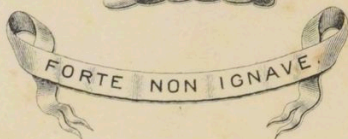


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Alfred Lee.

CASE SHELF

N^o

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS



EMIGRANT LIFE IN THE SOUTH
OF NEW ZEALAND.

BY JAMES ADAM,

LATE MEMBER OF THE PROVINCIAL AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS, OTAGO.

SECOND EDITION.

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PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION.

A second edition of the following pages was not anticipated when first published, but the fact that this little book has found its way to Canada and the States of America, and has contributed in some degree to the exodus of sixty thousand persons from this country during the last three years, is perhaps a sufficient excuse for a second edition.

My love and confidence in New Zealand may be inferred from the circumstance that I am now about to leave Scotland for ever, that I may live and die in the land that has been so good to me.

J. A.

EDINBURGH, *February* 1876.

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TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF EMIGRANT LIFE IN THE SOUTH OF NEW ZEALAND.

I.

WHY I EMIGRATED TO NEW ZEALAND.

ON a dark night, nearly thirty years ago, I was passing through Belmont Street, Aberdeen, when I accidentally heard that two gentlemen from Edinburgh were to address a meeting in the Free South Church on the subject of emigration to the South of New Zealand.

Having for some time entertained the thought of emigrating to America, I resolved to hear what could be said about the remote islands of New Zealand and its cannibal inhabitants. On entering the church I saw several gentlemen on the platform, one of whom, the late Dr Bonar, was called to the chair, and introduced to the audience the Edinburgh deputation, Dr Alcorn and the Rev. Thomas Burns. The addresses of both gentlemen were very short, and the information of a very limited kind, for they were speaking of a country they had never seen, and of a life to which they were utter strangers. I was, however, favourably impressed with what Mr Burns said. This gentlemen, being a nephew of the Scottish bard, might have had some influence upon Scotch emigrants, if there were any poetry in the life of an emigrant, but he made no attempt to elevate the hard facts of an emigrant's life into the region of poetry and fiction. I had sense enough to know that toil, and perhaps danger, were the concomitants of life in New Zealand; but the simple fact that Mr Burns had resigned his charge and cast in his lot with the emigrants, and would sail with the

pioneers, gave confidence in the statements of the reverend gentleman, so that the seed fell into soil prepared and ready to receive it. At the end of the address I stepped forward and had a conversation with Mr Burns, who, on returning to Edinburgh, communicated to the Secretary of the Otago Association, Mr M'Glashan, the substance of that interview, and the result was an immediate offer of a free passage to the South of New Zealand on condition of my remaining there for a limited time.

II.

MODE OF APPLYING FOR A PASSAGE TO OTAGO OR ANY PART OF NEW ZEALAND.

Agency—Form of Schedule—Price of Ship's Kit.

Agency.—The Otago Emigration Office has for many years been at 3 Hope Street, Edinburgh, but on the 1st of October 1875 the office was taken over by the General Government of New Zealand, so that emigrants for any part of New Zealand may now apply to Mr George Andrew, at the Edinburgh office, or the Agent-General, at 7 Westminster Chambers, Victoria Street, London, who will supply all information relative to Otago, and the other provinces of the colony.

Mode of Application.—The Edinburgh office will issue forms of application free of expense to all who may apply, provided they are healthy, young, and have a trade that is wanted in the colony. The printed forms have seven questions and a blank space opposite each, where the applicant may write the answer. The questions are—

- 1st. To which province of New Zealand do you wish to emigrate ?
- 2d. What is your employment ?
- 3d. Are you married or single ?
- 4th. Where do you live ?
- 5th. What is the name of your clergyman ?
- 6th. Who is your master ?
- 7th. When do you wish to sail ?

In addition to the written answers, each applicant must send a certificate from a doctor as to *health*; another from master, as to *trade* or occupation; and one from a clergyman, as to *moral character*. The certificates are sent along with the schedule to Mr Andrew, 3 Hope Street, Edinburgh, and an answer will be returned in a few days, informing the applicant whether he is to get a free passage or otherwise. Approved applicants are told to be ready to sail on a certain day, and forward immediately the sum of £1 for ship's kit, which consists of mattress, pillow, blankets, sheets, knife, fork, spoons, and tin dishes for use on the voyage.

III.

FIRST DIFFICULTIES.

THE real difficulties of emigrant life do not always occur at the same time and place in different individuals. There is nothing so difficult to foretell as the life of an emigrant; he may be a drudge and a grumbler all his days, or he may be the prime minister of a prosperous colony in ten years. He may land with five shillings in 1848, and die worth £25,000 in 1862, and *vice versa*. Emigration is a powerful test of the capacities of men, and it is equally severe in testing the character. On receiving the offer of a free passage for myself and family, I was requested to give an immediate answer. I was not long in making up my mind. I accepted the valuable offer, believing that in doing so I was consulting the real good of my family. As soon as my relatives became acquainted with my resolution they endeavoured to dissuade me from emigrating. Even my wife, who at first had been passive in the matter, now became an active opponent, and sought to enlist my minister, the late Dr Davidson, in the opposing ranks, but the utmost he would consent to do in the matter was to withhold a certificate of character, believing that would give a temporary check. Opposition was of no avail; the Rubicon had been passed, and I felt it impossible to draw back. And now, after upwards of twenty-six years of

emigrant life, I can honestly say that the greatest difficulty I ever experienced was breaking away from the loving hearts of a father's home. Never can I forget the last look I had from the steamer, as she bore me away from home and kindred and the place of my birth. On nearing the bar I saw a family group standing at the end of the pier, to have a last look of the son and brother. I stood aloof from the rest of the passengers, and waved my hand. My brother and sister instantly recognised me and waved their handkerchiefs. My aged father (threescore and ten) saw me, and lifted his hat and waved it very sorrowfully, while I beheld his white locks fluttering in the breeze. At last I saw him wipe the tears from his eyes and turn away. I have never seen a scene like that again. Had it been possible, I would have followed him. He never expected to see me again, and, considering his years, all hope was taken from me. Yet we were both mistaken. Ten years later I recrossed that bar on one of the London steamers—not as a steerage passenger—and again waved my hat to the same family group. I embraced both parents, and the old people blessed the day I sailed for New Zealand; and I assure the reader I have no cause to regret it myself; but on looking back to my first day of emigrant life, I unhesitatingly affirm that it was the only difficulty I ever had, and my experience is that of thousands now resident in New Zealand.

 IV.

ABOARD.

First Impressions—Improved Ships—Worship—A Marriage—Trial by Judge and Jury—Scene in the Court.

ON 20th November 1847 I went on board the "Philip Laing," the vessel that was to be my home for five long weary months. The first sight of my *compagnons de voyage* was not reassuring. I saw persons there whom I did not expect to see, but first impressions are not very trustworthy; five months' constant contact with fellow-

passengers gives an insight into character not obtainable by any other means. This knowledge gradually modified first impressions. Some fell by the process, others rose, and some have lived only to strengthen and confirm them. The emigrants seemed to have come from the east and the west, the north and the south, but the west was perhaps the greatest and worst contributor. Friendships were formed then which in many cases have been retained in all their freshness for a quarter of a century. The emigrants numbered about 260, and were crammed into a vessel of 400 tons, a striking contrast to the magnificent ships that now, in seventy or eighty days, connect New Zealand with Britain. The first *bona fide* emigrants to America were huddled up in the "Mayflower," and we were equally uncomfortable, so far as the size of the vessel and the length of the voyage were concerned. It has long since been changed times with the emigrant to New Zealand. The finest steamers from the eastern and western hemispheres now carry the mails and passengers from Britain and America to Dunedin in forty-five days; but in the early days of the colony, four and five months was the proper time. Wearisome as eighty days' sailing to New Zealand may appear in comparison with ten or twenty to America, yet I question if the advantages to the emigrant are not greater in the one case than in the other. The long passage teaches the emigrant patience and economy in stowing himself and family afterwards in a small house. Habits of discipline are formed, and the art of making the most of everything, so that when he lands in his adopted country he is not easily put out with every little annoyance, but, on the contrary, his long passage has only fitted and nerved him for difficulties yet to come.

From the day we weighed anchor till it dropped at Port Chalmers, the Rev. Dr Burns conducted our worship morning and evening; and on Sabbath we had the same services as we had been accustomed to on land. It was a fine sight to see the emigrants and sailors gather round the grey-haired divine on a dark and stormy night. Dr Burns usually stood in front of the poop at 8 o'clock at night. His only son Arthur, a young sailor lad of sixteen years, held the old gentleman steady with one hand when the vessel rolled heavily,

but in the other he held a bull's-eye lantern that his father might see to read. On such occasions our minister showed his partiality for such passages of Scripture as proclaimed Jehovah the God of the sea. I remember how the features of the old man brightened up one very stormy night when he read the narrative descriptive of the latent powers of a weary sleeping Man, who "awoke and rebuked the wind and the sea," that was followed by a mysterious calm. These morning and evening exercises of praise and prayer had a beneficial influence upon other duties, and were very much prized by the well-disposed who were amongst us. There were three marriages on the voyage, and a good deal of sweethearting went on. Two of the parties came from Rutherglen, and were duly proclaimed one Sabbath and married next day in the cabin by the minister. The marriage, however, was a much easier affair than the bedding. That was a more difficult operation than Jean and Gavin had bargained for. Up till the night of the marriage the girl had slept with the young women, but after marriage Jean was rendered ineligible for the single women's compartment, and Gavin could not take her to his old quarters. This dilemma was caused by there being no spare bed amongst the married people; but with the aid of the captain and the wives, a vacant bed was created by removing some of the children elsewhere. Here, however, a new difficulty presented itself: a bed-place had been found, but where was the bedding? The happy pair found that their old partners would not part with a sheet or blanket to cover them, but insisted on a rigid application of the contract on which they began the voyage. In these distressing circumstances, what was to be done? A subscription of bed-clothes was started. Some gave sheets, another a blanket, a third a mattress, and a fourth a pillow, until at last Jean and Gavin were "happit," their sorrows ended, and "happy wi' ane anither." Such a primitive arrangement cannot take place now, and no person of sense should form an alliance on such short notice.

The most remarkable event that took place on board was connected with a young lad amongst the single men; he was made the butt of one man in particular, who never ceased to domineer

over the boy ; but the fellow played his joke once too often, for we were all horrified to hear that the boy suddenly sprang upon him, and stabbed him in the abdomen ; the boy was instantly imprisoned, but it was found that the table-knife had doubled up, the broad point refused to penetrate the moleskin, and, most fortunately, the man's life was saved by the merest accident. A trial at once took place—Rev. Thos. Burns judge, and a jury of twelve passengers. The sentence proposed by the jury was a severe reprimand, two days' confinement, and the head to be shaved. Before the sentence was pronounced, a vigorous defence was made by one of the jurymen, and a strong case made out for the defendant by showing that the lad had for weeks tried by various means to escape from his tormentor, and failed ; that the rash act was the resistless impulse of a moment, which he now bitterly regretted. The judge summed up, pointing out to the prisoner the enormity of his crime, and the providential manner in which it had been frustrated, condemned him to two days' imprisonment, his hair to be cut quite off (not shaved), and his father to be the executioner ; the latter part of the sentence was the only request made by the parents. As soon as the prosecutor heard the sentence, he very impudently told the Court that he did not think it severe enough. Never shall I forget what followed. Dr Burns throughout the trial had exhibited a quiet, calm, dignified manner ; but no sooner had the bold swaggerer uttered the last word than the judge fixed upon the speaker a piercing look, and addressed him in a voice trembling with emotion, and for several minutes he poured out such a storm of withering rebuke as made the fellow quail. He charged him in the most scathing language as the real author of the crime that had taken place, reproached him with ingratitude to God and man, and hinted pretty plainly that he, Mr Burns, possessed magisterial powers until we arrived in New Zealand, and that, if the complainant did not conduct himself better in future, he would find that power was one which he could not resist. I have known Dr Burns as preacher for five-and-twenty years. I have heard splendid bursts of eloquence during that time, but never did I see rage in such a grand and dignified attitude—the grey locks, the eagle eye, the

Roman profile, the right hand stretched forward, the clear voice, the trembling frame, the impassioned eloquence, and the profound silence of the onlookers, made up a picture which it is impossible to reproduce.

V.

VOYAGE.

Dangers—Bay of Biscay—Smooth Seas—Invalids—Dietary—Pastimes—
A Queen—A Jolly Friar—An Ambassador.

MANY persons are deterred from emigrating to New Zealand from an idea that because the voyage is long it must be correspondingly dangerous. A more erroneous idea could scarcely be entertained, so far at least as my experience is concerned. I have now crossed the ocean in four emigrant ships, and I can truly say that the dangers of a voyage to New Zealand are, humanly speaking, confined to the first three days after leaving Glasgow. The real danger is in getting quit of the coast of Ireland, and a fair wind of over thirty hours will accomplish that. The same remarks may be applied to the *discomforts* of the voyage, for these are generally confined to the first three days. After that, the passengers begin to get their sea-legs and sea-appetites; and a joyous sense of danger past, and the conviction that the most delightful part of the voyage is drawing near, never fails to exert a happy influence upon those who, in rounding the coast of Ireland, learn for the first time that the real danger to their ship is land, not water. Seven-eighths of the accidents which happen to ships are caused by the vicinity of land; very seldom, indeed, are vessels, and specially emigrant vessels, foundered at sea.

The Bay of Biscay has long been a source of anxiety to the mere landsman; and those who have heard a Braham or a Templeton sing the imaginary terrors of that spot, will be very much surprised to find that no emigrant ships for New Zealand go through the Bay of Biscay. Glasgow ships especially are so far out in the Atlantic,

as to be far beyond the imaginary swells of the Bay of Biscay, or any other bay. About ten or twelve days' sail from Britain ships enter a very pleasant part of the voyage. From 40° N. lat. to 30° S. there is a smooth sea and fine leading winds; for whenever a ship enters the trade-winds the sailors expect five or six weeks' sailing in a smooth sea. Here they change the sails, taking down the strong new canvas and putting up old sails, because they know the winds will be light, warm, and steady for weeks to come. It is in consequence of the pleasure and salubrity of the climate in this part of the voyage, that medical men have for many years been in the habit of recommending invalids, and consumptive persons, to take a voyage to New Zealand and back again. I know of no healthier exercise for an invalid than walking the deck in the tropics; and certainly there is no prettier sight than that of a 1600 ton vessel with all sails set, her tall masts bending to the breeze, cutting the dark blue wave with her prow, and leaving a long, white streak of foam in her wake, which at night becomes quite luminous from the amount of phosphorescent light streaming from millions of living creatures that are playing round the stately vessel, and competing with her easily in the race. In one of my voyages to Dunedin our ship was surrounded all night for a week with a living halo of light from myriads of the finny tribe that surrounded the vessel, and during the day the bonito, dolphins, and flying-fish were constantly playing round us, and occasionally one of the latter, who had miscounted his powers on the wing, would strike some sail or rope and fall on our deck, to the great joy of the children. The interest of the voyage increases every day as the vessel approaches the equator. Returning ships laden with the spices and merchandise of the far East are met in great numbers hurrying to the commercial cities of Europe, and specially to the empire city of the world. Letters are written and sent to anxious friends with the homeward-bound ships; and failing that, the telegraph is run aloft, giving the name and destination of the emigrant vessel, and requesting the passing stranger to report her "all well."

To many persons the monotony of the voyage only brings out the best qualities of an ever-active mind. A morning paper written

on foolscap is generally started about the equator, and the printers and editors are invariably the best penmen on board; the news of the week, or of the previous day, is detailed in the most attractive manner, and any amusing incident is sure to be presented in an exaggerated form so as to amuse. Substantial information is also given by the captain and officers as to the progress of the voyage, and little bets are given and taken as to the day of sighting land, passing the Snares, or entering Port Chalmers, &c. Another mode of passing the time is by having evening concerts, which on moonlight nights whiles away many a pleasant hour; or a bazaar for some seaman's home is got up by the young ladies, and the proceeds sold by auction. Of late the New Zealand Government provide sewing and knitting materials for the use of the emigrant girls, for the purpose of employment and recreation. Another institution at sea is a Post-office, when there is a morning and evening delivery. Love-letters form a large part of the delivery; and as this is almost the only mode by which the young men may communicate with the single woman, in consequence of the regulations, which are very strict on this point, the Post-office is as useful an institution at sea as on land. Tea, card, and quadrille parties, solos on violins, flutes, and concertinas, also books of all kinds, which are lent from one to another; for if only fifty emigrants have a book each there will be reading for seventy days; and if a clergyman is on board, worship is held every evening, and the singing led by a good choir of young lads and lasses. There is also a day school for the children.

