act (8th Octo All Crown Grants signed since	the passing	per Grant	Act, if not	the second second	prior	£ 1 1	s. 00	0
For the first 100 acres	***	***		 	5	1	0	0
For every additional acre)	0	0	0^{1}_{4}

FINES.

There is a fine chargeable on all Crown Grants which were ready for delivery prior to the passing of the Act, and left in custody of Commissioner of Crown Lands after the 9th December, 1866—Each Grant per month All Grants signed since the passing of the said Act, and not taken out by grantee within three months after the data result.	0	0	6
months after the date of notice in <i>Provincial Government Gazette</i> that they are ready for delivery—Each Grant per month	0	0	6
It is also provided by the said Act that as soon as the fines due on one Comment of H	- AL		

It is also provided by the said Act that as soon as the fines due on any Crown Grant shall amount to above $\pounds I$, the same shall be recovered in a summary manner by the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Where the fee payable in respect of any Crown Grant comprises the fractional part of a penny, if under one halfpenny, the fraction is not charged. If one halfpenny or upwards, the fall penny is charged. A notice is published in the *Provincial Government Gazette* of all Crown Grants as they become

ready for delivery.

MEMORABILIA OF THE YEAR 1865-7.

NOVEMBER, 1866.

24th.-No. 6 Company C.R.V. fired for the Silver Cup given by Private Ballard. No. 5 Company C.R.V. shot for the Challenge Medal.

28th .- Nomination of Candidates for the Municipal Council, Kaiapoi.

30th .- Cricket Match between the Heathcote District and the Province of Canterbury.

DECEMBER.

1st.-Second Firing for the Cup given to the Volunteers by Mr. E. B. Bishop, Chairman of the City Council.

5th.—A Landslip occurred at Lyttelton, at the head of the Excavation for Watermen's Boats. Cobb's Coach capsized in the Waiho, owing to a Flood.

6th.-The Second Annual Ballot for Land by the Canterbury Freehold Land Society took place in the Town Hall.

7th.-The Diocesan Synod concluded its Sitting for 1866.

12th.—The Annual Competition in Sports by the Pupils at the Christehurch Grammar School took place. The Horticultural Society's first Exhibition for the Season was held in the Drill Shed. The Annual Examination at the Church of England Schools, Oxford.

13th .- Examination of the Pupils of the High School, Lyttelton.

14th.—The Annual Examination of the Pupils of the High School, Christehurch. A Distribution of Prizes to the Scholars of the Wesleyan School, Christehurch, took place,

17th.—Anniversary Day. Public Offices closed, but no Public Sports in Christchurch. Annual Dinner of the Ancient Order of Foresters in Christehurch. The Heathcote Regatta came off.

18th.—The Leeston Races. Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Wesleyan Schools at Kaiapoi.

20th.—Consecration of St. Mary's Church, Merivale, by the Lord Bishop of Christehurch. Nomination of Candidates to represent Papanui in the Provincial Council.

21st.—Cobb's Coach from Port broke down while crossing the Zigzag. The Annual Public Examination of the Children attending Trinity Church Schools, Lyttelton.

24th.-Papanui Election.

26th.—The First Annual Prize Meeting of the Canterbury Rifle Association commenced.

27th .- A Masonic Ball held in the Town Hall, Christchurch.

28th.—The First Annual Exhibition of the Northern Agricultural and Pastoral Association took place at Rangiora.

JANUARY, 1867.

1st.—Lyttelton Regatta. Anniversary of the Opening of the Wesleyan Church at Springston, commemorated by a Tea Meeting. The building at Kaiapoi, formerly known as the Exchange Hotel, destroyed by Fre. The Loyal Good Intent Lodge of Odd Fellows, at Akaroa, cclebrated their Serenth Anniversary by a Public Ball at the Town Hall. The Annui Races came off. Race Meeting on the Ashburton. The new Postal Act came into operation.

2ud.—Opening of Kohler's Skating Rink, at Coker's Hall, Christchurch. The Disciples of Emmanuel Swedenborg, at Christchurch, gave a Soirée at the Foresters' Hall.

3rd.—Mr. FitzGerald announced his retirement from the representation of Christehurch in the General Assembly. Bazaar at Kaiapoi in aid of the Presbyterian Manse Fund.

120

5th.—The Town Hall, Christehurch, thrown open as a Corn Exchange. Military Funeral of Sergt.-Major Darby, of the Volunteer Cavalry.

7th .- Distribution of Prizes to the Volunteers, by the Rifle Association, in Latimer Square.

9th .- Polling for City Councillors at Christehurch.

14th.—His Excellency the Governor arrived in Canterbury. Christehurch Illuminated in honour of the Governor's visit.

15th.-The Christehurch Races commenced.

16th .- The Provincial Council gave a Ball in the Council Chamber.

18th.-His Excellency the Governor held a Levée in the Provincial Council Chamber.

24th .- The Ladies' Bazaar opened at Lyttelton.

25th.—The Anniversary of the Birth of Robert Burns was celebrated by Public Dinners at the Town Hall, Christchurch, and the Queen's Hotel, Lyttelton.

31st.—A Dinner was given to Mr. Thomas Cass, the Chief Surveyor of Canterbury, on the occasion of his temporary departure from the Colony.

FEBRUARY.

1st.—School Treat in Hagley Park Cricket Ground to the Sunday Scholars attending St. Michael's and St. Luke's Schools. A Horticultural Exhibition in the Government Domain in honour of the Governor's visit. Mr. J. E. FitzGerald appointed Comptroller of the Public Accounts of the Colony.

2nd .- The Governor gave a Treat to the Children of the Miners employed in the Tunnel.

4th .- The Governor visited the Theatre Royal, Christchurch.

6th.-The Governor visited Timaru.

7th.-First day of the Inter-provincial Cricket Match between Otago and Canterbury, being the Fourth Match of the series and the Second in Canterbury.

8th.—A Grand Review of the Volunteers by His Excellency the Governor took place in Hagley Park.

9th .- The Governor visited Kaiapoi.

11th.—The Governor inspected the College and High School, Christehurch. Nomination of Candidates to represent Christehurch in the General Assembly. Rifle Match between No. 8 Company, C.R.V., and the seamen of H.M.s.s. Brisk.

12th.—Tea Meeting in commemoration of the Third Anniversary of the Foundation of the Congregational Church in Canterbury. First Annual Meeting of the Canterbury Freehold Land Society. The Governor visited the Orphan Asylum, Christchurch.

13th.—Competition of Volunteers at Hillsborough for the Cup given by Mr. Luck, Chairman of the City Conneil. Election of Mr. Travers to represent Christchurch in the Assembly, in the stead of Mr. FitzGerald, resigned.

25th.—Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the Christehurch Town Hall Company. Public Meeting at Kaiapoi for the establishment of a New Cemetery.

27th.-Second Annual Exhibition of the Akaroa Horticultural Society.

MARCH.

1st .- Annual Meeting of the Church Property Trustees.

6th .- Soirée of the Canterbury Freehold Land Society, in celebration of its First Anniversary.

7th.-Dinner given to Mr. Travers, in Christehurch, by his political friends. The last Horticultural Show of the season in Christehurch.

11th.—Election of Mr. Wm. Reeves to represent the Avon district in the Assembly. Public Meeting at Lyttelton, to consider the choice of a Site for the Custom-house.

16th .- Opening of the Greymouth and S. Itwater Creek Tramway, by his Honor the Superintendent.

18th .- Greymouth Races commenced.

19th.-Farewell Dinner to Mr. Luck, of Christchurch, on his return to England.

23rd.-Capture of a large shark in Lyttelton Harbour.

25th.—Meeting of the Shareholders of the Mechanics' Institute, to consider a Proposition by the Government for redeeming the Shares.

APRIL.

1st .- Opening of the New Zealand Post-office Savings Bank.

.3rd.—The Godley Statue at Christehurch placed on its Pedestal. Annual Dinner of the Christehurch Horticultural Society. The Roman Catholics of Christehurch presented Testimonials to Mr. and Mrs. Weld, on their return to England.

4th .- Farewell Dinner to Mr. FitzGerald, on the occasion of his Departure to Wellington.

6th.—Great Fire in Colombo street, Christchurch, in the rear of the buildings between Armagh and Gloucester streets. Between £4000 and £5000 worth of property destroyed.

12th .- Annual Meeting of the Horticultural Society of Christchurch.

22nd .- The Second Prize Meeting of the Canterbury Rifle Association commenced.

26th.-Farewell Dinner, given by No. 1 Company C.R.V., to Captain Crosbie Ward, on the occasion of his leaving the Province for England.

29th.—A Public Dinner given to Mr. Crosbie Ward, at the Town Hall, on the occasion of his return to England.

MAY.

1st .- Bazaar at the Town Hall, Christchurch, in aid of St. Luke's Parsonage Fund.

5th .- The Canterbury Freehold Land Society balloted for Allotments

7th.-Annual Meeting of the Acclimatization Society.

13th .- The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Canterbury Auxiliary Bible Society.

16th.—Formation of the Christchurch Brewing, Malting, and Distilling Company. The First Public Meeting held at Kaiapoi on the subject of Exporting Grain.

21st.-Firing for the Champion Medal given by the General Government to the Volunteers of Canterbury.

23rd .- Opening of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Christchurch.

24th.—The Queen's Birthday. Distribution of Prizes by the Canterbury Rifle Association. 25th.—Military Funeral of Captain Fuller at Rangiora.