These are some of the modes by which a long voyage is shorn of half its tedium, and my experience has always been, that the last three days is the only part of the voyage that is wearisome. The character of the voyage gradually changes from lat. 30° to the Cape of Good Hope. From the Cape to New Zealand the winds are much stronger, and the waves higher than in any other part of the voyage. In this quarter of the world there are always westerly gales, which blow so strong, that it is no uncommon thing for emigrant ships to sail 300 miles a day; and it should be a consolation to those who are timid when I assure them that these westerly gales are *always* a fair wind to New Zealand. A case once

occurred of a vessel bound for Otago having her yard square for five weeks, so that the sailors did not touch a brace during that time. The safety of the voyage may be inferred from the single fact that 90,000 persons have been safely landed at Dunedin during the last seventeen years, and the only accident of any consequence during that long period was the case of the "Surat," a London ship, which had sprung a leak about four miles from the Otago coast, and was, at the request of the passengers, safely run ashore without any loss of life. One shipping firm of Glasgow (Patrick Henderson & Co.) have largely assisted in colonising Otago; during the last twenty years they have neither lost a ship nor a passenger. Indeed, the voyage to New Zealand is so safe and agreeable, that Miss M'C.—from Carlisle—has written to her parents saying that it was like a pleasure-sail.

The voyage to Dunedin is 1200 miles longer than to Melbourne going out, but it is 1200 miles nearer returning home; and the reason for this paradoxical statement is, that vessels for Australia and New Zealand go *out* by the Cape of Good Hope, but *return* by Cape Horn, thereby going round the world, or always sailing east until they complete the circle. One consequence of always sailing east is that the ship time gains on Greenwich time 11 hours and 20 minutes, so that the approach of night in Scotland is the dawn of day in New Zealand. Our seasons are equally opposite; winter in Britain is summer in New Zealand. On New-Year's Day we have strawberries and cream, and pic-nic parties, and out-door amusements. From Dunedin to London the ship time gains other 12 hours and 40 minutes on Greenwich time, so that Sabbath on the ship is only Saturday in London; and to correct this error, it is necessary to have two Saturdays, or two Sundays, as the case may be, on passing from the Southern to the Atlantic Ocean.

Diets.—Perhaps nothing has such an influence in shortening the voyage, as the continual process of eating and drinking. This part of an emigrant's duty has been fixed by an Act of Parliament, and is rather a heavy undertaking for all parties—purveyors, cooks, stewards, and especially so for steerage and cabin passengers.

We subjoin here the

“DIETARY SCALE.

	Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.	Weekly Totals.
Beef, ¹ . . . . .	...	8	...	...	8	...	...	16
Pork, ¹ . . . . .	...	...	8	...	...	...	8	16
Preserved meat, ²	8	...	...	8	...	8	...	24
Suet,	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	6
Butter, ⁶ . . . . .	...	3	...	3	...	...	3	9
Biscuit, ³	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28
Flour, ⁴	20	12	12	12	12	12	12	92
Rice or Oatmeal, ⁵	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	28
Peas, (pint)	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$	...	$\frac{1}{2}$
Potatoes, fresh, (lb.)	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	3
„ preserved, (lb.)	$\frac{1}{4}$	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$	...	$\frac{1}{4}$	...	$\frac{3}{4}$
Carrots, . . . . .	...	4	...	...	4	...	...	8
Onions, ⁷	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	8
Raisins,	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	8
Tea,	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Coffee, roasted, . . . . .	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	2
Sugar, raw,	4	...	4	...	4	...	4	16
Molasses (W. India), . . . . .	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	8
Water, (qts)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	21

Mixed Pickles, $\frac{1}{4}$ pint.

Mustard, $\frac{1}{3}$ oz.

Salt, 2 oz.

Lime Juice, while in the

tropics, 6 oz.

Pepper, $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

* * Except in the case of peas, potatoes, water, and pickles, all the above figures indicate ounces.

“Children between 1 and 12 years of age are to receive preserved meat instead of salt meat, every day; and in addition to the articles to which they are entitled by the above-written scale, one pint of preserved milk and three pints of water, daily; and every alternate day one egg or its equivalent in condensed egg and 8 oz. of oatmeal, and 4 oz. preserved soup; and 8 oz. flour, 4 oz. rice and 10 oz. sugar weekly.

“Children under one year old, 3 pints of water daily; and if above four months old, one pint of preserved milk and 4 oz. preserved soup daily; and every

1 These articles are to be prime new Irish or American best India Beef, and *picked* pieces of prime mess pork, either Irish, Dantzic, or Hamburg.

2 No part of this supply to consist of soup and bouilli.

3 The biscuit to be extra navy biscuit, and equal to sample furnished. At least two-thirds of the supply for the voyage shall be put on board the ship either in tanks or sound air-tight casks.

4 The flour to be kiln-dried, and at least two-thirds of the supply for the voyage shall be put on board in air-tight casks. Upon Sunday 8 ounces of flour per adult shall be issued to the emigrants for the purpose of making puddings; and the remaining 12 ounces, and the whole of the allowance upon other days, shall be issued to the baker, to be made by him into bread.

5 Equal weights of rice and oatmeal to be shipped, and the distribution to be made, as far as may be practicable, according to the preference of the passengers respectively.

6 Only three ounces of butter per week to be issued to each child.

7 No onions to be issued to the children.

alternate day one egg or its equivalent in condensed egg, and 12 oz. white biscuit, 8 oz. oatmeal, 4 oz. sago or arrowroot, 8 oz. flour, 4 oz. rice, and 10 oz. sugar, weekly. To infants under four months old, such nutriment shall be issued as the surgeon may consider necessary. An additional quart of water to be issued daily for the use of each person sick in the hospital if the surgeon shall so order."

This dietary scale credits every steerage passenger with eating 21 lb 13¼ oz. per week, and the cabin passengers with a good deal more, without reference to 12 galls. of water; but this feat is nothing to what I once saw some delicate ladies and gentlemen undertake on one of my homeward voyages. In 1859 the Honourable W. H. Reynolds and I were passengers by the ship "Kent," from Melbourne to London. A little mutiny was got up amongst the cabin passengers, because of the limited scale on which they were fed. It had been discovered by a gentleman on board, that we had *one diet less* than was given on board the "Great Britain." Our grievance amounted to this. There were 60 adult cabin passengers and 30 children. The children had breakfast at eight o'clock, the fathers and mothers at nine; luncheon at twelve, with all sorts of wine, ale, and spirits; the children dined at one, and the parents at three, with wine and spirits, and champagne three times a week, followed by a rich dessert of grapes, olives, and other fruit. Children, tea at five o'clock, the older folks at six; and, finally, a light supper at nine P.M. Before appealing to the captain to treat our stomachs with greater consideration, Mr Reynolds and I were consulted by the mutineers, and asked to take a part in the great struggle for our rights and liberties. This we declined to do; and so far as I was concerned, I said I should prefer a diet fewer to one more. This broke the back of the conspiracy; and we arrived after all in London in a remarkably healthy condition.

The Queen's birthday is always a gala-day at sea. Happy the emigrants who sail with a generous captain on that day. On my first homeward voyage its monotony fled with the dawn of the Queen's birthday. Captain B. had intimated that a grand champagne dinner would be given in the evening in honour of Her Majesty; and the arrangements of the programme were left to an actor, a solicitor, and self. As the day wore on the interest increased. The cabin passengers had erected a throne-room on the poop, with a folding screen like a theatre;

and the sailors were busy fastening a line of lanterns all round the ship at equal distances. Every shroud and backstay at the proper space, was turned into a lamp-post. The steerage passengers, too, were equally busy preparing for a torch-light procession and masquerade ball. At seven o'clock, when all was dark, the festivities began. The lanterns were lighted from stem to stern on both sides of the rigging. A flood of light illumined the main deck, and the swift sailing ship must have looked to those at a distance like a phantom palace. Five hundred passengers and crew turned their eyes to the poop deck when the bell rung. The curtains—which had veiled a throne from the eyes of the vulgar all day—were drawn to each side. A hum of applause burst from the spectators. A lady, who bore some resemblance to our good Victoria, was seated on a throne—with a beautiful crown on her brow sparkling with diamonds and precious stones; and a sceptre in her right hand surmounted with a ponderous amethyst. The queen was robed in real ermine,¹ and round her stood the ambassadors of various nations from the East and the West. The ambassador of New Zealand brought the loyalty of that distant colony to the front by striking up "God save the Queen." Five hundred and twenty voices joined in singing the national anthem in four parts, the grand echoes of which pealed far over the dark blue sea, and must have been borne on the evening breeze, like a vesper hymn, to other vessels far on our lee. After the anthem came the procession round the deck, followed by the masquerade ball. There seemed no want of ladies, though where they came from I never knew, as they were never seen before or after that assembly, but the hussies were by no means bashful. The display of operatic legs was something that would vie with Covent Garden.² At nine o'clock the ambassadors began to assemble, and take their places at table. Grace was asked by a French priest, Father B. The display on the table was in its own way like a Lord Mayor's dinner. Five stewards and three cooks, had evidently put forth their greatest powers on behalf of her Majesty, and the foreign representatives.

¹ An actress on board, who possessed the regalia of a queen, had lent it for the occasion.

² A number of young gentlemen personated the gentler sex.

Fish,—meats,—fruits,—and liqueurs—were there in such abundance, that an Irish priest—and two ambassadors—were placed *hors de combat*. Twenty-four gentlemen at table had asked the ecclesiastic to drink wine, which he did like a jolly friar of the good old type ; but the effort was too great for him to sustain, so that four of the young gentlemen elevated Father O'H. on their shoulders, and bore his reverence, with as much dignity as was possible in the circumstances, to his own state room. The toast of the evening, "The Queen," was followed by that of the "Emperor of the French." This toast was replied to by a fine tall gentlemanly-looking man, Father B., who spoke French as his native tongue. He told us what Napoleon III. had done for France, and what France was going to do for the world ! Poor man ! Sedan was in the womb of the future, and his patriotic boast was well received. The "President of America" followed, out of deference to the gentleman who shared my cabin. The grandeur and unity of the republic was well told by the Yankee ; but then he knew nothing of Bull's Run. The "Captain" followed, then the "Officers," and the party broke up. At 12 o'clock I met the Turkish ambassador on deck, who being unable to sustain his dignity at dinner, had wisely left in time. He was dressed in rich blue cloth, gold edging, and cocked hat ; and I could see plainly that he believed himself to be the *real* representative of the Grand Seignior : it was no sham in his case. I think I have now stated a sufficient number of facts, and said enough to satisfy the most sceptical, that a voyage to New Zealand—and back again—need not be monotonous.

 VI.

LAND HO ?

Pilot-Boat—Revolutions in Europe—"Square the Yards"—Child Overboard—
A Cannibal Chief—Port Chalmers.

THE longest journey has an end, and it is astonishing how soon those five months of monotonous existence passed away. On the 11th of April 1848 we arrived at the entrance of the Otago harbour

—on one side a fine bold headland, Tairoa's Head, on the other a low sand-pit. Our hearts danced with delight at the sight of the pilot-boat. Four young New Zealanders pulled the boat, the oars bending beautifully to a well-timed stroke. The crew were clad in European garments; they had fine open countenances, one of them slightly tattooed, all of them a little dark in the skin, similar to our own countrymen when bronzed with an Indian sun. We were delighted with the looks of the natives; but the most remarkable person in the boat was the pilot, a very tall man, with the steer oar in his powerful grasp, a native of Bristol, with a strong look of the Yankee about him. By a vigorous sweep of the steer oar he laid the pilot boat—a whale boat—alongside our vessel, and in a moment he was on deck in earnest conversation with our captain and Mr Burns, the latter holding up his hands in utter amazement in consequence of something which the pilot said. What a revolution! The captain no longer commands his ship. The King of France no longer rules the French! Thrones and crowns put up to auction and knocked down to the highest bidder—ourselves the subject of greater changes than either. We are now to exchange land for water—the peace of an inland plain for the broad expanse of a troubled sea. In four months our little ark has drifted half the circumference of the globe. But more news. The sister vessel, which sailed from London with the English emigrants on the same day as ourselves, arrived three weeks ago, all well. A favouring breeze from N.E. inflates the flapping sails. “Square the yards” rings out distinct from the pilot above the hum of many voices. The order is with difficulty performed on the overcrowded deck. Slowly we float to the entrance of the harbour. The farewell swells of the Pacific Ocean bear our tiny bark to the long looked-for haven of rest. A glorious panorama is opening to our view; a thousand white-plumed sea-birds fly lazily overhead or skim the water. The children mount the bulwarks, flinging bread to the feathery tribe. Sea-gull, cormorant, and cape-pigeon contend for these morsels, and the ringing laughter of many children complete the harmony of the moving scene. Suddenly the scene was changed. A scream was heard, followed by a plunge, and the cry of “A child

overboard!" Frantic mothers rush to the ship's side. Fortunately there was a gentleman in the cabin who was prepared to risk his life for the youngster. He seized a rope, sprang overboard, and caught the little sufferer just as he floated astern. Assistance was at hand. Both were soon on deck again, the child none the worse for the ducking, and the other ennobled by his heroic action. At the end of a quarter of a century the deliverer, Mr Blackie, though long since dead, lives in the grateful remembrance of the emigrants.

The passengers now began to crowd round the pilot, asking many questions about the natives, wild pigs, and the country. This was the very thing he wished them to do, and the countenances of many changed as he threw out dark hints about the cannibal feasts of the aborigines, and the probability that the fattest emigrants would get an insight into the manners and customs of the New Zealanders, in which they would be unusually interested. "Look," said he, pointing to the shore, "at old Tairoa, the chief, coming out with his boat to mark off the best of you for the next feast." We all looked in the direction indicated, and there, sure enough, was a whale boat crowded with natives making for the ship. A rope was thrown to them, and the old chief came on board, a hideous face carved from the ears to the tip of his nose with beautiful scroll-work, into which gunpowder had been rubbed to such an extent as gave the face a horrid cannibal look. I introduced myself to his rag-tag majesty, and took him down-stairs to my wife, who gave him some biscuit and beef to eat, which was most thankfully received. This introduction to the aristocracy of the land produced the opposite effect intended by Mr Driver, the pilot. Preparations were making to bring us to anchor at last. "Is the anchor all ready there?" "All ready, sir." "Let go." A heavy plunge—a harsh grating of the chain-cable as it runs out fast and furious, the ship gives one angry tug at the restraint, and swings round to her anchor in five fathoms water in the centre of a beautiful amphitheatre of hills densely wooded from their summits down to the water's edge.

VII.

MURMURINGS.

The Scot and the Jew—Points of Resemblance—Aaron stills the People—
A day's Shooting—Gamekeepers from Home—Wild Pigeons.

WHEN the first emigrants from Goshen arrived at the confines of Palestine they were seized with a most perverse spirit of contradiction. The promised land was a failure, and the serfdom of Egypt earthly bliss. The spies indeed admitted that the land was good. The ponderous bunch of Eshcol grapes compelled them to admit that fact; yet, with one breath, they said the land flowed with milk and honey, and in the next that it was a land that starved its inhabitants.

The same spirit of contradiction accompanies some emigrants wherever they go. Men who see the same scenes, are braced with the same climate, and live for years in the same district, give the most conflicting and irreconcilable descriptions of one or all of these things. Whence is this? It is the state of mind which they describe, not the actualities of the case. The most unfortunate thing that can happen to an emigrant is to meet a returned colonist whose life has been a failure. Such men never blame themselves; that would be too candid and straightforward. Rather than reflect upon themselves, or their want of perseverance and adaptation to the pursuits of a new life, they reflect upon the country, because it will not adapt itself to their preconceived ideas. On the other hand, the successful emigrant speaks well of the country. Probably it has raised him from penury to affluence, and this circumstance cannot fail to have some influence on his mind also, when speaking of a country that has been so good to him.

Next morning before breakfast we were all on deck. The excitement and novelty of the previous day had now worn off, and we began to take a practicable view of the situation. The agriculturists wanted some one to show them how a pair of horses could plough up hills whose sides lay at an angle of forty-five degrees. Weavers

from Paisley who had never seen an American axe did not know how trees eight feet in circumference were to be removed out of the way of the horses, even supposing they could pull up. Others had their doubts whether there was any level land in New Zealand, and some had misgivings about leaving the land of their birth. These murmurings at last reached the ears of Dr Burns—our Aaron and high priest. As an ecclesiastical leader and far-seeing practical man, the Doctor had few equals. He had a thorough knowledge of agriculture, and was every way well qualified to “still the people.” After breakfast, he called the land purchasers and emigrants on deck, and reminded them that the land they had come to cultivate was not the steep slopes of the harbour, but the rich lands of the Taieri, Tokomairiro, and Clutha plains: that for himself he was delighted with the aspect of the country; it had more than fulfilled his most sanguine expectations, and that, if the plains were as fertile as the hills around them, they would never regret having adopted the south of New Zealand as their future home.