29th.—A Passage was effected through the Moorhouse Tunnel from one extremity to the other. . 31st.—Death of Mr. H. J. Cridland, one of the earliest Settlers in Canterbury.

JUNE.

7th.-The Second Session of the Fourth Provincial Council was opened.

10th.-The Moorhouse Tunnel Illuminated and thrown open to the public.

13th .- Death of Mr. John Bealey, brother of the late Superintendent of Canterbury.

19th.—The Diocesan Synod met for the dispatch of business. Destruction by, fire of the Telegraph Printing Office, Christehurch.

20th .- Formation of the Kaiapoi Land, Building, and Investment Society.

23rd.-A very destructive fire in Colombo street, between Hereford and Cashel streets.

25th.-The Annual Meeting of the Canterbury Bush Mission, held in Christchurch.

26th.—Annual Meeting of the Members of the Christchurch Mechanics' Institute.

28th.-The Papanui Steeplechase came off. Annual Meeting of the Kaiapoi Mechanics Institute.

29th.-A Banquet given to his Honor the Superintendent in the Tunnel, by the miners.

122

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 Christehurch 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 Christehurch 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 Superin' tendent.

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 Christehurch Musical Society.

19th-Annual Meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.

20th.—A Second Public Meeting, held in Christehurch, 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 Christehurch 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 suggestions of the Opposition with a due regard to their own position. But an empty exchequee altered all this. The Opposition knew that office had nothing to offer them except a continual struggle between limited means and large demands ; and, when it was impossible to win the glory which the prosecution of large public works brings to a Government, there were few who cared to strive for the still greater, though less obvious, honour of carrying on the Government creditably and safely in a time of great difficulty. Accordingly, while the Council insisted on dictating the policy of the Government, the latter demanded no higher position than that of carrying out the wishes of the Council. The session of the Council closed on January 12. A second session of the Provincial Council was held from June 7 to July 19, but the business transacted calls for no special comment. It was mainly confined to discussing the probable income and expenditure of the Government and the Council.

On January 14, Sir George Grey, who had not visited Canterbury for fifteen years, landed at Lyttelton, and was received with the utmost enthusiasm. His Excellency remained in the province for over a month, and so identified himself with the interests, feelings, and hopes of the settlers as to win universal popularity. After thoroughly exhausting all the objects of interest in the more immediate neighbourhood of Christchurch, he travelled southward to Timaru and westward to Hokitika, thus enjoying opportunities of seeing the province in two very different aspects, both as regards the pursuits of its inhabitants and its physical conformation. His Excellency's estimate of Canterbury, as compared with other portions of New Zealand with which he was acquainted, was somewhat fancifully expressed. To him it was the Ugly Duck among the provinces-uglier, bigger, less promising at first than any one member of the Provincial family, but in its gradual growth and development surpassing all the others. After visiting the provinces of Otago and Southland, Sir George Grey returned to Wellington ; subsequently he visited Nelson and Marlborough. While on this subject, it is not out of place to notice the very general regret expressed at Sir George Grey's retirement from the Government of New Zealand. Although his term of office had expired, few dreamed that he would be recalled, so thoroughly identified had his name become with the Colony, Rightly or wrongly, it was felt that the manner of Sir George Grey's recall was at least wanting in consideration for the many distinguished services he has performed, and his untiring devotion to the advancement of colonization. His name is inseparably connected with the history of New Zealand, and he retires from its Government with the respect due to one who has done much to advance its prosperity. Sir George Grey's successor is Sir George Fergusson Bowen, who has been Governor of Queensland during the past six years, and who, in that capacity, has displayed firmness, tact, and discrimination under trying circumstances.

As the first attempt at federal action on the part of the Australasian Colonies, the Postal Conference held at Melbourne during the month of March deserves more than a passing notice. The Conference was suggested by the Imperial authorities, who expressed their desire to aid in the establishment of a more complete postal scheme of communication with Britain, provided the colonies were unanimous in recommending it. The Conference met on March 4. In all, six colonies were represented—Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania, Queensland, and New Zealand. The delegates from the latter were the Hon. Mr. John Hall, Postmaster-General, and Mr. Crosbie Ward. The deliberations of the Conference terminated on March 20, and the scheme agreed on included three services—by Suez, Panama, and Torres Straits—at an estimated annual cost of £400,000, half of which it was expected the Home Government would contribute. But after events have proved unfavourable to the scheme recommended by the Conference. The Victorian Parliament, ostensibly on the ground that Sydney was made the terminus of all the routes, refused to ratify the agreement entered on by the delegates of that colony, and thus the unanimity insisted on by the Imperial authorities was destroyed. It has subsequently transpired that the Chief Secretary of the Post-office Department in England has reported unfavourably on the postal scheme agreed on by the Conference.