The words of Mr Burns fell like dew upon the parched herbage. Hope revived like the barometer after a storm, and never sank to zero again. I have often wondered what the reverend gentleman would have said, if, instead of the exuberant vegetation of the rocky peaks that surround Port Chalmers,¹ we had been anchored at Littleton, amidst the barren and sterile rocks that threaten to force that little town into the sea. Fortunately he had a splendid text, and his appeal to the surrounding scenery was a most effectual one.

The harbour of Otago is divided into two parts—upper and lower harbour—by the peninsula on which Port Chalmers is built, and two small islands, that, like fortified gates, command the two narrow ship channels leading to the city of Dunedin. The lower harbour is at present the rendezvous of the large ships, where emigrants land, and cargo is discharged into lighters or railway trucks. The harbour is land-locked, and secure from the slightest swell from the ocean, and is about six miles long. Port Chalmers, situate at the head of the lower harbour, is a thriving town now, and has some beautiful buildings, and a graving-dock that cost £50,000. There is no such

¹ This town is named after Dr Chalmers.

graving-dock on the east of Scotland. The town is connected with Dunedin by swift steamers and a railway eight miles long. The upper harbour is eight miles long, and is entered by two deep channels, one 17 fathoms, the other 20 fathoms deep; but the water shallows rapidly, and only vessels of 400 tons burden go to Dunedin; but the Harbour Board contemplate the dredging a ship channel at a cost of a quarter of a million sterling; so that vessels of the largest size will discharge at Dunedin in two or three years from this date. A powerful dredge has been built at Dunedin at a cost £19,000, by which this great work will be mainly executed, but another dredge has already excavated a channel, by which the intercolonial steamers from Melbourne and elsewhere now land their passengers at Dunedin.

On the day following our arrival at Port Chalmers, arrangements were made to send the land purchasers to Dunedin in boats to select their town sections. Another arrangement was entered into with our captain, by which our vessel was turned into a floating barracks for the accommodation of the emigrants' wives and children, until barracks were erected for them in Dunedin, and in the meantime those who had guns went on shore for a day's shooting. These arrangements effectually dispelled the gloomy forebodings of the morning. Shots now began to be heard in all directions in the wood. No gamekeepers were to be seen; custom-house officers there were none. Wild pigeons, brown parrots, and parson birds began to fall in various directions.

Fortunately no person was shot, which was the more remarkable, as many of the emigrants had guns that day who had never handled one before, and the only way of accounting for this happy circumstance was, that the birds sat on the branches of lofty trees, so that a shot, if it did no good, could not possibly do any harm.

The wild pigeon is a magnificent bird, blue neck, olive wings, and white breast. It lives on the seeds of the white pine and other seed-bearing pines,—for we have no cone-bearing trees in New Zealand. As many as twenty pigeons will rest at noon on the white pine, hid from the sportsman in its ample foliage, and feeding on the rich clusters of its ruby berries. The flesh is dark in colour,

and at certain seasons is highly flavoured with the berries of the Goa (*Edwardsia grandiflora*), a tree that strongly resembles the oak in the grain of its wood.

VIII.

LOST IN THE BUSH.

Sensation of being Lost—Remedy—Appointment of Guide—Footprint in the Sand—Runaway Sailors—Crossing Pelichet Bay.

THE bracing influences of field sports determined a small party to travel as far as the site of the future New Edinburgh of New Zealand. This was no easy task, for an impenetrable forest of nine miles lay between the anchorage at Port Chalmers and the town; but as our spirits began to experience the invigorating influence of a new climate, and to feel once more the buoyancy of youth, no warnings or difficulties could daunt our courage, or deter us from an enterprise of danger, so off we went next morning "burning with high hope," and found our way as far as Sawyers' Bay (two miles from the ship), by following a surveyor's track; beyond this point we lost ourselves. We travelled all day and half the night up a mountain heavily timbered, in the vain attempt to reach the top, believing that a peep from that altitude would correct our latitude and longitude, and perhaps give us a sight of Dunedin. With this hope in view, and a determination to reach some place where we could rest for the night, we made superhuman efforts to accomplish this object. The sun set, but we struggled on, stumbling over immense blocks of stone for an hour and a half after darkness had fairly set in. There was no moon, and a consultation was held as to what was to be done. The sensation of being lost is one of the most perplexing conditions of life in which man can be placed. No sooner does the conviction of being lost fasten upon the mind, than a most irritative sense of danger takes possession of the whole man, and the spasmodic and frantic efforts put forth to correct the error, only lead the lost one deeper into the labyrinth. Dr Smid, a German

geologist, lost himself in this manner in crossing a neck of bush twelve miles broad, and was found two years after very little decomposed. Another gentleman was lost on Flagstaff, a mountain beside Dunedin. There is only one way of extricating the lost one from this peril, and that is to sit down and wait until the mind loses the oppressive sense of immediate danger. This calms the nervous system, hope revives, reason resumes her sway, and the mind gradually retraces all the steps of the journey, until it detects the first error. In our case we saw that the first error was in losing sight of the harbour, and we resolved to re trace our steps, by *descending*, till we came to some brook or stream that would lead us to the harbour. It was now near midnight, and quite dark. I was deputed to lead the way ; the others (five in number) agreed to be silent, and not perplex the guide by wrangling and disputation, for in cases of this kind every one thinks he knows best. We had already suffered much from this cause, and the guide determined, whatever the others might do, to follow a particular course.

A start was made, and we began the descent at midnight, and travelled, or rather stumbled for an hour, often falling over blocks of stone. A halt was called, for the descent was getting dangerous, and we were afraid of falling over some precipice. We lay down and tried sleep for two hours, when the moon rose and shone out brilliantly.

Whatever fears we entertained for our ultimate safety at one time, they were as nothing to the intense thirst we endured. From eight o'clock the previous day we had not tasted water, and the great exertions we had made to cross the mountain only increased our thirst. Probably we had passed many springs in the dark, but failed to see them. We resolved to avail ourselves of the moon to continue our journey, for the double purpose of nearing the harbour and finding water. After an hour's travelling the moon set and plunged us in darkness. To this day I never could account for a bright moon setting in the way it did that morning. Whether it were from an eclipse, clouds, or an overhanging cliff, we never knew, but whatever the cause, we could not proceed, as the ground was fearfully steep. Another halt was the consequence. We cut

down fern leaves five feet long and one foot broad, and spread them under the broad-spreading fern-tree. One of the party had a Scotch plaid which barely covered the whole party. Scarcely had this been accomplished when it began to rain. We tried to sleep, and if great exertion could have accomplished such a desirable result, we ought to have slept soundly, but our intolerable thirst effectually prevented anything of the kind. We crept close to each other for mutual warmth, and to escape the rain, and there we lay for about two hours, longing for the dawning of the day.

Three of our party were runaway sailors, one of whom was sent aloft at dawn to descry, not the land—Jack had got too much of that—but water. But water was nowhere to be seen. We again began our journey on the principle of descent; an hour's travelling brought us to a saw-pit and a dirty well, which we drank with the avidity of an Arabian caravan lost in the desert. What a sight for a teetotaller—the rush to that muddy hole! The most tempting offer of Hennessy's brandy would have been despised at that moment.

The sight of the old saw-pit was to us what the footprint was to Robinson Crusoe: we were saved! Others had been here before. Another sailor (Irish Jim) was sent up a tree to take a survey of our position, but no sooner had he reached the topmast branch than a joyful exclamation burst from him—"I see the harbour, not a mile distant!" A cheer followed, and next instant every one was climbing a tree. No one would take the unsupported statement of Irish Jim, he must see for himself; a long and satisfied gaze followed. The bearings of the harbour were taken, and away we went, and emerged from the forest in Sawyer's Bay, just as the captain of our ship was passing the bay in search of the runaway sailors. We would have hailed the boat, but as this would have compromised the sailors, and imprisoned them for three months, we remained quiet till the boat was out of sight. Shortly after, a native boat took the sailors on board, hid them in the bottom of the boat when passing the ship, and landed them at the native village at the Heads, where they remained for six months. The rest of us pushed on for Dunedin, crossed the mud flat of Pelichet Bay, wading to the

knees in mud, which we washed off in the Water of Leith, and at two o'clock arrived at the house of Mr John Anderson, where we were hospitably entertained by his "guidwife."

Those who now travel the same journey can never realize the difficulties encountered twenty-eight years ago. Instead of taking two days to travel from Port Chalmers to Dunedin, the journey can be accomplished in twenty minutes, in one of Pulman's cars; and instead of crossing Pelichet Bay "on shanks mare," knee deep in odoriferous mud, he may instantly perform that feat in a carriage richly furnished with all the luxuries that art now lavishes on railway travelling.

IX.

COLONIZATION.

Length of Voyage—Distance from Britain—Landing—Mode of Engaging Emigrants—Wages—Wives profitable.

THE length of the voyage to New Zealand is about 14,000 miles—6000 miles due south, and 8000 miles due east, and takes in general seventy, eighty, and ninety days' sailing. I came home in eighty-four days, and the ship returned in seventy-two. There are three routes to New Zealand by steam to those who can afford it, viz., by Egypt, by San Francisco, by the Cape to Melbourne and Dunedin. Each of these routes requires about forty-nine days to reach Dunedin. When the emigrants arrive at Port Chalmers the Government provides a train to take them up to Dunedin, free of expense, and sets them down at the Emigration Depôt, where an officer (Mr Allan) receives them at the depôt, a large building capable of accommodating a thousand persons. The centre of the building is for married people; one wing is for single men, and the other for single women, where a matron resides to provide for the comfort of the girls when they arrive; and so long as they are there the rules and regulations are such as to secure the character and

respectability of those who are admitted. Here a register is kept by the Government of vacant situations for domestic servants, ploughmen, &c. About half of the emigrants go to the depôt; the other half are met by their friends, and receive a hearty welcome to their homes. There are private lodgings and excellent hotels in abundance for those who can afford it. As soon as it is known that an emigrant vessel has arrived, ladies call at the depôt and engage the domestic servants at £30, £35, and cooks, £40 a year. Dressmakers, milliners, machinists, and needlewomen are engaged by the drapers at 20s. and 40s. per week of eight hours a day; shop girls and needlewomen have the half of Saturday and six holidays in the year. The farmers engage the dairy-women at £30 and £35 a year, and ploughmen at £50 and £60 a year, with board. I would recommend the young men to take their sweethearts with them; and though I often meet young ploughmen who hesitate to do so from very proper motives, yet I can assure all such, that, if they marry a girl who knows something about dairy or household work, and is willing to assist in the house, the farmer will allow ten, fifteen, or twenty pounds more wages to the man, so that a wife is in every sense the best investment a young man can make. Besides, he has an incentive to exertion unknown to the single man; and at the end of five or six years he will be a richer man than if he had been without a wife. Married ploughmen get £70 and £80 a year with a cottage, and food for himself and wife, so that a careful couple can save £60 a year.

In the event of twenty or thirty emigrants failing to find an engagement, the Government engage all such as are able-bodied men at 5s. and 6s. per day; and if any family is so poor as to be unable to purchase their first week's provisions, the Government will provide such persons with food until they have earned sufficient wages to supply their own wants.

A very general idea is abroad that because wages are so very high living must be very dear. This is really not the case. Beef and mutton are half the price of butchers' meat in Britain. Flour is only £10 per ton; 4 lb loaf in Dunedin is 5d.; sugar, 4½d.; tea, 3s. per lb, but it is no uncommon thing for two families to purchase

a chest of tea for £12 at wholesale price, or 2s. per pound. The hand is used instead of a spoon in filling the teapot, and the brew is generally pretty strong. House rents, doctors, and lawyers are the dearest things in New Zealand. Never go to law, and take care of a cold.

X.

ORIGIN OF OTAGO.

Canterbury Rejected—Purchase of Otago—Site of Dunedin.

IN 1840 a number of gentlemen in Edinburgh arranged with the New Zealand Company for a block of land to colonise with their countrymen on certain conditions.

The New Zealand Company forthwith gave instructions to their chief surveyor to lay off a large block of land for the Edinburgh Association, in the province of Canterbury, but they also gave him full power to explore the whole sea-board of the Middle Island, and, in the event of discovering a better tract of country, he was authorized to purchase it from the natives. After a thorough examination of the island from Nelson round the east coast to Milford Haven on the west coast, and a careful consideration of the merits of Canterbury and Otago, Mr Tuckett chose the latter as the best place for the new settlement, and on the 31st of July 1844 Colonel Wakefield, in presence of Captain Symonds, Government Commissioner, and Mr Clarke, Native Protector, purchased from the Ngaitahu tribe 700 square miles of land for £2400. All the native chiefs interested in the disposal of this land were consenting parties to the transaction by a regular deed written in both languages, and the result has been the complete absence of all those embarrassing questions about land titles that paralysed the northern settlements in their early days. A few years subsequently the whole of the land in the south of New Zealand was purchased, including a fine prairie extending from the Mataura River to

Foveaux Straits. By this purchase 20,000 square miles of land were added to the Otago Block, afterwards named the Otago Province.

Dunedin stands at the head of an arm of the sea fourteen miles long, having an area of about thirty square miles. This fiord is the natural highway to the interior of the country, and was probably one of the reasons for surveying the chief town at the head of the Otago harbour, and another reason was a clear mountain stream at the north of the town capable of supplying a city with abundance of pure water.¹ The town was laid off upon wooded terraces rising above one another for a mile back from the harbour.

On my arrival at Dunedin I was introduced by Mr Burns to his friend and coadjutor Captain Cargill. This gentleman represented the New Zealand Company, and was the leading spirit and founder of the settlement, and I was very much struck by his personal appearance. He was a grey-haired man, about sixty-five years of age, of small stature, a stout walking-stick in his right hand, a shepherd-tartan plaid thrown over his left shoulder, and a broad Scotch bonnet on his head. The countenance had a kind look about it, with a little shade of sadness. The eye had a mild expression, but the shaggy eyebrows altered that a good deal, and gave to the physiognomy a firm and determined look. This gentleman was singularly well-fitted to lead a band of men in any enterprise. He had known what it was to "rough it" in early life, having been an officer in the Peninsular army under the "Iron Duke." What contrasts met in the life of this man! In youth he would be the natty little ensign, with gold-epaulettes on his shoulders, white-gloved hands, and a sword dangling at his heels, or mingling in the stern strife that then shook the world. Now in old age he leads his countrymen, in the peaceful contest with nature, in founding a village, a town, a city, and at last the capital of a province about as large as Scotland. My introduction to this man was of advantage to me ever afterwards. I found him a true friend in the beginning,

¹ This water has been led into the city at a cost of £50,000, and the pressure is so great as to dispense with fire-engines in the case of fire.

and he never altered to the day when I saw him laid in an honoured grave. To me he was uniformly kind and respectful, and I am proud to think that the acorn which he planted has become a great tree.

XI.

HOUSE-BUILDING.

Poor Folks turned into Lairds—My Cottage—A Picnic—How Men without Capital become Landlords—A Stonehaven Emigrant—Savings of Servants.

WHEN the town was surveyed in 1844 maps of it were sent to London and Edinburgh for the inspection of intending purchasers. Amongst other features of the plan there was a line of streets and sections fronting the harbour. Every purchaser knew that ultimately these sections would become the most valuable, and every one resolved to choose town properties abutting on the harbour; but, on the day appointed for this purpose, the whole of the harbour frontage was withdrawn for public purposes—wharves, docks, quays, &c. A regular hubbub was the consequence. This arbitrary proceeding on the part of the New Zealand Company was in direct violation of the contract entered into with land purchasers in London and Edinburgh, and had there been a competent court in existence in the settlement there can be no doubt that the selectors would have taken proceedings against the Company, and have gained their point. Fortunately we had neither the court nor the superabundance of lawyers we now possess to haggle over the rights of the disputants. Besides, the aggrieved purchasers could not but admit the wisdom, although they still deny the justice of the reservation, and accordingly they were obliged to choose their properties elsewhere. All who could, chose in Princes Street, and fortunate they were who did so. Princes Street was represented by two surveyors' lines two miles long, and 66 feet apart. The street consisted of flax, grass, stumps of trees, creeks, and bogs. The town sections contained a quarter

of an acre, and only cost ten shillings, and yet they are now let at four, five, six, seven, and eight pounds per foot per annum, and even at that price there is a scarcity of good business sites. Most of the purchasers were poor men,¹ but the judicious investment of those ten shillings ultimately brought in a revenue of from three to eight hundred pounds a year, and placed them or their families in positions of comfort and independence.