The annual session of the General Assembly was opened on July 9, and lasted till October 10. For many reasons, it was by far the most important in the history of the colony. Before proceeding to discuss the principal measures dealt with by the Assembly, it is necessary to glance shortly at one event which occurred during the recess. A very large majority of the people of Otago elected as their Superintendent a gentleman who, some years ago, was adjudged unworthy to hold the same office, and was accordingly removed by order of the Governor. It is not necessary to allude farther to the circumstances of Mr. Macandrew's dismissal from office; it is enough that he was dismissed, and that he was again elected by the people of the province. The General

Government could not alto gether approve of Mr. Macandrew as Superintendent of Otago, and they determined on a course which, while it marked their disapproval, did not interfere with the choice of the people. They refused to delegate to Mr. Macandrew certain powers under the Goldfields Act, which, as Superintendent, he was entitled to exercise, and virtually transferred their management to the central authority. The people of Otago were naturally indiguant, and for a time the "Otago difficulty" occupied a considerable share of public attention throughout the colony. Extreme measures were freely canvassed, but prudent counsels prevailed, and the question was referred to the General Assembly. It was the first important subject dealt with when the Assembly met, and the Government effected a compromise, by which—although such was not distinctly declared-the withheld powers were to be conferred on the Superintendent of Otago. This has since been done. Many who were not prepared to recognise Mr. Macandrew's fitness for the office of Superintendent were still less prepared to endorse the action taken by the General Government. They recognised in it an attempt against the independence of the provinces, and they did not fail to remember that Mr. Stafford, at the close of the session in 1866, announced the intention of the Government to bring in a measure which, it was suspected, would aim at the same object more directly. During the recess no subject had been more canvassed by those who take an interest in polities than the probable policy of the Government with regard to the outlying Provincial districts, and when, at an early period of the session, it became known that a Local Government Bill would be introduced, its general scope and provisions were eagerly looked for. In due time the Bill saw the light ; and contrary to general expectations, the Government declined to stake their existence on its success. It was rejected by a large majority. Later on in the session, the question of Local Government was again brought up, and the province of Canterbury virtually dismembered by two Acts which received the sanction of the House. The outlying district of Timaru had been for years discontented with the treatment it had received from the Provincial Council, and when the Local Government Bill was thrown out by the General Assembly, an active party of local politicians commenced an agitation with the view of securing some of the advantages which they professed to believe would have been secured to them by that Bill. The result was the passing of the Timaru and Gladstone Board of Works Act. By this, the district south of the Rangitata, and including the five Road Board districts of Timaru, Waimate, Levels, Mount Cook, and Geraldine, was constituted a Central Board, cach retaining its individual existence, and endowed with twenty-five per cent of the land revenue raised within its bounds. In addition to this, a portion of the unrealized Canterbury debentures-£30,000 --was allotted to the district, to be expended on certain specified works. This Bill was strongly opposed in the House by Mr. Moorhouse and a few of the Canterbury members, mainly on the ground that it established the right of the General Government to interfere in the disposal of the land fund of the province, and because it was applying to one province a principle which the House had refused to sanction in the case of the whole Colony. The Timaru and Gladstone Bill had barely passed through all its stages, when the House was informed that the district of Westland, including all that portion of the Province of Canterbury lying to the westward of the dividing ranges, was to be dealt with in much the same way. The inhabitants of the district, or a portion of them, had petitioned the General Assembly for separation from Canterbury, on the plea that their interests were neglected and ignored by the eastern half of the province. The conduct of Mr. Stafford in connection with this subject deserves to be placed on record. He at first proposed to refer the petition of Westland to a Select Committee of the House. The Committee was appointed ; but, before it had given in any report, Mr. Stafford asked leave to bring in a Bill constituting Westland a County, and granting it a local Government. Notwithstanding this unconstitutional and unparliamentary method of procedure, the Bill was carried through all its stages, and became law. It grants to the district a Central Board, composed of nine members, eight of whom are elected, and one-the chairmannominated by the Governor. The machinery of Government is actually the same as that of the Provinces, under another name, with this difference-the Chairman of the Board, or Superintendent as he may be called, is nominated by the Governor, instead of being elected by the people, and all the revenues of the district pass through the hands of the Colonial Treasurer. It cannot be said that either of these Bills has given satisfaction to those whom they affect. The districts outlying from Timaru have expressed themselves as opposed to the Timaru and Gladstone Board of Works Act, alleging that under its provisions they will be in a worse position than before, when they were entirely dependent on the Provincial Council. On the West Coast, the Greymouth district, an important part of the new County of Westland, has not ceased to agitate for annexation to Nelson. While the Bill was passing through committee Mr. Moorhouse, who was placed in an awkward position by being the representative of Westland in the House, and of the whole of Canterbury as its Superintendent, managed to carry an amendment, declaring the new County liable, in proportion to its Customs revenue from year to year, for the debt incurred by the Province of Canterbury. The scheme of finance advanced by the Colonial Treasurer included two im-

portant principles-the adjustment of accounts between the General Government and the Provinces under the Surplus Revenues Act, and the consolidation of all Provincial loans. The first was the necessary prelude to the second. Hitherto the provinces have been considered entitled to three-eighths of the Customs revenue, the other moiety going to the General Government. But when the accounts were made up at the end of the financial year 1866-7, it was found that some of the provinces had been over-paid, while others had not received all they were entitled to. The Colonial Treasurer proposed to close the accounts on a plan which the House endorsed, and to place the relations between the General and Provincial Governments on a different footing in the future. Instead of three-eighths of their Customs revenue, the Provinces will now receive half the revenue, from whatever source derived-exclusive of their land fund-that is raised within their bounds. From this will be deducted the interest and sinking fund on the loans of each Province, as well as the charges for certain services. The accounts will be made up monthly, and should the share of revenue to which any province is entitled not be sufficient to defray the charges against it, the deficiency will be made a first charge on its land fund. No feature of the Colonial Treasurer's policy was more conspicuous than the liberality evinced towards the North Island Provinces. especially Auckland. Altogether they received a pecuniary advantage equal to at least £400,000. The consolidation of Provincial Loans had become absolutely necessary from the fact that Provincial bonds were unsaleable, while some of the Provinces were liable for large sums under engagements entered into on the faith of loans authorised, though not guaranteed, by the General Government. The Colonial Treasurer, in making his financial statement, stated that Provincial bonds would first be converted into Colonial stock, and then receive the Colonial guarantee. As most of these bonds had fallen greatly below par, in some instances as much as 25 per cent., it was obvious that in the process of conversion a considerable profit would arise. But when the matter came to be finally settled, the Government proposal was found to be completely changed. They brought in what was called the Public Debts Bill, the first clause of which declared that "from and after the passing of this Act" all Provincial bonds were to be held as Colonial stock ; the process of conversion was entirely done away with, and the value of the bonds was at once raised to par. A minority in the House of Representatives protested strongly against this course, characterising it as a "gross fraud," and a "gigantic swindle" on the colony. The Bill passed the Lower House notwithstanding, and was sent to the Legislative Council. Here it met with determined opposition, and some amendments altering the objectionable clause were carried. A dead-lock between the two Houses was the result, and it was only by summoning to their aid some members of the Legislative Council who had left Wellington that the Government were enabled to carry the Bill. The general legislation of the session was mainly directed to the consolidation of existing laws.

The great public work on which the Province of Canterbury has been engaged for the last six years—the Moorhouse Tunnel—was successfully completed on May 24. As a full history of the funnel is given in another part of the Almanac, it is unnecessary to do more here than notice the fact that the first engine, drawing goods waggons, passed through from Heathcote to Lyttelton on the night of November 18. With the exception of the harbour works in Lyttelton, which have slowly progressed during the year, and are still going on, the public works of the province have been few and unimportant. The Great Southern Railway has been completed up to and across the Selwyn, and is now in full operation. A line of railway to the West Coast was mooted in the Provincial Council, and the Government was authorised to expend the necessary funds in procuring a preliminary survey. Afterwards, it was announced that a line was quite practicable by the porthern route, and that the probable cost would be £6000 per mile. But the project is altogether beyond the means of the province, and could hardly have been seriously entertained. It is probable that the surplus funds accruing from the sale of the debentures will be expended in providing, by means of tramways, for the uncompleted internal communications of the province.

Immigration, during the year, has been mainly confined to the introduction of single women as domestic servants. Six immigrant vessels have arrived from January 5 to November 30, bringing in all about 800 statute adults. Of these, about three-fourths have been single women. In connection with this subject, it is necessary to notice that prostitution has attained to such a pitch in Christchurch as to call for some stringent repressive measures. The increase of prostitutes is said to be due, in a great degree, to the indiscriminate importation of single women, most of whom land in the province without relations or friends. A public meeting in connection with this subject was held in the Town Hall, on November 21. The Dean of Christchurch presided, and most of the leading citizens were present. Resolutions were passed, the substance of which may be briefly stated—a more stringent application of existing laws, and further legislation with a view to complete police and medical supervision. The extremely low price which has ruled throughout the year for all kinds of agricultural produce, and the consequent loss entailed upon a large and important section of the community, have directed very general attention to the subject throughout the Southern Provinces. The result has been the experimental shipping of wheat to England. In every case to which public attention has been drawn, these shipments of wheat have been eminently successful. The grain has arrived in excellent condition, in spite of the long voyage and the rapid alternations of elimate, and has been sold in London at a price which, after deducting all charges, would leave at least an encouraging remuneration to the producer. An Agricultural Produce Export Company has been established in Canterbury, which will devote itself mainly to finding out the best market for all sorts of agricultural produce, and the cheapest means of conveying that produce thicher. The shareholders of the company are principally farmers. In the neighouring province of Otago several local companies of a similar nature have been formed.