Two days after the selection of town land, I applied for the lease of a quarter acre. I was too poor to purchase, and Captain Cargill gave me a temporary lease of a section at £4 per annum. As my family were anxious to leave the ship, I engaged two natives at 3s. a day to help me to build a house, and sent them at once to the swamp for a boat-load of grass to thatch the roof and sides. On my leasehold there was a clump of maple trees, but before cutting them down, I stretched a line through them for the ground plan of the house: trees which coincided with this line *I left standing*, merely cutting off the tops, and those which were out of the line were cut down and put in the line by digging holes. By this novel plan the walls were made strong and substantial in one day. The natives then put small wands or wattles across the uprights, about 12 inches apart, fastening them firmly with strips of flax, and over all they laced the long grass to the wattles, did the same over the roof, and at the end of four days my house was habitable. I have owned good houses since, but never have I been able to evoke the pleasure and happiness felt on the night my cosy hut was finished. I could not refrain from going out after dark to contemplate its proportions, architecture, and site. There was a difference of two feet in the breadth of the gables, but as no one could see the four corners of the house at once, it was never known to any one but myself. Next day I went down to the ship to bring up my family. I fear my wife must have felt some self-gratulation because she was going direct to her own villa, instead of a crowded and uncomfortable barracks. My cottage stood where the Empire Hotel now

¹ J. Buchanan, a weaver, was the first purchaser, and had a priority of choice over all others, for which he was offered two properties, but refused.

stands, with its busy throng of passengers and coaches, but none of my family could see it for trees. The entrance was through a leafy archway from Princes Street, and at the first sight of the rustic cottage a cry of joy burst from my little girl in my arms, and from the rest of my family. Here was a sweet reward for all my labour and toil, for I was anxious that their first impressions should be favourable. Tea, the never-failing beverage in the bush, was proposed. A fire was kindled outside, and the kettle hung upon a triangle of poles, while the frying-pan was doing duty lower down. That was the finest repast I ever had ; I have often been at public and private dinners, and seen the tables groaning under the weight of the feast, but these surroundings were wanting. The cottage, apparently in the centre of an impenetrable bush, the shades of evening closing over us, the gipsy encampment round the fire, the happy countenances of loved ones, the light and shade—turned a plain cup of tea into a delightful picnic not easily effaced from the memory. Indeed, the romance of emigrant life, in its first stages, was to me so enviable, that if need be, I would not hesitate for a moment to pass through all the phases of pioneer life again, which, in my case, was full of hard work, pleasure, profit, and healthful exercise.

One consequence of the high rate of wages which have ruled in Otago for the last twenty years, is that poor men become their own masters in a few years—five, six, or seven years. Many a farm servant in Otago who landed without any capital, now tills his own land of one, two, or three hundred acres of fine land. Five months ago, when I lectured in the U. P. Church at Stonehaven, an elderly gentleman in the front pew told me that I had taken out his son to Otago sixteen years ago, and though he had no means he now owns 700 acres of fine land near Invercargill. There is nothing to prevent a single ploughman saving £40 or £45 a year, and a domestic servant may save £20 or £25. A girl who is the sole support of an aged parent may, by emigrating to New Zealand, render such a parent far more substantial aid than by remaining at home. Mrs Adam and I were the bearers of many gifts of the above nature to people in this country; and I found several families in

the north of Scotland who were supported solely by the generosity of affectionate children at the antipodes.

XII.

THE CONDAMINE STORE.

Mischievous Properties of Gravitation.

THE rapidity with which I had built my house, its inexpensive materials, and the simplicity of the architecture, procured for me an order from De La Condamine to build him a store with dwelling-house attached. This recognition of my abilities led to other commissions of a higher order, till I was superseded by Clark and Garvie, both as architect and builder, but the author has never been superseded in the cheapness of his designs and contracts. The contract for the Condamine store was £5, 10s., plans and specifications gratis, and the job paid me well. Four shillings a day was tradesmen's wages then,—not 14s. as now, and I saved money easily.

Condamine was an impetuous man : what he did he did heartily. One day a ship came with goods to Port Chalmers ; the goods he purchased, and brought to the new store before it was finished. Mrs Condamine, who never took much interest in her husband's plans, remonstrated against the goods being brought into *her* parlour, but he coaxed her into a temporary occupation till the store was finished. There were no shelves, of course, in the parlour, but C. put up a board on two rude joists that crossed the room, and on these he began to pack crockery, pickle bottles, packets of ground pepper, and cheese, but, poor man, his knowledge of the equilibrium of bodies was so deficient that he put one cheese too many on the overhanging end of the board, and the result was a catastrophe. Mrs C. was sitting at a table, in a white muslin dress, reading a novel, her whole attention wrapped in the mazes of an intricate plot, totally oblivious of the busy world around her, when a monster cheese, 25 lb weight, fell on her shoulders, and brought her back to

the commonplace things of life; she gave a theatrical scream, and fled to the opposite side of the house. Unfortunately this was not all. The fall of the cheese having restored the equilibrium of the shelf, the return to a horizontal position was too sudden for the remaining articles, which seemed to be possessed by the demon of mischief—pickles, crockery, Holloway's pills and ointment, leaped as from a spring-board and strewed the floor with an assemblage of incongruous articles. Mrs C. opened her artillery as soon as the noise was over, and demanded of her husband "if she had been brought to New Zealand to be killed by cheese?" Such an undignified mode of sacrificing a wife she had never seen in all the novels she had ever read. Poor C. calmed his better-half by soothing inquiries about her shoulders, and by an ample confession that the whole affair had happened through his culpable ignorance of the true centre of the earth.

The Condamine store was a complete success, although the proprietor was destitute of all knowledge of such a business. It was three times built, first of grass, then of wood, and at last of iron, and on each occasion it was built on a new site. Money was made, and Condamine at last left his family well provided for.

XIII.

SECOND DIFFICULTIES.

Home-Sickness—Cure—A Birth—Large Families—A Farmer wants a Wife.

HOME-SICKNESS is a disease common to emigrants, and one that is sometimes very difficult to cure. The new land, new scenes, new pursuits, may for a time preserve the strangers from home-sickness, but come it must, sooner or later. The new faces that look upon the emigrant are not familiar ones. Comparisons drawn between home friends and colonial acquaintances are not always in favour of the latter, although the latter are really his best friends, ever ready to "help those who help themselves," but shun the idle and dissipated. No amount of kindness or sympathy can heal the wrench

of home separation. Like sorrow for the death of a child, its cure is a thing of time. This differs in different temperaments, but in general home-sickness requires one and a half years to effect a cure. In my own case it was completely met by a busy life and an extensive correspondence about men and things. In particular I wrote largely about persons who had come from the same place as myself, and who utterly neglected to do so themselves, so that my letters became a source of deepest interest to a large circle of persons unknown to me, for they knew that my letters would always make some reference to their loved ones. And here I would say to emigrants, If you want a cure for home-sickness, write parents, friends, and relatives often—once a month. Those men or women who deny themselves this privilege lose one of the greatest incentives to exertion and success that can be acquired by son or daughter.¹ There is a double pleasure in writing good news to your friends compared with not writing at all, for it encourages the emigrant to increased exertion, that he may write something better next mail, and perhaps to remit a small gift of money to cheer the declining years of a parent; for this is in the power of domestic servants and ploughmen, many of whom discharge this pleasing duty with great fidelity. “Home-sickness” remained in my family for some months, and was only eradicated by the following proposition to my better-half:—“We must give the country a fair trial. If you don’t like it at the end of a year I will send you home again, on condition that you make as much as will pay your own passage.” This was considered a great concession, and satisfied my “guidwife,” who had been a dressmaker on her own account. She at once set to work, and in six months enough had been made to pay her passage to Britain. This result of the needle produced an effect quite opposite to what had been intended, for no sooner did my wife and her sister discover that they possessed the power of returning home at pleasure than the desire to do so left them. They were astonished at the

¹ This sin was painfully impressed on me at the evangelistic meeting in the Free Assembly Hall, Edinburgh, on the 8th of May, when an aged mother requested prayer on behalf of a careless son in New Zealand, who had *never* written to his sorrowing mother.

rewards of their own industry, and wisely concluded that a country which could reward the hands of the diligent with such liberality, was not a country to be left for the silly qualms of home-sickness. That was the author's experience of home-sickness. The real cure is success. It was never heard of again, and was soon effectively disposed of.

About this time two very important events occurred in my humble cottage, viz., a birth and a marriage. With regard to the former, which was represented by a son, it is worthy of remark that New Zealand mothers deal far more largely in sons than daughters. Whatever may be the cause, there is no doubt as to the fact. Parents with large families of young children I would not advise to emigrate. If, however, the youngest child is six or seven years of age, the number is a matter of no consequence, as they will find employment suited to their capacity and strength; but if the eldest child is only ten or twelve years of age, such families have lost the golden time to emigrate. They should have emigrated before the first child was weaned, or shortly after being married. This certainly is the proper time for a man to emigrate, but in the case of a woman she should emigrate before marriage, as she is wanted elsewhere.

The next event alluded to was the appearance of a respectable and well-fogged farmer from the West Taieri Plain, who, in the character of an earnest "wooer," came seeking my sister-in-law. As he lived twenty miles from the object of his love, the courtship was a very short affair; besides, they had emigrated in the same ship, and, no doubt, had often looked graciously at each other during the voyage, and the result was that the minister made them husband and wife. The union has in every respect been a most harmonious and productive one, represented by many sons and daughters, all well provided for.

XIV.

TRADE.

Servants turned into Masters—Retail-Dealers become Importers—
A Kelso Man—Trade of Otago.

STOREKEEPING is one of the most profitable employments in which any one can engage in young colonies. Many who began business in a very small way indeed have left the counter for the desk, and become large importers and wholesale dealers, with a corresponding staff of clerks and warehousemen. As the colony grows older the avenues to successful storekeeping become more crowded. The competitors in this race strive to distance their opponents, and in so doing some fail, but the great majority undoubtedly succeed. A stranger passing through the fine business premises that adorn the main streets of Dunedin would never dream that the men who own such places were once as poor as any ordinary emigrant.

Twelve years ago, Mr D. was an assistant in the shop of Mr K. at 40s. per week. After a service of five years he left his employer and started a business in opposition, which he had purchased from an old sailor on credit. So well did Mr D. manage his business that five years afterwards he resold the concern on most advantageous terms. D., having left the retail trade, aspired to the higher grade of business, and forthwith went to Britain, made arrangements for a large shipment of certain goods, and opened a wholesale establishment in a central part of the city of Dunedin. Shortly after, a beautiful and commodious stone building was built for D. & Co. Their trade is increasing, and his partner has opened an office in London for the more expeditious despatch of increasing orders.

The reader must not suppose that the foregoing is an isolated case. There is not a letter in the alphabet which does not represent the name of some one who, after ten or twelve years' serving behind the counter at a salary of fifty or sixty shillings per week, has

gradually changed his place from an assistant to a partner of some business that he can call his own. Messrs B., C., D., E., H., R., &c., &c., are all representative men for whom emigration has done everything. The first name is that of a gentleman who, thirteen years ago, was a draper's assistant in the town of Kelso, at a salary probably of 30s. a week; now he owns perhaps the finest retail business in Dunedin, employs fifty hands, and pays £250 weekly as wages. This sudden change of circumstances is not peculiar to Dunedin, but is common to the twenty towns that are in the Otago province; and I suppose is common all over New Zealand. Perhaps Invercargill is more remarkable for this class of men than any other town in New Zealand, where three-fourths of the merchant class are self-made men. All honour to the industry and perseverance of such citizens. They are the pith and stamina of prosperous communities; and if they will continue to exert their influence in the direction they have hitherto done, they will not only sustain the trade of Otago in its present prominent position, but increase it to the extent of our own requirements—a point which New Zealand has not yet reached.

The enterprise of the Dunedin merchants has done much for the commerce and prosperity of Otago. By their energy the trade of the port of Otago has reached the proportion of one-third of the trade of New Zealand; and yet so far is trade from being overdone, it is rather the reverse. Although New Zealand has been colonized for many years, her merchants have not been able to import from Britain the quantity of goods required to supply their own market; and at this moment she is in the anomalous condition of paying the Australian merchants at the rate of two millions sterling annually for a certain class of goods that could be got better and cheaper if imported direct from home. The imports from the Australian colonies for the September quarter of 1873 were over half a million, £91,000 of which was imported by Dunedin. Evidently we still require two or three firms additional throughout New Zealand capable of undertaking the Australian trade in home goods, which for many years they have been carrying on at our expense. How it is that our importing firms cannot overtake our

own trade, I know not ; but that it would be most advantageous to New Zealand to do so must be self-evident.

The import trade of New Zealand is steadily increasing, and presents us with large figures for a colony still in its infancy. The statistics are taken triennially.

Imports for 1871,	. . .	£4,078,193
Imports for 1873,	. . .	6,102,811
		<hr/>
Increase,	. . .	£2,024,618

Here we have an increase of two millions in the imports of a people who only numbered about 260,000 in 1871.

The exports for 1873 were £5,435,084, which is an enormous export trade for the diminutive population of New Zealand, and at once stamps this youngest of all British colonies as the richest in the world.

To the Otago emigrant it may perhaps be interesting to know what proportion of this activity and wealth really belongs to Otago—

Imports for all New Zealand,	£6,102,811
Do. Otago,	2,170,940

These figures credit Otago with *one-third* of the imports of New Zealand. The exports present to intending emigrants a still more remarkable statement :—

Exports for all New Zealand, 1873,	£5,435,080
Exports for Otago, 1873,	2,164,667

Here Otago takes a still more prominent place, and is credited with *two-fifths* of the export trade of New Zealand, while at the same time the population of Otago is only one-fifth of the colony. These figures indicate great activity and prosperity in a community that sends forth raw and manufactured material to the extent of £36 for every man, woman, and child. This phase of colonial prosperity and abundance is one which the emigrant will look in vain for elsewhere. The imports and exports amount to £72 per head. In

other words, the foreign trade of Otago for 1873 amounted to £4,337,607.

The financial year in New Zealand ends June 30, and embraces the above figures. The returns for the September quarter show that Otago kept her position in the trade of 1873 and 1874:—

Total imports and exports of New Zealand for the			
September quarter of 1873 and 1874,	.	.	£2,243,858
Do. do. do. Otago,	.	.	726,036

Here the trade of the province of Otago represents one-third of the whole colony. In this quarter no wool is shipped, *that* export being reserved for the December and March quarters, so that the utmost confidence may be placed in the future of Otago. All that she requires to unfold her resources is British capital and British labour.

TRADE STATISTICS of PORT of DUNEDIN for the Six Years ending
30th September 1873.

Comparative Table of Imports and Revenue from Customs at the
Port of Dunedin, for the years ending 30th September 1868,
1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, and 1873.

IMPORTS.			
Year ending 30th September 1868,	.	.	£1,587,754 4 6
" " 1869,	.	.	1,486,803 3 2
" " 1870,	.	.	1,524,650 18 4
" " 1871,	.	.	1,171,991 0 0
" " 1872,	.	.	1,565,852 17 1
" " 1873,	.	.	1,968,298 0 0
Increase 1869-70 over 1868-69,	.	.	37,847 15 2
Decrease 1869-70 from 1867-68,	.	.	63,103 6 2
" 1870-71 from 1869-70,	.	.	352,759 18 4
Increase 1871-72 over 1870-71,	.	.	393,861 17 1
" 1872-73 over 1871-72,	.	.	402,437 2 11

CUSTOMS REVENUE.

Year ending 30th September 1868, . . .	£205,469	8	5
" " " 1869, . . .	208,048	18	3
" " " 1870, . . .	201,086	4	1 ¹
" " " 1871, . . .	192,536	14	5 ²
" " " 1872, . . .	215,415	11	10 ³
" " " 1873, . . .	255,900	2	2 ⁴

¹ Includes £2268, 2s. 10d. of Excise duty.

² Includes £4073, 0s. 9d of Excise duty.

³ Includes £5935, 10s. 8d. of Excise duty.

⁴ Includes £10,564, 0s. 11d. of Excise duty.

Comparative Tables showing the Values of the Principal items of Import at the Port of Dunedin, for the years ending 30th September 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, and 1873 respectively.

(A.)—IMPORTS OF SOFT GOODS.

	1869-70.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.
Apparel,	£22,542	£13,612	£14,606	£22,590
Carpeting,	8,324	4,002	7,767	15,791
Cottons,	2,243	1,104	11,001	2,393
Drapery,	346,725	216,072	342,652	403,799
Haberdashery, ¹	179	675	...	20
Hosiery, ¹	28	...	...	...
Hats and Caps,	20,630	13,029	17,153	21,021
Linens,	1,328	287	805	1,187
Mats and Rugs,	4,373	2,485	3,008	3,245
Millinery,	2,915	288	471	...
Oil Cloth,	1,264	289	1,037	3,106
Scrim,	885	1,046	2,424	4,317
Woollens,	13,068	7,306	12,272	13,766
Total,	£424,054	£260,195	£413,226	£491,035

¹ These appear to be usually entered under the general head "Drapery."

COMPARATIVE TABLE, showing the Values of the Principal items of Export from the Port of Dunedin, for the years ending 30th September 1871, 1872, and 1873 respectively.

	Year ending Sept. 30, 1871.	Year ending Sept. 30, 1872.	Year ending Sept. 30, 1873.
Barley,	£3,145	£591	£140
Barley, pearl,	287	160	220
Bones,	57	154	155
Bran, . . . . .	...	100	410
Building stone,	5	...	100
Butter,	749	935	8
Cheese,	263	142	92
Flax, N.Z.,	10,412	11,214	16,936
Flax Tow, . . . . .	...	96	190
Flour,	2,048	320	1,101
Fungus, . . . . .	...	1,400	998
Glue, . . . . .	...	95	136
Gold,	674,598	652,802	641,330
Grass Seed,	82	1,075	1,645
Hides,	3,337	5,638	8,599
Lard,	410	...	478
Leather,	3,539	7,867	10,456
Live Stock,—			
Ram Lambs, . . . . .	...	100	120
Meats, Preserved,	95,864	113,928	120,575
Oatmeal,	2,421	1,520	877
Oats,	5,877	10,724	7,991
Potatoes, . . . . .	...	...	10
Shells, . . . . .	...	300	138
Skins,—			
Salted and Pelts, . . . . .	...	47	170
Sheep,	60	1,435	2,329
Seal, . . . . .	...	...	720
Tallow,	27,908	23,654	29,459
Whalebone,	3	182	556
Whale Oil, . . . . .	...	2,300	1,070
Wheat,	4,470	11,503	42,155
Wool,	543,967	901,766	1,013,326
Woollen Manufactures, . . . . .	...	...	222
Total exports for same periods,	£1,395,231	£1,770,642	£1,916,294

The quantities of wool and gold exported are as follow :—

Wool,	13,224,594 lb	15,255,706 lb	15,543,308 lb.
Gold,	169,203 oz.	163,022 oz.	159,636 oz.

(B.)—IMPORTS OF IRON, IRONMONGERY, HARDWARE, ETC.

	Year ending Sept. 30, 1871.	Year ending Sept. 30, 1872.	Year ending Sept. 30, 1873.
Brass and brass ware,	£226	£360	£961
Chains,	550	408	1,065
Copper, rod and bolt,	220	603	129
Copper sheathing,	326	606	820
Copper nails, . . . . .	...	78	66
Copper ware,	13	...	271
Cutlery,	1,096	796	2,006
Grindery,	1,254	1,616	2,752
Hardware and Ironmongery,	25,441	30,128	61,319
Holloware, ¹	55	...	...
Iron, bar and rod,	7,436	10,990	19,160
Iron, fencing,	11,129	16,064	32,524
Iron, galvanized,	12,500	20,885	30,885
Iron, hoop,	1,960	3,356	2,580
Iron, pig,	1,975	2,722	3,053
Iron, sheet,	820	2,848	4,138
Iron pipes,	1,159	275	2,145
Iron, undescribed,	2,025	3,078	958
Lead pipes,	557	786	1,755
Lead, sheet,	521	1,455	1,770
Nails and screws,	4,933	5,906	13,542
Pumps,	390	218	594
Tin, block,	3,399	8,157	4,682
Tin, sheet,	24,882	38,016	15,687
Tinware,	153	271	230
Zinc,	1,423	580	980
	104,452	149,402	204,072

¹ Appears to be usually entered under the general head of "Ironmongery."

COMPARATIVE TABLE of the Quantities of Spirits, Tea, and Sugar delivered out of Bond during the years 1871, 1872, and 1873.

	Year ending Sept. 30, 1871.	Year ending Sept. 30, 1872.	Year ending Sept. 30, 1873.
Spirits,—	Gals.	Gals.	Gals.
Brandy,	43,651	46,325	52,744
Geneva,	16,391	15,243	14,927
Gin,	2,295	2,363	2,958
Rum,	8,035	8,059	8,782
Whisky,	30,703	29,835	29,790
Colonial-manufactured,	13,576	22,630	35,215
Totals,	115,351	124,455	144,416
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Tea,	467,857	548,683	596,358
Sugar,	4,721,079	5,040,698	5,357,701

TRADE OF NEW ZEALAND IN 1874.

(From the New Zealand Gazette.)

	Imports.	Exports.	Customs Revenue.
Auckland,	£1,583,786	£674,062	£238,781
Wellington,	1,154,130	528,120	149,431
Taranaki,	19,660	900	7,755
Hawke's Bay,	214,182	148,468	42,860
Total for North Island,	£2,971,758	£1,351,550	£438,827
Marlborough,	10,732	77,976	8,634
Nelson,	384,118	196,232	59,660
Westland,	351,044	512,658	81,681
Canterbury,	1,568,826	1,108,531	195,704
Otago,	2,835,334	2,004,322	404,442
Total for South Island,	5,150,054	3,899,719	750,121
„ North „	2,971,758	1,351,550	438,827
„ New Zealand,	£8,121,812	£5,251,269	£1,188,948

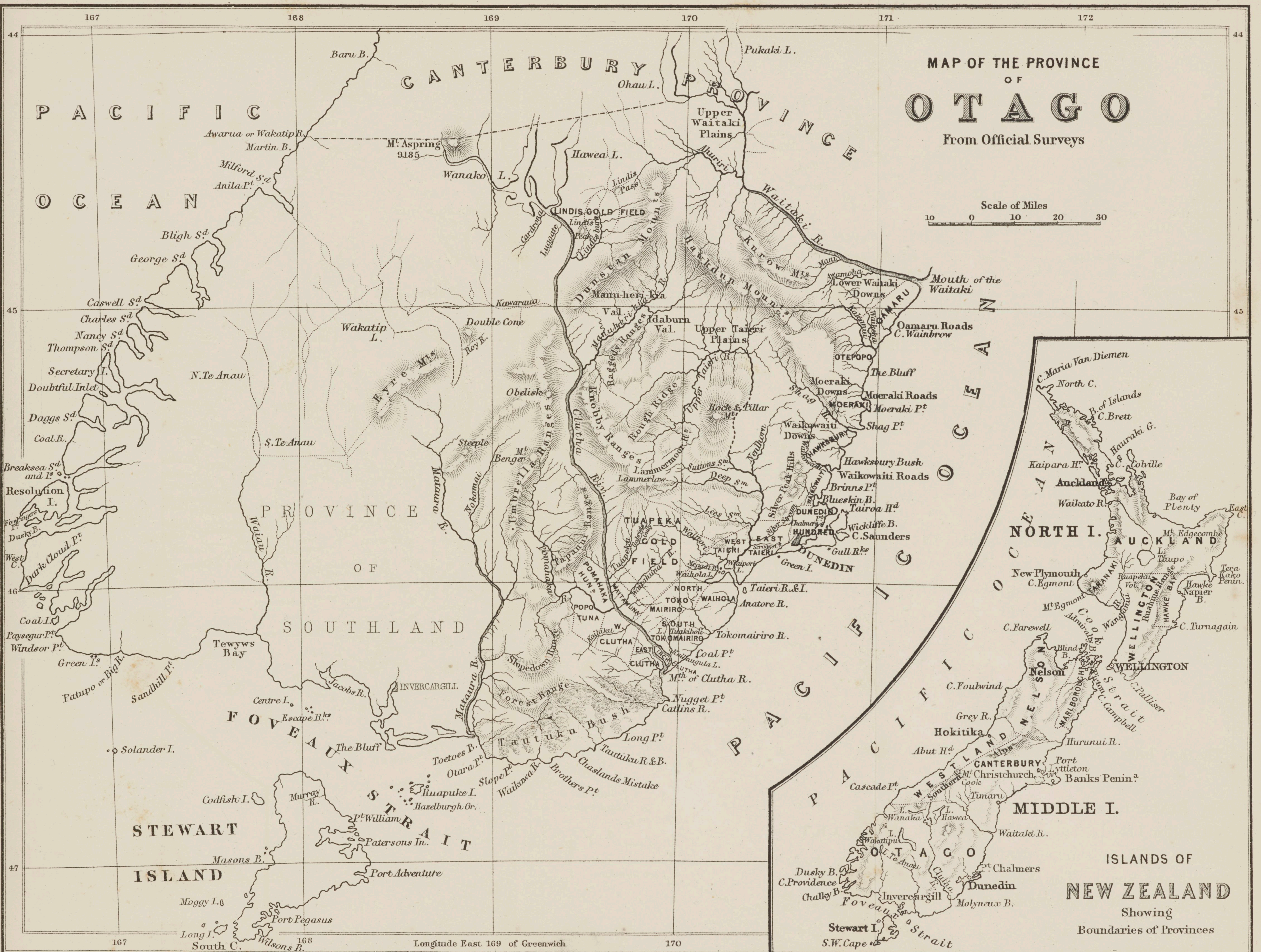
This table will enable the reader to make an easy comparison between the trade of Otago and the other eight provinces of New Zealand. One remarkable feature of this subject is, that the Import trade of OTAGO almost equals THE WHOLE of the Imports of the *North Island*. The Customs revenue is in a similar position, but the Export trade of Otago exceeds that of all the provinces of the North Island by £650,000.

XV.

COLONIZATION.

The three Islands of New Zealand—Tradesmen's Wages—Free Emigration—
Railways—Telegraph—Ocean Cable.

NEW ZEALAND consists of three islands, 1100 miles long, and about 160 miles broad; but its breadth, like its surface, is far from uniform. These islands occupy the same position on the globe as France and Spain. The North Island is less mountainous than the other island; it is the abode of the Maori, and has a climate cor-



responding to that of France. The natives number about 46,000. There is a volcano in the centre of the island—Tongariro, 6500 feet above the sea. It is not very active, and has always been very harmless. There is a fine lake and a number of hot springs said to possess medicinal qualities of great value. There are grand mountains and extensive plains, but the greater portions of the island belong to the aborigines, and as no land can be used for settlement until it is the good pleasure of the natives to sell, it may be many years before the North Island can be colonized in the way that the other islands have been. This island has an area of thirty million acres, and is destined to be the abode of a great nation. The North Island has been divided into four provinces—Auckland, Wellington, Hawke's Bay, and Taranaki. Each province has its special advantage and disadvantages; and it is the duty of emigrants to consider which province will suit their circumstances and pursuits. There are magnificent forests of trees, some of which, the kouri, would compare with the giants of California. It is largely exported, and before the days of iron masts was used in the French navy.

The town of Auckland, once the capital of New Zealand, is the largest in the North Island. Semi-tropical fruits grow in the province of the same name, such as grapes, peaches, and Indian corn, but sugar and cotton are unknown, as are, indeed, any fruits purely tropical.

The Middle Island is the largest in New Zealand. It is 500 miles long and 160 broad, and has an area of thirty-eight million acres. It has been divided into five provinces—Otago, Canterbury, Nelson, Marlborough, and Westland. This island is very mountainous on the west, where the New Zealand Alps rise from 3000 to 13,200 feet above the sea. This part of New Zealand is one of the most rugged and sterile regions on the earth, large portions of which have never been trodden by the foot of man. From this lofty range the land falls towards the east as in Scotland, and there occurs every now and then great sheets of level land, specially in the provinces of Otago and Canterbury, called plains. These plains vary in size from 20,000 to 1,000,000 acres in extent, and all that requires to be done is to set fire to the grass, and it is at once fit for

the plough. Although there are scattered parties of diggers, and even considerable towns in the interior, yet the great body of the settlers are on the plains on the sea-board. The county of Westland is devoted to gold mining, Nelson and Marlborough to pastoral and mining pursuits, Canterbury to wool and grain, and Otago to agriculture, wool, and gold. The mineral wealth of the Middle Island must be something enormous. We do not know what is contained in our mountains and plains. All that has yet been done is a mere scratch on the surface, and even that has produced 150 tons of gold in the single province of Otago; the other provinces together of New Zealand have produced a similar amount. Up to date thirty millions sterling has been paid to New Zealand for her precious metals; but when the reader is informed that one province alone of New Zealand, Otago, has 10,000 square miles of auriferous land, of which not a twentieth has yet been exhausted, he may infer the impossibility of estimating the mineral wealth of New Zealand. The Middle Island is almost destitute of natives—only 2000; in this respect there is a striking difference between it and the North Island. Volcanic action has long ceased in the Middle Island, which has neither smouldering fires nor hot springs, and the climate corresponds generally to that of England.

The absence of forest in the Middle Island has done more for the success and prosperity of the southern settlements than any other cause. The whole county is open and adorned with fine succulent grasses or fern, which grows luxuriantly on mountain, hill, and plain. Some remains of the ancient forests are still to be found here and there. These clumps of trees are a great ornament to the Southland district, and look like the plantation of some gentleman's seat. Twenty-seven years ago there was not as much wool in the great province of Otago as would have loaded three drays. Now noble ships of one and two thousand tons' burden carry annually £700,000 worth of wool from the single port of Dunedin. Seventeen million acres of grass were going to waste from the day that Captain Cook discovered New Zealand till 1848.

There are some silly people who are always crying out against emigration, but those who do so are not aware of the intense love

of country which fills the hearts of Britain's sons to such an extent that they prefer being customers of the British manufacturer, and thereby increase the consumption of goods to an extent they never could have done by remaining at home. The more colonies and rich islands Britain can annex, the greater the number of her markets. The motherly protection and wise counsels which guide the Government of Great Britain in the treatment of the colonial empire have only endeared the institution of our fatherland; and I have often seen a man who in this country was accustomed to denounce the Government of Britain, would, after acquiring a few hundred acres of land in New Zealand, speak with the most profound reverence of the institutions of his native land. The love of country is strongly developed in the inhabitants of New Zealand. The loyalty of the people has not been impaired by any large admixture of the foreign element. Young New Zealand gracefully holds the hand of Britannia, and the islands of New Zealand are irrevocably bound to the shore of Great Britain by the strongest ties of love.

Stewart's Island.

Stewart's Island contains two million acres, is about the size of Perthshire, and, like it, is rather mountainous. It is densely wooded on the slopes of its numerous beautiful harbours, which are second to none in the world in point of size, beauty, and security. Paterson Harbour is an inland sea, where the navies of Britain and France may ride at anchor. There are many beautiful islets in this harbour. Stewart's Island is destined to be the abode at no distant date of thousands of Shetland and Orkney fishermen, who will find abundance of fish all round the coast; and in stormy weather the bays and harbours will be found excellent fishing-ground. Here the skill and perseverance of the fishermen will find such a reward as will secure the possessor comfort and plenty in the evening of his days. To encourage this class of persons to settle in this fertile island, the Government give grants of 20 acres of good land to each fisherman, as an inducement to settle on this "bank of Newfoundland," that the abundance of the sea may be turned into an article of commerce.

Stewart's Island projects further into the Southern Ocean than any other land for four thousand miles; and its warm bays and sand-banks become the spawning beds of myriads of fish, from the tiny whitebait of two inches in length to the great cod or gropper of one hundred pounds weight.

There is a ready market for fresh fish at Invercargill, Dunedin, and other twenty towns inland. Stewart's Island is only separated from the town of Invercargill by a narrow strait, where boats could take the fish thence by rail to Winton, Queenstown, Clinton, Balclutha, Milton, Lawrence, Taieri Plain, Green Island, and Dunedin, with many lateral branches. The kinds of fish found round the islands are always in fine condition and great variety. Shell-fish are also abundant and of excellent quality. The gropper is the largest edible fish, and varies from 30 to 50 lb weight. Thousands of tons of fish might be cured annually, and a ready market found for them in the Roman Catholic countries of Europe and America, the freights of which would not exceed 45s. per ton, provided a full cargo were shipped to one port. Stewart's Island has much valuable timber for ship-building purposes. Here the iron-wood grows, and the soil is rich, and grows, without any manure, all kinds of grain, fruit, and potatoes,—the latter free from disease. The climate of the island is similar to that of Scotland; but the trees grow quite healthy down to the sea-shore, which they will not do in the north of Scotland nor on the Outer Hebrides. Could the poor fishermen of the west of Scotland be made to realise the comfortable home, gardens, and orchards they might make for themselves in four years in Stewart's Island, they would not hesitate for an hour as to what they should do; but their ignorance of New Zealand is so profound, and their love of barren rocks so ridiculous, that they prefer to live in houses without chimneys, and subsist on fish and potatoes,—such houses and fare as the natives of New Zealand would despise.