Although of no great importance, we may refer to a temporary agitation among the unemployed of the so-called working classes. The agitation reached its height in July, when several public meetings were held, and pressure brought to bear on the Government. The Provincial Council was in session at the time, and a Commission was appointed to enquire into the allegations of a petition emanating from the unemployed. The result was, that the Council authorised the Government to expend a certain sum of money in finding employment for those who were really out of work. By some the agitation was looked on as the last effort on the part of the working men to keep up the high rate of wages which has prevailed for the last three years. It was alleged that if men would submit to a reduction in proportion to the fall in the price of all sorts of produce, and consequently in the cost of living, abundance of employment would be found. Such, to a very considerable degree, was the case, and the agitation died away.

The Land Sales for the year have fallen far below what they have been for some time past. For the eleven months ending November 30, they amounted to a little over 43,767 acres, representing a revenue of £87,534.

The past year will long be remembered as a disastrous period in the commercial annals of Canterbury. At the close of the year 1866, despite a crisis of almost unprecedented severity at home, we looked around us, and whilst enumerating various circumstances which might fairly be regarded as so many sources of prosperity, we flattered ourselves that our province might escape at least with but a mild visitation of such a trial. Subsequents events have since proved our views to have been too sanguine. It soon became evident that even in our small commercial community there was much that was artificial, and that an apparent prosperity existed amongst us which was only supported by a system of over-trading, always resulting in disaster. The utter prostration of trade in England naturally led to a material decline in the price of our chief staple, wool. The sales of public lands (to a great extent, perhaps, from the same cause), exhibited a marked falling off, whilst grain reached a price utterly ruinous to the farmers of the province. With February commenced a series of failures, causing great distrust and uncasiness, which lasted throughout the greater part of the year, and from which we are, but now gradually recovering. We think the greater part of our troubles may be traced to two leading causes, viz., the spirit of extravagance and over-trading which characterised the transactions not only of the importer of goods, but of the whole of our community, and the wretched return received by agriculturists for their grain crops. In both cases, however, the remedy has discovered itself. In the first instance, necessity has enforced economy, and bitter experience, together with a more stringent system of punishment, has, or at least, should have, put a stop to reckless over-trading ; whilst attention has been drawn to new outlets for the surplus stocks of grain produced in the province. It appears that good samples of wheat shipped at a moderate rate of freight, are likely, for some time at least, to command such prices in the Home market as will prove encouraging to the grower, and that Australia has lately come into our market for the remainder of last year's and the now growing crop of barley. We should, in all probability, have earlier fort the advantage of this latter, had tonnage from Lyttelton been more plentiful, and greater facilities for export in the shape of eash advances, been obtainable. We shall not be out of place in referring here to the great event of the year-the completion of the Moorhouse Tunnel-as a subject not only gratifying to our pride as colonists, but as the probable means of most materially benefiting us as a commercial community. Commenced in the year 1859, the work, with but little interruption, has quietly proceeded, and railway communication between the plains of Canterbury and the port is now complete in every detail. We need hardly point out the advantages gained thereby. At the present moment we may be justified in taking a more cheerful view of matters than is conveyed in the above gloomy retrospect. Recent sales of Provincial debentures will place our Government in a much easier position as regards finance, and will be the means of some pressing public works being proceeded with. On the other hand, we may fairly look for better prices for grain, whilst the late severe experience gained in business circles will doubtless lead to a more healthy and satisfactory state of trade.