The three islands of New Zealand have an area of seventy millions of acres, and have been estimated as capable of supporting 25,000,000 of inhabitants; but even if we take only half that number, say 12,000,000, New Zealand is capable of ab-

sorbing the surplus population of Great Britain for a century to come. About 200,000 emigrants leave Britain annually for all parts of the world, and the New Zealand Government are anxious to divert a portion of the mighty stream to the shore of New Zealand, say 20,000 yearly. This number has been easily absorbed during the years of '73, '74, and '75, and the remuneration is higher than in any other country that I am aware of, and the hours of labour are shorter than in other places. During the last twenty years, eight hours a day is the standard of labour; of course there are some kinds of labour to which eight hours cannot be applied, but these are the exception, not the rule.

The wages of tradesmen vary from 10s. to 14s. per day, and this not a sudden rise that may subside as suddenly, for this rate has been maintained with carpenters, blacksmiths, tailors, shoemakers, bricklayers, coachbuilders, masons, &c., for the last twelve years, and what is better, single men can save 50 per cent. of their wages. It is the ambition of all well-doing families and housewives so to save and lay by, that at the end of ten or twelve years they may retire from their trade, and end their days on a farm that they can call their own. In the plain of Tokomairiro where I live, I am surrounded with farmers who are retired tradesmen from Dunse, Dornoch, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, &c., all carpenters. Dornoch alone gives us a mason, a shoemaker, a tailor, and carpenter, who own nearly a thousand acres of arable land amongst them. I have seen wheat on the carpenter's land six feet high over many acres, and yielding from 40 to 50 bushels per acre. These are the men that now have a voice in guiding the destinies of New Zealand, whose representatives have made land laws more favourable to the industrial classes in the province of Otago than are to be found elsewhere in New Zealand; and when intending emigrants see desponding letters from those who have been out in the colony, they need not be very much put about, for, with some exceptions, these men have themselves to blame for not occupying as good a position as the tradesmen I have alluded to. In Inverness I was asked why Mr So-and-so had left the Tokomairiro plain. The answer was very simple. So-and-so "had habits that will ruin him wherever he goes."

Free emigration to New Zealand is quite a new thing. In the early days of the settlements it was adopted to a very limited extent, but two years ago Sir Julius Vogel initiated a scheme of public works by which 1000 miles of railway are to be constructed, and £1,000,000 spent on emigration. Free emigration was the natural outcome of this large vote, and 61,000 emigrants have been added to the population during the last three years. One consequence of more labour has been the opening up of 120 miles of railway from Dunedin to Invercargill, and similar openings of lines elsewhere. The construction of 2500 miles of telegraph, and the more gigantic work of laying 1200 miles of cable from Australia to New Zealand, through, perhaps, one of the deepest places that a telegraph has yet been laid. The "Hibernia" has now taken the cable on board, and it is expected that very soon, if all goes well, New Zealand will be within three days of London news.

XVI.

ASSISTED EMIGRATION.

Repayments Easy—Workmen's Jaunt to Scotland—Rich Colonists' Dreams Destroyed—Love of Colonists for New Zealand.

FREE emigration is too costly to be permanent, and may stop at any moment, but it has done much for the colony; it has given an impetus to private enterprise never known before; and what seems very strange, wages were never so high since the founding of the settlement of Otago as they have been during the last five years. Assisted emigration will likely take the place of free emigration; but no young man or woman need hesitate to undertake an obligation to repay his passage-money of £16. Six months' work will enable a man or woman to meet this liability without much trouble. At present, however, there is nothing to repay under free emigration. The only condition attached to a free passage is a residence of three years in New Zealand; but an emigrant may leave before that time, if he or she wishes to do so, on payment of £16, the sum paid by

the New Zealand Government for their passage. This is a condition that carries reason on the very face of it ; and any man who boggles at it cannot be very honest in his intentions of settling in the colony. I am not afraid of any man or woman seeking to leave New Zealand if they have a fair amount of capacity and perseverance. Suppose a ploughman from Aberdeenshire emigrates to Otago, and becomes home-sick and wishes to return at the end of a year's service, he can pay his passage out and back again, and land in Aberdeen with £10 in his pocket. But the reader will never hear of New Zealand emigrants returning to this country in the way they have been coming from Canada and the States of America during the last two years. Three of my ploughmen returned to Scotland to visit their friends, one stops two years, another six months, and the other four months. All these men are in Otago again, and one of them has been with me five years. A ploughman in Scotland could not afford the expense of running out to New Zealand to see his friends there ; he could not bear such an expense, but there are 50,000 working men and women in New Zealand who could come to this country any morning when they are so disposed ; but those who have once tasted the sweets of the short hours, high wages, good living, and fine climate, are not likely to return to their fatherland but for a limited period. Many a colonist who has gone to New Zealand when he was poor, means to return again when he becomes rich ; and it is a curious fact that many who have attempted to carry out this resolution have abandoned it after a trial of a year or two, and return again. There are two hundred New Zealanders at present in Europe travelling for business or pleasure, but they are all going out again.

XVII.

DISCREPANCY OF SEXES.

Marriage profitable—Twenty thousand Marriages—Jeanie's Marriage—
Needle-women—Dairy-maids.

EVERY emigrant to New Zealand should provide himself with a *really useful* woman for his wife. Those who settle with such a partner are sure to succeed. Many who are now prospering there can trace a large amount of their prosperity to her diligent hands. Many young men emigrate without making any provision for a helpmate to follow or accompany them. Their excessive caution may be dearly paid for afterwards, by forming an alliance with some dressy fool that spends all her earnings on jewellery and silk, that she may cope with her mistress, or even surpass her, in the elegance of her attire. Besides, every male who enters the colony alone is adding to the numerous causes that have destroyed the equilibrium of the sexes, and to restore it now requires the introduction of 37,000 females. This great blank cannot be filled up by the birth-rate of the colony, which is rather increasing the evil. There is only one way known to us of removing the discrepancy that exists, and that is for parents in England, Ireland, and Scotland to give us of their daughters, as the Israelites did to the tribe of Benjamin. So anxious were the elders of Israel to supply that tribe with wives, that they connived at the abduction of the virgins of Shiloh. If it was considered polite and proper to steal maidens for such questionable characters as the Benjamites, surely we give a far stronger and better case for the imitation of fathers and mothers, when we entreat them to give of their daughters, both for service and for marriage, to the respectable colonists of New Zealand. During the last ten years 20,000 girls have been married there, and the number could not have been much increased, from sheer want of good marriageable girls. The great number of domestic servants who annually leave service to enter on household duties of their own, has reduced the number of available servants to such a degree, that the most extravagant wages are demanded by them, and in some cases paid. The general

wages may be set down at £30 to £35 per annum ; but competent cooks get £40, and in some cases £48. Parents demur to their daughters emigrating, on account of their youth, inexperience, and want of protection ; but so far as my observation goes, it is rather the sons than the daughters that need give any anxiety on these grounds. The son *may* not be a suitable emigrant, as he may not find a master the day he lands from the ship, but these potential circumstances in a son are an impossibility in the case of a daughter. She has only to be satisfied with reasonable wages, when an immediate offer of a situation will be made to her in some respectable family, in town or country, and her remuneration will be found to be higher in proportion than her brother's, whatever may be his profession.

No woman can have more control over her character and future circumstances in life than a domestic servant in New Zealand. Humanly speaking, she has her destiny in her own keeping. She is perhaps better adapted for the wife of a colonist than any other woman, from her knowledge of domestic economy—a science of such inestimable value in a large family that the want of it means ruin, the possession of it success. But she is under no necessity of forming an alliance that would impair her happiness, because her remuneration places her in a far more independent position than that of a governess and others. She has an offer of a free passage worth £16 ; on the voyage her character and comfort are strictly provided for, by stringent rules that have been issued by the New Zealand Government for the preservation of discipline on all emigrant ships under their contract. On landing at Otago a special railway train takes the passengers to the New Emigration Barracks, a palatial-looking building of the most ample proportions, that has been built by the General Government two miles out of the city of Dunedin. The railway runs into the yard of this building. Here the female immigrants enter that part of the building devoted exclusively to their use, and the moment they enter they become subject to the matrons and the rules of the establishment. By these rules board is provided until they are engaged ; and the gates are opened at eight in the morning and closed at nine in the evening.

No sooner do the immigrants arrive than the emigration agents offer immediate engagements to ploughmen and domestic servants; in many cases these are engaged long before the ship arrives. If the engagement is not acceptable to a servant, she is at perfect liberty to make other arrangements herself. If a girl wants to save money she should go to a rural district, where the fashions and the dress are not so excessive as in Dunedin.

Sixteen years ago Jeanie R., a domestic servant, arrived in Otago from Edinburgh. She entered the service of John Hyde Harris, Esq., and remained in his family for three years. She then left and was married to her "ain Jamie," a fellow-passenger with her to New Zealand, who has now an extensive business in all kinds of tin, brass, and plumber-work, and owns one of the finest warehouses in Dunedin. Jeanie is now the quiet mother of a fine family, and the modest wife of a successful Edinburgh apprentice. The demand for female labour, however, is not limited to domestic servants, although it is evident from the preceding remarks they are much wanted; needle-women and dairy-servants are also in great demand, the former in Dunedin, the latter in the country. Messrs Hallenstein & Co. have authorized me to engage *two hundred needle-women* immediately for their clothing manufactory. In this establishment all kinds of needle-work will be given, suited to the skill and capacity of girls from thirteen years of age and upwards. Those who are ignorant of needle-work will be taken as apprentices, and gradually led from the simplest needle-work to the management of a machine, while the average wages over the two hundred women will be 18s. a week. Only one condition has been insisted upon by the manager of this establishment, viz., that the girls must bear an irreproachable character.¹

The manufacture of clothes is an entirely new industry in New Zealand, and as Otago has taken the initiative in this most important branch of trade, it will not only add to her export trade, but will increase the value of female labour.

Needle-women are in great demand for dressmaking, mantle and millinery trade, which is annually increasing,—wages 25s. per week,

¹ See Manager's letter, p. 137.

—while forewomen receive £3 to £3, 10s. per week. Dairy-women are also required in increasing numbers, wages £30 yearly. There are also two wool-mills, the looms of which are wrought by women, but I am not aware whether they are full-handed or not.

From the foregoing remarks the reader will not be surprised to learn that we require for Otago 4000 females every two years, in the proportion of 2500 domestic servants, 800 needle-women, and 700 dairy-servants.

XVIII.

REMARKABLE COLONISTS.

Lowe—Childers—Vogel—An Aberdeen Clerk.

IT is not every man who has been successful in life to whom the term “remarkable” can properly be applied. Remarkable colonists, in the very nature of things, must ever be a fractional part of the community. Although the colonies of Australasia, considering their recent discovery and limited population, can never produce a large number of extraordinary men, yet they are beginning to leave their impress on the sands of time. Foremost amongst colonial men must be placed Mr Lowe and Mr Childers. Who would have thought twenty years ago, that the British empire would have been indebted for many years to a colony at the antipodes for a Chancellor of the Exchequer second only to Gladstone, or a First Lord of the Admiralty second to none in administrative ability; and yet these great men received their political training, not in the British House of Commons, but in the legislative assemblies of Australia. Perhaps the time will yet come when the great colonies, dominions, and dependencies of Great Britain will have one seat given to each of them in the House of Commons. This would be of as much value to the colonies as the appointment of their governors. These representatives of the wide domain of Britain’s Queen can veto all acts of the colonists, and, considering the trade and import-

ance of the colonial empire, it would be only just and politic to link them in such a way as would give them direct access to the British Parliament by a member, instead of by a third or fourth person.

New Zealand, though a very young country, is not without men of political eminence. The present premier of New Zealand, Sir Julius Vogel, has entered upon a scheme of reproductive works which has already exerted a powerful influence upon the prosperity of the country, and, if finally successful, will do more for the aggrandisement of New Zealand than all her premiers put together. This celebrated character may be said to be the Disraeli of New Zealand. He comes from the same race, lives by the same means—literature. His parliamentary *début* received the same check as his great prototype, and, like him, he at last compelled Parliament to listen to him, while he now sways the destinies of New Zealand. How is it that a stranger in a strange land was first rejected, then accepted? Is it the result of mere accident, or of undoubted ability? History is solving this problem.

The name of this gentleman is inseparably connected with the opening up of the country by the construction of 1000 miles of railway—the property of the state. Contracts for this great work were taken three years ago; large sections of which are already open for traffic, and paying remarkably well. Immigration on a comprehensive scale has also had the advocacy of Sir Julius Vogel; and 61,000 free emigrants have been safely landed in New Zealand during the last three years without the least approach to anything like a glut in the labour market, and at a cost of one million sterling. Telegraphic communication with Europe has just been completed; and, as already mentioned, New Zealand will soon be brought within three days of London news by a submarine cable—1340 miles being laid between New Zealand and Australia.

Another remarkable colonist was thirty years ago a young clerk in the office of the great paper-manufactory of Pirie and Son, Aberdeen. Under an apparently quiet and amiable disposition there existed an indomitable will, that would not be satisfied with a subordinate position. This young man left his situation in Scotland, and made

his way to the world's metropolis, where he entered the office of a large establishment, whose ramifications extended to the limits of commerce, and from the desk of a junior clerk he rapidly rose to the highest post in the concern—that of chief correspondent. This latter he also gave up, and started as a merchant on his own account, and for the last twenty years he has been a resident in Otago. Before and after his arrival in that province he took a deep interest in getting representative institutions for New Zealand, and, when Dunedin required a representative for the General Assembly, he was unanimously chosen.

On landing in Otago this young man entered into partnership with the Hon. Mr R., who for sixteen years has represented Dunedin in Parliament. Previous to that time trade had been under the dominion of an old Sydney merchant, whose great object was to make money, which he did rapidly. Our young friend commenced business on an apparently opposite principle, viz., to create a trade. The influence of these opposite principles upon the history of Otago was most remarkable. Under the influence of the former every one cultivated sparingly, and of course reaped sparingly: the farmer, when paid for grain, clutched the gold with a grasp so tenacious that it was lost to the world, and was never seen again. But under the genial influence of the other principle, the hand relaxed its hold, the gold came forth from its hiding-place, and appeared in some reproductive form.

The young merchant began to impress the community with his ideas. He encouraged the farmer to cultivate more largely. He advanced money on their grain and wool, and in a short time made his influence felt far and near. The old firm, which dealt largely in usurious transactions, took up a hostile position, and tried to drive the new principles and their author from the field. The leavening process, however, had been too rapid, and the advantages resulting were too widely felt, to be much affected by any opposition.

The young Aberdonian did not stop at building barges and ships, and freighting them to the distant market of California: he drew up a prospectus for the Bank of Otago, and when shares were taken

to the extent of £7000, a preliminary meeting was called, directors appointed, and, to the astonishment of the shareholders, a handful of beautifully engraved notes of the Bank of Otago were laid on the table, and the designs submitted for approval! The hearts of shareholders beat high at the sight of their own notes; here was what we all wanted, if the manager would but sign the notes. A charter was the only thing wanted, for which an application was forthwith drawn in proper form. Here was a glorious future bursting upon our little town of Dunedin. A career of usefulness lay before the young institution, second only to the Western Bank, but unfortunately Sir George Grey would not grant a charter. The General Government had a bank of their own, and it was not till fifteen years had expired that Mr Bathgate, as manager, started the Bank of Otago, which, though it had a charter, soon shared the fate of its predecessor in name.

The greatest work of the young merchant, and one that has sustained his popularity in every vicissitude, was the connecting Otago to Melbourne by steam. For many years Otago had been "pooh-poohed" by the older provinces of New Zealand, and a request from the inhabitants to connect them postally by a steamer subsidized out of the revenues of New Zealand was rejected, and a paltry £400 offered by way of a solatium. Poor Otago, that was the day of small things, but fortunately she possessed one colonist who was equal to the emergency. He went to Melbourne, purchased a steamer, and steamed 1200 miles across to Dunedin. Thus, single-handed and alone, he connected by steam the colony of Victoria with the south of New Zealand, thereby satisfying the credulous of the practicability of the thing, and securing a regular mail service and a ready market for the produce of Otago. By this one act was laid the foundation of the splendid steam-fleet that connects Otago with the rest of the world. In 1871, 270 vessels entered and cleared her ports, and many of these were steam vessels. Yet it is painful to know that although the enterprise and spirit thus manifested had done a vast amount of good for Otago, it was most disastrous to the young merchant and himself, his business, and his family. He lost his all, and suffered so severely otherwise that he was obliged

to retire for a time into private life. "Rome was not built in a day." But the sanguine merchant believed the thing was possible, and in attempting to raise Otago from a position of obscurity to one of prominence, he sacrificed much, and in doing so he sacrificed himself.

Four years' probation was the time imposed upon the young merchant. During this time of silence he retired to his villa on the sea-shore, far away from the busy haunts of men. The chief incident of this period was the capsizing of a boat in which he was a passenger in a squall. Here his days were nearly ended. Half an hour afterwards he was found clinging to the boat quite exhausted, and nearly gone. This deliverance was specially gratifying to one whose wife had been saved many years before from a watery grave by the efforts of this drowning man, and his reward for that act seems to have been the interposition of an overruling providence on his behalf when all was given up for lost. But his work was not yet finished, and he soon recovered. At the expiry of four years he was again called to public life by the electors of Port Chalmers. He rose rapidly in public favour, and ultimately the inhabitants of Otago conferred on him the highest honour which it was in their power to bestow, viz., the Superintendency of Otago. This honourable office has only been conferred on four persons—Capt. Cargill, Sir John Richardson, John Hyde Harris, and James Macandrew. To this office the latter has been elected three times in succession, and altogether must have held the office for about fourteen years, or until the office was done away in 1875, when the General Government of New Zealand assumed the functions of Provincial Councils.

The time has not yet come to write the history of this remarkable man, but the materials for a striking biography are most abundant, and the variety of light and shade scattered through an eventful life in Scotland, England, and New Zealand will be read with interest some day, when handled by a faithful artist. While there is much in it to warn, there is also much to imitate. One example of the latter must suffice. It is to the splendid determination that has ever characterized this Aberdonian that we are indebted for

that beautiful and venerable feature of the General Assembly of New Zealand, whose deliberations for the last eighteen years have been opened by prayer. This acknowledgment of a Supreme Ruler in the legislative assemblies of Australasia is unique. The practice is unknown in Queensland, New South Wales, Western Australia, Victoria, and Tasmania, and but for the perseverance of its author, would have been unknown in New Zealand.

XIX.

POLITICS.

The Long Parliament—Revenue.

ALTHOUGH a busy life does absorb all the time at the disposal of an emigrant, yet that circumstance will not justify him in devoting his whole life exclusively to selfish purposes. Long before he has arrived at independence he is called upon to lend a helping hand in public affairs. No matter how averse he may be to politics, if he is the right man, his fellow-colonists will insist on him devoting a portion of his time to the welfare of his adopted country. This was specially the case with the author, who, though destitute of all senatorial qualities such as are given by nature, education, or social standing, yet he was forced to enter the Provincial Council on behalf of Dunedin in 1856, when New Zealand got representative institutions. Four years he represented the electors of Dunedin; but during that time he built houses, boats, barges, and ships, cranes, saw and flour mills, had a farm in the suburbs, and was general treasurer for the Presbyterian Church and Property Investment Company.

The first session of the Provincial Council lasted for nine months, and probably would have lasted for as many years, had not Captain Cargill, the Superintendent, adopted the tactics of Oliver Cromwell, and dismissed our long parliament in a very unceremonious manner. The members of Council were elected for four years. Dunedin was

first represented by Messrs Cutten, Rennie, and Adam, and the rural districts by Messrs Macandrew, Reynolds, Harris, Gillies, Shaw, and Anderson. There are many incidents connected with the first Council that present the early legislators in a most primitive and unostentatious manner.¹ Parliamentary forms were unknown to us, and we groped our way through these things like schoolboys learning their lessons. We had an Aberdonian for first speaker, and an old town-clerk of Rothesay, John Gillies, led the Opposition, ably seconded by Mr Harris. These gentlemen were always opposing, but they were absolutely terrified to oust the ministry; *that* had happened once, when they were requested to form a new ministry. They were solicitors by profession, and acceptance of office, according to a proposition of their own, necessitated the giving up of a lucrative business. This was something more than they were prepared for, so the old Government (Mr Macandrew and Mr Cutten) returned to the ministerial benches, and the Opposition, though giving all the annoyance possible, were careful not to commit themselves to the management of public affairs.

The public treasury in 1856 was represented by a revenue of £1800. To dispose of this gigantic sum in the most profitable manner for Otago was the great and difficult problem before us, and it took nine men nine long weary months to accomplish the task! What contrasts meet the same men in the same Provincial Council! The first Council met in the Mechanics' Institution, a building 18 feet square, and cost only £130; now they meet in a magnificent hall, the furniture of which cost £2000, and the building £18,000. The councillors numbered nine gentlemen; now they number thirty-six. The revenue to appropriate was £1800, and now it is about half a million. The revenue of Otago, from the

¹ A small book on New Zealand appeared in 1875, written by a Mr Bathgate, who has been a short time in Otago. In this book reference is made to the Council of Otago, which the *Scotsman* quoted at some length. Unfortunately for the author and reviewers, there is not a particle of truth in the quotation. It would have been amusing had the incident ever occurred, but as one of the Council I know it to be a pure fabrication. I hope Mr Bathgate's other amusing stories rest on some better foundation.

granting of representative institutions to the present time, will show the reader a uniform and gradual development of her resources :—

In 1853	the Revenue was	£5,205.
1854	...	10,519.
1855	...	6,519.
1856	...	16,656.
1857	...	24,346.
1858	...	45,427.
1859	...	99,999.
1860	...	97,511.
1861	...	219,692.
1862	...	399,904.
1863	...	469,794.
1864	...	532,539.
1865	...	444,000.
1866	...	410,694.
1867	...	503,755.
1868	...	484,373.
1869	...	422,414.
1870	...	391,924.
1871	...	488,622.

(The statistics for the years 1872 and 1873 are not yet published.)

The disposal of these sums in the way most advantageous to the province made the position of the Otago councillor an important and onerous one. The revenue of the first Council stood in the proportion of £200 for each member; now it is £13,000; but I doubt if the disposal of a half a million now-a-days costs the councillors half the anxiety the first members had in disposing of the £1800. Every person over twenty-one years of age, who owns a certain amount of property, and has been resident in the colony six months, is entitled to vote for members of the Provincial Council, Superintendent, and members of the House of Representatives; but the Governor, and the honourable members of the Upper House of Representatives, are appointed by the Queen. The former are elected for periods of four years, and the latter for life. The Governor is removed from time to time at Her Majesty's pleasure.

After representing Dunedin for four years, I was anxious to withdraw from politics. During that time I had left the town and become a farmer in the suburbs, but my neighbours presented me

with a numerously signed requisition to represent Anderson Bay and Green Island, which I did for some years, I suppose to their satisfaction.

In 1857 I was appointed by the Government to visit Great Britain in the interests of the province, and when this was made known to the settlers, they voluntarily came forward and offered to pay the passages of their friends if I could induce them to come out and join them. The result of my visit to this country was that 4000 persons directly and indirectly emigrated to Otago, among whom there were 800 related to those settled in the country. After remaining a year in Britain I returned to face the very persons I had induced to emigrate. These emigrants met me in the heartiest manner, and in every way sought to honour me as the chief instrument in bringing them to New Zealand. Public and private testimonials were willingly accorded to me, and a seat in the Provincial Council offered to me three days after landing. The latter I declined.

From these facts the reader may fairly infer that what I had said about Otago had not been overdrawn.

I do not think it necessary to overstate the facts connected with emigrant life. New Zealand does not stand in need of exaggeration. The plain statements of facts and figures of this rising province speak far more eloquently to sensible men than any overdrawn picture; besides, there is a tendency in the human mind to depict the future in more pleasing colours than the past. As to those induced to emigrate sixteen years ago, it is impossible to conceive the prosperity and success of the great majority of them. They have been a credit to themselves and a blessing to their adopted country. The present prosperity of Otago and the advantages which it holds out to intending emigrants, are abundantly proved by the conduct of those who are in it and know it best. "During the last three years 42,300 free passages have been arranged for by settlers who wish out their relatives in Britain. Thousands have availed themselves of this arrangement and gone to New Zealand. It is a fine feature in the character of those who know both sides of this question, that they wish their friends to come and join them; and

it is a complete refutation of Mr Grant's meeting of unemployed, and his letter to the 'People's Journal.' To an unbiassed person it must appear incredible that respectable people in New Zealand should ask 42,000 of their friends to break up their homes and cast in their lot with New Zealand, unless they were fully persuaded that their friends would better their circumstances by doing so. I would specially caution intending emigrants against the statements of 'ne'er-do-weels,' or even others who do not belong to the classes that are wanted in New Zealand. Such persons are more likely to write bitter things against the colony than themselves. One of this class we have in the person of Mr Grant, Dunedin, who manages to eke out a miserable existence by declamation. This stump orator, who comes from Nairnshire, has for about sixteen years been the only living exponent of the unemployed of Dunedin; yet 90,000 emigrants have landed in Otago during that time, but Grant's unemployed don't appear to have become more numerous. The Octagon, an open space in Princes Street, is generally the place of his public meetings. There he is accustomed to stand and address tradesmen going to or returning from dinner; and there is something very amusing and even grotesque between the pompous style of the orator and the diminutive form from which it emanates. Workmen are always sure of a hearty laugh at his own expense or some other person, but in either case the poor man is equally gratified. Mr Grant is a man of varied attainments. He began life in Dunedin as a dominie, but he neglected his school and took to preaching, first orthodoxy, then the rankest heterodoxy, which no one would appreciate; next he became a labourer on the roads, and to this day he believes he dignified the implements of pick and wheel-barrow by using them in levelling the Octagon of Princes Street. Doubtless it is from the reminiscence of the useful work he did there that so endeared the spot to him ever after. Latterly, he became publisher and editor of the 'Delphic Oracle,' foolscap size, single sheet. When the 'Oracle' went down he started the 'Saturday Review,' which shared the same fate. The style of these publications is of the Dr Kenealy stamp, so rich and classical that it has brought him prominently before the public,

and made him familiar with prison fare, in actions for damage, and bandaged noses. The career of Mr Grant is one that should act as a warning to those kind-hearted people who injudiciously force the education of those who are destitute of common sense. Mr Grant, though a man of no ability, would probably have turned out a serviceable man had he been learned some useful trade; but instead he was sent to Marischal College, Aberdeen, and the result has been the production of a 'learned fool.' Mr Grant's life is without exception the saddest picture I have ever seen of education misused and what might have been a useful life misspent. So far has he lost all respect for himself, that those who have shown him most kindness in the days of his adversity have suffered most severely from his ingratitude. At one time the Dunedin papers used to report his meetings, but the effect of this was to inflate the little man with an importance that was likely to be followed by the catastrophe of the frog. Here the reader may ask, How is it that such a man could have any influence in getting up a meeting? I have often wondered at that myself, for his influence is *nil*, and it is only to be accounted for in this way, that the element of fun and frolic is so strongly developed in some folk, that they prefer one of Grant's meetings to a farce in the theatre, which always has this advantage over the other, that the farce is real, so far as the chief actor is concerned."¹ In no other town in New Zealand could Grant exhibit as he is allowed to do in Dunedin, and my only reason for referring to the man at all is merely to introduce and make intelligible the concluding part of a speech delivered by the Honourable Major Atkinson, Minister of Immigration, in the House of Representatives:—

"The total number of emigrants who had arrived in the colony in the years of '72 '73, '74 and '75 was 61,000. They had been distributed as follows:—Auckland, 8700; Taranaki, 1400; Hawke's Bay, 400; Wellington, 9300; Marlborough, 1086; Nelson, 1200; Westland, 600; Canterbury, 16,000; and Otago, 18,000. The proposals for this year were that 13,000 should be introduced.

"I may state that the Government think it a matter of very great

¹ From the Aberdeen *Daily Free Press*.

importance that a regular stream of immigration should be kept up, but that we should most carefully avoid introducing more persons than we are sure can find work readily. A small but regular stream of immigration, selected with great care, is what we now want. It is, I think (it certainly is to me) a matter of very great surprise that we have up to the present time succeeded in finding work for the very large numbers that we have introduced. I must confess to the House that I had some little doubt, or rather I had some little anxiety, for the last winter; and it is a matter, I think, for very great rejoicing, that nowhere in the colony has there been any lack, at very high wages, of work during last winter. The honourable member for Dunedin City yesterday wished to read a paper to this House—a resolution come to by some men who call themselves the ‘unemployed in Dunedin.’ Of course, a statement of this sort going abroad where the real facts would be unknown, would do more or less damage to this colony; and it is desirable that we should state what are the real facts as regards Dunedin. By information which I received of a reliable character, it appears that this meeting was got up by two or three perfectly worthless persons, and was attended by a few very worthless persons, and by a large number of persons who went to see what they called ‘the fun.’ The meeting was very rowdy—that expression, I am informed, correctly describes it. It was so unruly that the reporters left; they did not stop to report the meeting. To show that there has been absolutely no truth in the statement put forth, this is a report which I have received to-day from the immigration officer at Dunedin. I will read the whole telegram:—‘I did not consider so-called meeting of unemployed of sufficient importance to report to you. Meeting got up by Grant, M'Laren, and Powditch—well-known demagogues in Dunedin. Majority of those at the meeting were not the unemployed—they attended to have some fun. The meeting was so rowdy that the reporters left. The demand of labour can be judged by the following facts:—The “Waimea” arrived on 18th September, with 267 adults: “Invercargill” on 30th September, with 377 adults. All are now employed, except 26½ adults in the depôt to-day, who will be at work on Monday.’ Now, sir, I

think we may fairly judge of the worthlessness of the statement put forth. About 600 people—new comers—readily obtained work. After this, will any one credit the statement that in Dunedin men cannot obtain work in the course of a month? It is necessary that we should, as far as possible, contradict the rumours whenever we get the opportunity.”

One single fact will show the estimate which has been formed by fifty School Boards of the ex-schoolmaster. During the last seventeen years 143 schoolmasters have been sent for from Scotland, and employed at good salaries, but during that long period Mr Grant has been idling his time away about the corners of the streets. No School Board will employ him on any terms, and this rejection has so embittered him against everybody and everything in New Zealand, that he takes a malicious delight in speaking evil of his adopted country. It is a curious feature in the character of Mr Grant, that he will not leave New Zealand. A subscription was raised for him some years ago to send him back to Melbourne, where he came from, but after a few weeks' absence he returned to Otago. Evidently Dunedin, with all its faults, is the only place where Mr G. can manage to live.

The following letter will show how the uneducated, industrious, and sensible man succeeds, where the educated and foolish man has failed:—

“SHAG VALLEY, PALMERSTON, 4th November 1873.

“JAMES ADAM, Esq.

“SIR,—Knowing that you are to proceed to Great Britain as Emigration Agent, I have taken the opportunity of writing you this note to let you know how I am getting on since I came to this province. I daresay you will remember when you were in Melbourne in the year 1860, as agent for the province, of some of them that you sent over, that is, Alexander Ross and Mary M'Donald, for that was my wife's maiden name. She came over in the 'Pirate' with yourself, and I came in the 'Gil Blas.' She took a situation with T. B. Gillies, and I got employment on the roads at Look-out-Point, and after a few weeks I got to be overseer on the

Public Works. After being six months in the province, I got married to my intended, as you know that came over with you in the 'Pirate.' Now, I wish to let you know how I have been getting on since. I have to inform you that I have got a free farm of 83 acres, within a mile and a half of the flourishing township of Palmerston, all cultivated and stocked, and a family of five sons growing up and getting first-class education. My oldest boy is the best scholar in the Palmerston school. I know you will be glad to learn that I have done so well, for I had not a £10 note when you sent me over here. I was disappointed when you were up here that you did not call at Palmerston, for I wanted to see you about getting two sisters-in-law of mine out here, that is to say if they will come out. Their ages will be about twenty years. I got one the family out from home seven years ago, and she is well married in Palmerston. They who I want out are in Sutherlandshire. Their names are Mary and Hughina M'Donald; their father's name is Archibald M'Donald. Their address is to the care of A. Clark, Esq., Polla, Durness, Sutherlandshire. For my own pedigree I will refer you to Mr D. Ross, Rector of your Grammar School, and J. L. Gillies, Esq. I forgot to tell you that Mr Ross is a relation of mine. Be kind enough to remember me to himself and Mr Gillies.