With regard to the religious aspect and progress of the province, several events of interest have taken place during the year, which tend to make it a remarkable one in the annals of almost every denomination. The Diocesan Synod met on June 19, and the debates were characterised by unusual earnestness and interest. The Synod was opened with the solemnization of Divine Service at St. Michael's Church, Christehurch, after which the members adjourned to the Freemasons' Hall, which was kindly placed at their disposal by the members of the St. Augustine Lodge. The Bishop delivered a very able address, in which he announced his intention of visiting England, for the purpose of being present at the Lambeth Conference. This he has since done, having left Canterbury by the July Panama steamer. Intelligence has been received from him, announcing his safe arrival, and of his having taken part in the Conference, and in the religious services connected with it. In the course of his charge, his Lordship remarked that he had made arrangements for delegating to the Dean and Chapter all those powers not immediately depending upon the Episcopate. The most important business before the Synod was the consideration of the following resolutions, proposed by the Rev. the Dean, which, after ample discussion and some emendations, were carried in the annexed form-" That this Synod earnestly desires that the bond of union between the Church in England and the Colonies may to the utmost be retained, and be strengthened. That, for the purpose of giving effect to this desire, this Synod hopes that means may be devised of promoting united action and common counsel between all branches of the Anglican Church. Further, this Synod desires to express its satisfaction at the approaching Conference at Lambeth, as affording some indication of an approaching unity of action, not only between the various branches of the Anglican Church, but amongst all the reformed branches of the Church Catholic. That in the opinion of the Synod, any legislation of the Imperial Parliament bearing upon the status of the Colonial Church ought to be directed to the following objects, viz :--1. To remove all doubts as to the validity of the appointment and consecration of Bishops chosen in accordance with the rules in force in the several colonial dioceses, without reference to the sanction of the Crown by Royal mandate or otherwise. 2. To remove doubts as to the body of persons entitled to the legal ownership of all property, which now or hereafter may be possessed by the Church in the several colonial dioceses. Beyond the objects before mentioned, the Synod strongly deprecates any legislation of the Imperial Parliament affecting the organisation and freedom of action of the Church in the colonies. That this Synod expresses its earnest desire that a tribunal, or board of reference, be constituted in England for receiving and determining appeals from the colonial dioceses on questions of doctrine and discipline." They were engrossed and ordered to be entrusted to the Lord Bishop of the diocese for presentation at the Pan-Anglican Conference. Another subject of discussion was the revision of the Hymnal. For some time past a growing dissatisfaction has been felt with reference to the work now in use. In the Synod the matter gave rise to much discussion, but no definite conclusion was arrived at. The Synod broke up on June 28. The Collection known as "Hymns, Ancient and Modern," has been introduced into St. Luke's Church, and the majority of the congregation seem gratified at the change.

During the year several new churches have been built, and are now frequented by large congregations. The most noteworthy of these is the beautiful chapel just completed for the accommodation of the masters and pupils of Christ's College. It is a stone building, Early English in style, was built from a design by the Diocesan Architects, and was opened for the solemnization of Divine worship on October 28. Unfortunately, owing to the difficulty in collecting the promised subscriptions, nothing has yet been done towards the completion of the Cathedral. A meeting was, however, held in the Town Hall with reference to the subject, and the Commission was remodelled. Amongst the new churches which have been opened during the year may be mentioned the Maori church at Kaiapoi. It is a pretty and commodious structure, and what is a very gratifying fact, the Maoris contributed most generously towards its erection. The church is dedicated to St. Stephen. St. Mary's Church, Addington, has also been completed, and another church built at Templeton. Several new parsonages have been built, amongst others those of St. John and St. Luke, Christchurch. A new schoolroom, for the use of day and Sunday scholars, has also been completed in connection with the former parish.

The Presbyterian Church has been making active progress during the past twelve months. A new church, situated in Lichfield street, Christchurch, has been opened, and is styled St. Paul's. A new and handsome church has also been built at Timaru.

The Wesleyan Church has also made great progress. Missionary meetings, both for missions abroad and at home, have been held, and the reports have been highly satisfactory. Several new chapels and schools (some of them used as places of worship) have been erected in various parts of the province. A district meeting has been held in Christchurch, which was attended by a considerable number of ministers, and an ordination service took place.

The various charitable institutions have been well supported during the year. The different institutions for the advancement of knowledge deserve a word of acknowledgment in this place. The Mechanics' Institute at Christchurch has been enriched by generous contributions of books, and a large and handsome hall for the Colonists' Society at Lyttelton has been erected. A Mutual Improvement Society has been set on foot at St. Albans. The Debating Society, originally established in connection with St. Michael's Church, continues to receive an accession of members. The Literary Society has suspended its operations for the present, but it is intended to revise it in another form.

The most noticeable event of the year in connection with education is one which applies to the whole colony. The want of that higher education which can be obtained only at a University has long been felt, and has been the means of drawing from the colony many families who would otherwise have continued to reside here. Several remedial plans have been from time to time suggested, and during the session of the General Assembly a Select Committee appointed to inquire into the subject recommended the institution of eight scholarships, two to be competed for each year. These scholarships, the committee observed, were for the purpose of affording to the successful competitors a first-rate University education in Great Britain or elsewhere. The liberal view thus taken by the committee was endorsed by the Assembly, and due provision was made for the scholarships in the estimates. By some it was considered desirable to make some provision for the establishment of a New Zealand University, and the committee was requested to consider that point. In their report they recommended that endowments should be made out of the confiscated lands, and out of the waste lands of the Crown in the several provinces, with a view to founding a University ; but they declined to go farther in the meantime. The common school education of this and the neighbouring provinces keeps pace, in most cases, with the increase of population and the spread of settlement. The scholarships provided by the Canterbury Government were this year competed for by an increased number of candidates, and there is every reason to behave that the results already produced have been in the highest degree satisfactory in stimulating the efforts of teachers throughout the province.

The straits to which the provinces generally have been reduced, the effect in some cases of reckless extravagance, has strengthened the ranks of a party who have latterly aimed at the complete abolition of Provincial institutions. The popular voice seems to tend in this direction, or at least, towards a very radical reform ; and even those who have been the recognised champions of the provinces have been compelled to admit that reconstruction at least is necessary. The Superintendent of Canterbury has roughly sketched out a scheme which he believes would answer the requirements of the colony. He proposes to divide the provinces into Road Board districts and Municipalities. The ratepayers in these districts would elect a certain number of members, and from these would be chosen one or more to represent the district or municipality in a Central Board of Works for the whole province. The Chairman of the Central Board would be chosen from among the members composing it, and would occupy relatively the same position as the Superintendent now does. The Land Fund of the province would be secured to the various Road Boards, a portion only being contributed by each to the Central Board for the purpose of carrying out public works affecting the whole province. It is argued that such a scheme would secure real local selfgovernment, and render a large reduction in the taxation of the colony possible. Political agitation has latterly taken a special direction in the way of Financial Reform, and associations having that title have been established in Christchurch and Nelson.

During the year three prominent public men have withdrawn from active participation in politics. The names of Messrs. Weld, FitzGerald, and Ward are inseparably connected with the history, progress, and legislation of the colony. To the first New Zealand owes the assertion and maintenance of the great principle of self-reliance, at a time when long-continued Imperial interference had reduced her to the greatest straits; to the third, the establishment of the Panama service; and to all three, the example of a high-minded devotion to the public service.

One of the events of the year which cannot be passed over in silence is the erection and inauguration of the Godley Statue. This is the first, and as yet the only public statue in New Zealand, and the Province of Canterbury has fitly preserved the memory of a good colonist and devoted public servant.

THE ROYAL FAMILY.

QUEEN (Alexandrina) Victoria, born May 24, 1819; proclaumed June 21, 1837; crowned June 28, 1838; married February 10, 1840, to her cousin, Field-Marshal His Royal Highness Francis Albert Augustus Charles Emanuel, Duke of Saxe, Prince of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, K.T.G.C.B., born August 26, 1819; died December 14, 1861.

Issue: Victoria Adelaide Mary Louisa, Princess Royal, born November 21, 1840; married January 25, 1858, to Prince Frederick William, of Prussia. Albert Edward, Prince of Wales and Earl of Dublin, born November 9, 1841; married March 10, 1863, to Princess Alexandra, of Denmark. Alice Maud Mary, born April 25, 1843; married July 1, 1862, to Prince Frederick William Louis, of Hesse. Alfred Ernest Albert, born August 6, 1844. Helena Augusta Victoria, born May 25, 1846.; married, Prince Christian. Louisa Carolina Alberta, born March 18, 1848. Arthur Patrick William Albert, born May 1, 1850. Leopeld George Duncan Albert, born April 7, 1853. Beatrice Mary Victoria Feodore, born April 14, 1857.

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132

SEED CALCULATOR.

TABLE of the number of sets of potatoes, and total weight of the same, required for planting an acre at the following distances; each set containing only a single eye, and weighing $\frac{1}{2}$ oz.; the distance between the sets in the rows being nine inches :-

Distance of rows apart.		Number of sets per acre.		Weight	of sets acre.
Inches.				per	acre.
18		00 800		cwt.	lbs.
19	***	38,720		10	90
	***	36,682		10	26
20		34,848		9	
21		33,188			81
22		31,680	***	9	29
23			***	8	94
24	***	30,302	¥	8	50
	111	29,040		8	11
25	14.0	27,874		7	
26		26,806			87
. 27	***	25,813	100	7	53
28		1.4 19 19 19		7	22
29		24,891		6	105
	***	24,033		6	79
30		23,232		6	54

PLANTS placed at certain distances, contained by a sq

Inches asunder.			re perch of land :-
4 by 4			Number of Plants.
5 1			2450
0			1960
0 0	***		1633
8 , 6	•••		1069
0 0		•••	816
8 , 8 10 , 8	•••		612
10 ,, 10	***	424	490
12 , 12	•••		392
15 " 10			272
			261

0	YEAR.	PER MONTH.	PER WEEK.	PER DAY.
	$\begin{array}{c} \pounds \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \\ 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \\ 10 \\ 11 \\ 12 \\ 13 \\ 14 \\ 15 \\ 16 \\ 17 \\ 18 \\ 19 \\ 20 \\ 30 \\ 40 \\ 50 \\ 60 \\ 70 \\ 80 \\ 90 \\ 100 \\ 100 \\ \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
-	and the second second		the second se	the second s

If the wages be guineas instead of pounds, for each guinea add one penny to each month, or one farthing to each week.

RULE FOR CALCULATING INTEREST AT FIVE PER CENT.-Multiply the pounds by the days, and divide the product by 365. The quotient gives the interest at five per cent. in shillings.

ADVERTISEMENTS

TABLE TO CALCULATE WAGES AND OTHER PAYMENTS.

134