"Dear Sir, if ever you should go north to Sutherlandshire, I have a cousin, a Free Church minister, in Durness. You might call upon him, and remember me to him. He might be of some service to you in the emigration line. I may mention that I am a native of the parish of Kiltearn, Evanton, Ross-shire. I have my mother living there, one brother, and sisters; but I cannot give you their address. Sir, be so good as send me an answer by return of post, and let me know on what conditions you will send out nominated emigrants; if they get out free, or are assisted to the port of embarkation. There are some others from the north that want me to write to you about getting their friends to this province, but I will wait till I hear from you. This country is exactly what you told me in Melbourne, and proved to be what you represented it to be. I would not exchange it for any country in the world.

“I must conclude with my best wishes for you, and a safe journey to the old country and back again; and wishing that you will be very successful in your mission. You were the means of bringing me to this country, and I wish you well.

“Mrs Ross wishes to be remembered to you. As for your kindness to her on board the ‘Pirate,’ she often says she will never forget it.

“I have written you a long letter, but you must excuse my bad spelling and want of grammar, for I am not in the habit of writing. I am a better hand at handling the plough. I add no more, and remain, your obedient servant,

(Signed) “A. Ross.”

XX.

G O L D.

Discovery—Tokomairiro—Bon-Accord—Chinese Worship and Pride—
Blue Spur.

IN 1859 I removed from the suburbs of Dunedin and went forty miles inland to the plain of Tokomairiro, where I purchased seven square miles of land, two-thirds of which was arable, and the remainder pastoral. Two years later a rich vein of gold was discovered by Mr Gabriel Reid about twenty miles from Tokomairiro. This discovery paralysed the ordinary pursuits of men. Farmers, tradesmen, and even clerks left their fields, benches, and desks for this El Dorado; even my shepherd, who had £120 a year, demanded double wages, was refused, and left. From that day up till the present time I have been accustomed to sit in the saddle from nine in the morning till three in the afternoon, and have, with the assistance of one of my sons, tended a flock of 4000 sheep, enjoying the most perfect health and pleasure in looking after my own business.

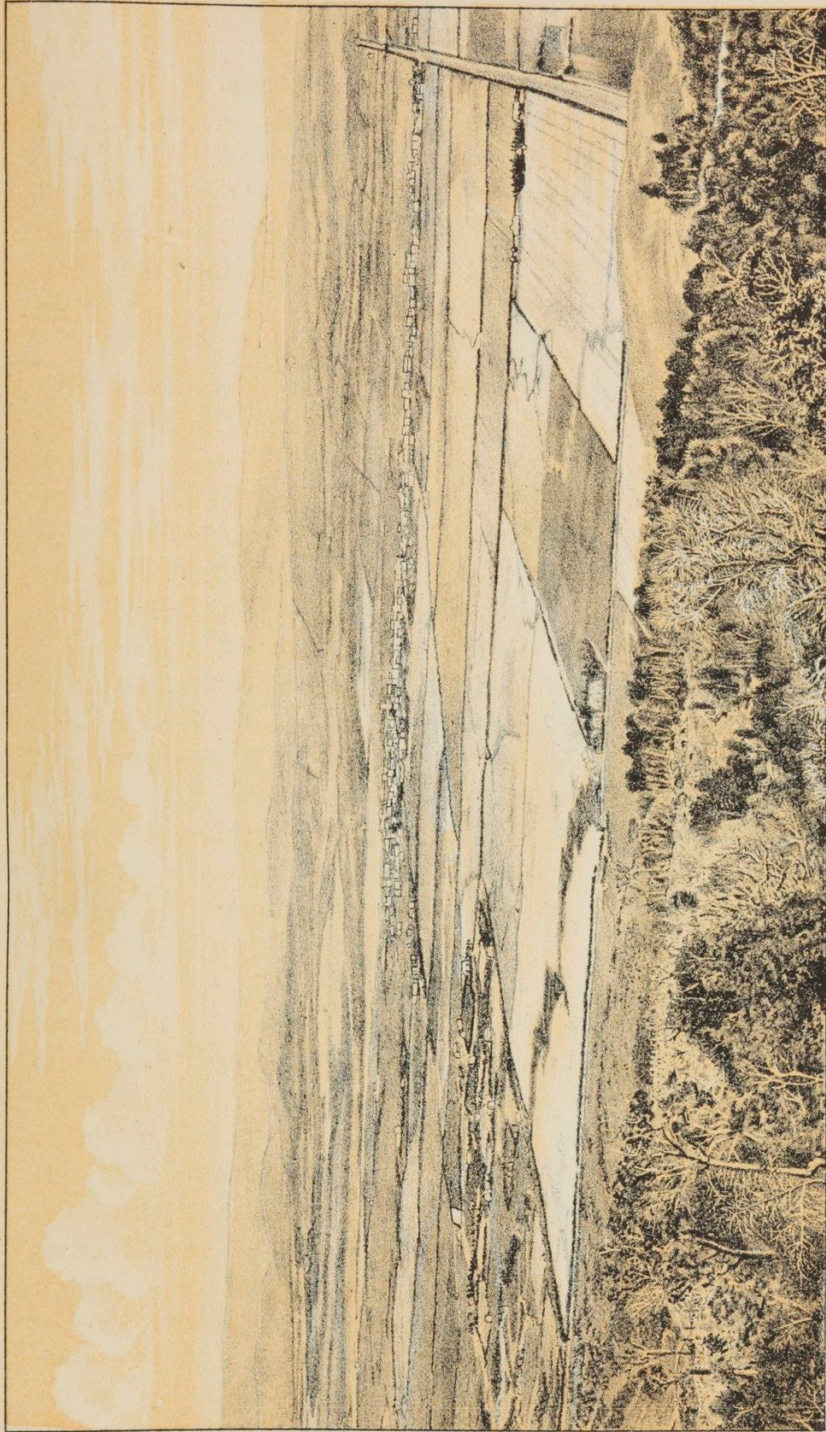
The Tokomairiro plain is one of the most lovely valleys in New Zealand. The traveller from Dunedin enters this plain at the

Waiholo gorge, with a sort of Mount Ebal on one side, and a Gerizim on the other. The plain is probably the bed of an ancient lake, and when seen from the gorge presents a sheet of about thirty square miles of level land, which is highly cultivated, and dotted all over with farm-houses. In the centre of the plain stands the town of Milton, with its churches and schools. The population of this pretty inland town is 1400, and the district attached to it is about 150 square miles in extent.

The rise and progress of new districts may be illustrated by what has taken place in the plain of Tokomairiro. Seventeen years ago very little of the plain was sold, and the cultivation was limited. I purchased 5000 acres at the west end of the plain, and in two years the whole was bought up. Now I can stand at my house and see a town with 1400 inhabitants, with mayor and corporation. There are four churches; five schools, one a grammar school, with 300 children; six hotels; two banks; a post-office, with telegraphic wires running 90 miles south, and 900 miles north, a court-house, a newspaper (*Bruce Herald*) published twice a week; a printing office and engine; a railway passes through the plain with Pulman's American cars, and in addition to all these I can see from thirty to forty square miles of land highly cultivated and dotted all over with farm-houses, and fenced, many of these farms having as overseers men who went out as emigrants some years ago. The annexed sketch, from a photograph, gives a view of part of the plain and the village of Milton in the centre.

The discovery of gold was not confined to Gabriel's Gully; in all directions gold was found extending over an area of 10,000 square miles, and the consequence was, that in two years the enormous quantity of 42 tons weight of gold was sent from Dunedin to London *via* Melbourne, the latter probably being credited with this amount instead of Otago. Centres of population sprung up in the most out-of-the-way places, which in a few years became towns, with mayors and the proper complement of councillors, who in many instances have made their streets, pavements, and drainage plans on the most modern and approved principles.

The power of absorption which Otago manifested when her



Hanks & Co. Edinburgh

TOKOMAIRO PLAIN.

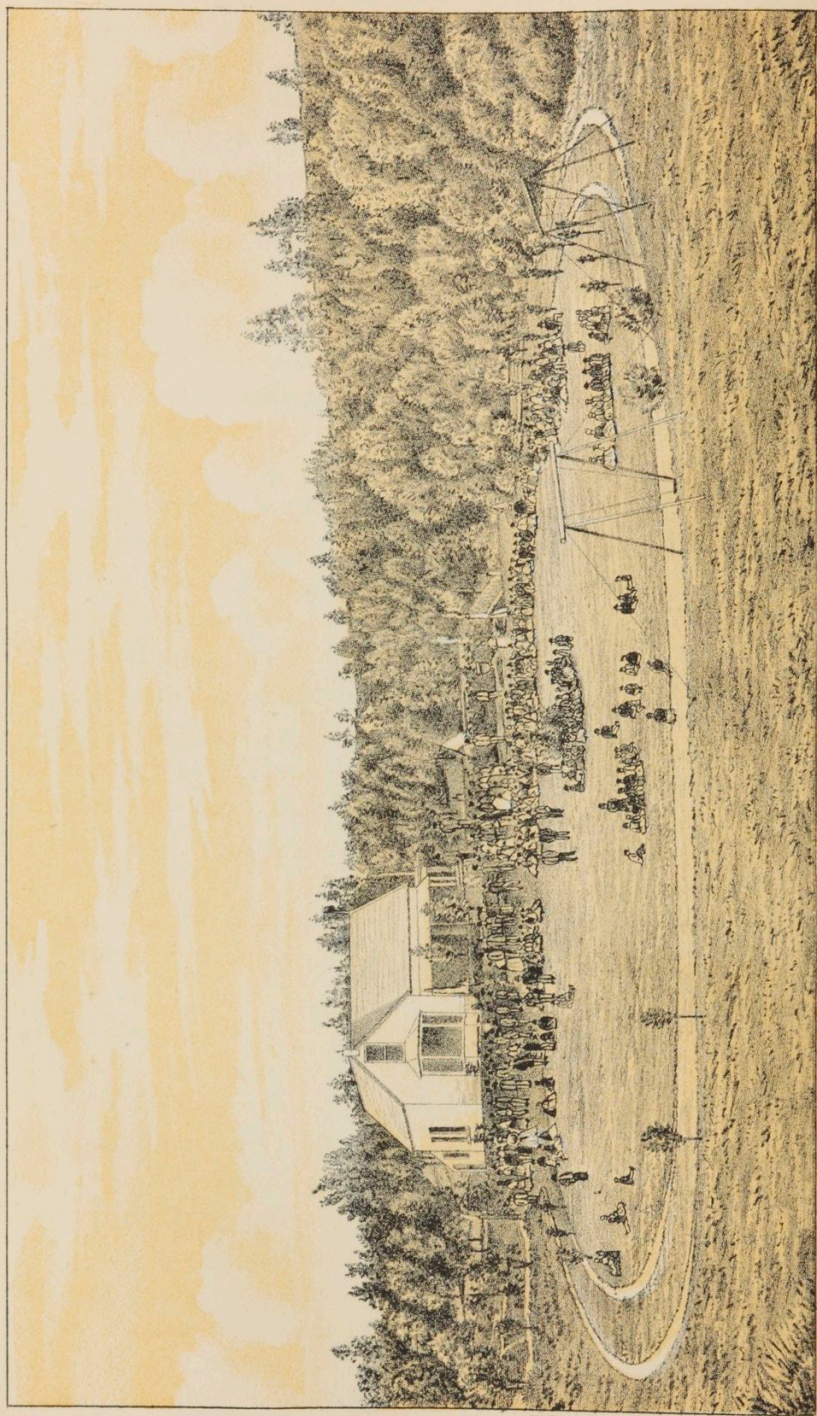
mineral resources became known, was perhaps the most amazing thing connected with the discovery of gold. From all parts of New Zealand and Australia the seekers of gold might be seen crowding the decks of ships and steamers. By this means thousands of persons were landed in Dunedin in a few months. They spread their tents for a night in the unoccupied places of the streets, struck their frail tabernacles next morning, and dispersed for the interior as speedily as they had come. They went no one knew whither. On one occasion 6000 persons were landed in about twenty days, and a week afterwards they were gone. Although the inhabitants of Dunedin were outnumbered by this nomadic population, yet the utmost regularity and decorum characterized all their movements. Fearing the introduction of lawless characters, the Provincial Government, at an early stage of the gold fever, engaged the most experienced members of the Victorian Police, and by this means ticket-of-leave men were, the moment they stepped on the jetty, gently tapped on the shoulder by the Superintendent of Police, and told to return to Australia forthwith. Daring characters, finding they were known and watched, very soon left the quiet, peace-loving community of Otago, without giving the inhabitants the slightest annoyance. There is, perhaps, no place in the colonial empire of Britain where the protection of life and property is so complete. The almost total absence of bush in Otago must have contributed largely to this result. There was no escape from Otago for the bushranger but by the Waitaki River, the ferry of which was closely guarded by the police. During the first seven years I lived in Dunedin, my house had no lock on the door, and during the seventeen years that I have been in the Tokomairiro plain we leave the house for three hours every Sabbath, put the key under the doormat, go to Milton church, distant four miles, and find everything on our return just as we left it. Beggars are unknown, and the receiver of stolen goods cannot be said to exist.

The sketch facing the next page is from a photograph taken of my house when the Band of Hope held their first picnic at Bon Accord Lodge. The annual gatherings have for years been at my place, and consist of all the children at Sabbath-schools in the district,

and the parents of the children, a band of music, and the committee of the Total Abstiners' Society; and the amusements are foot-ball, swings amongst the trees, carpet-balls on the grass, foot-races, vaulting with the pole, dancing, leaping, blindman's-buff, and the kissing ring. Parents and children play together, and all become young again. Tea, cake, and fruit are given at intervals. All the farmers of the district send a carriage of some sort to convey the children from Milton to my gate, where the young folks are arranged in marching order, with drums and flutes, and banners flying. A walk of a mile brings the children to Bon Accord, where they are allowed to do what they like for a whole day. The children of Scotch parents speak excellent English, without the yawl.

The discovery of gold was first made in the vicinity of Tokomairiro; and when the greater discovery of Gabriel's Gully became known, prospectors entered on my land and found abundance of gold on Adam's Flat. Seventy miners were employed upon this ground, for which they agreed to pay a royalty of 2s. 6d. per week; but this was paid with such irregularity, that ultimately I relinquished Adam's Flat to the Government, and received in return a double quantity of land elsewhere. Ninety Chinamen are now on this flat.

The Chinese are scattered all over the gold fields, and seem a quiet, industrious people, who have come from the seaport towns of the province of Canton. The Presbyterian Church has a native missionary labouring amongst them named Paul. I was present at one of his services, when twenty-five of his countrymen engaged in Christian worship. They all appeared able to read and sing, though the latter term, I fear, is a misnomer, according to our ideas. I also visited a Joss-house, and expected to see something inside to personify the Deity; but what was my surprise to find it occupied by three gamblers playing at dice! The only things in the building indicative of worship were two wooden tables, beautifully engraved with Chinese writing, probably precepts of Confucius. The Chinese never bring their wives; as soon as they make a little money, they return to the "flowery land." The Chinese are said to look upon the European with supreme contempt, no matter how poor he may



REPRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL MUSEUM

BON-ACCORD LODGE, TOKOMAIRO.
(ANNUAL GATHERING OF BAND OF HOPE.)

be himself; and when he is leaving Otago a rich man, that contempt becomes sublime. An amusing instance of jealousy as to superiority of nation and race was related quite recently in the Otago papers:—

“A Maori and a Chinaman engaged in an encounter of wits the other day on the Port Chalmers Railway Pier. The men were fair types of their respective races. On the one hand the Maori, with tattooed features and haughty bearing; on the other, the Mongol, low-browed and crafty of look, with shaven crown and pendent pigtail. The Maori was no other than W. Potiki, well known at the port; whilst the Celestial was one of those who left yesterday for the land of their fathers in the barque ‘Hadda.’ The meeting was brought about casually. Potiki, decked out in gorgeous array, with bell-topper on head, was walking up the pier with a medical friend, and meeting two or three Chinamen, who seemed to be impressed by his appearance, patronizingly addressed one of them thus:—‘Ha, John Chinaman, so you are going home, eh?’ To which the Chinaman replied not; but after eyeing his interrogator intently for a moment or two, marched up to him, and placing his fingers on the tattooing on Potiki’s face, remarked contemptuously, ‘What good that, eh?’ Replied the Maori, straightening himself up, while his eyes flashed indignantly, ‘That welly good joke,’ and then came the rétorc quick and sudden as with a sweep of his arm he knocked the Chinaman’s hat off, and seizing his pigtail, whirled the Celestial round, at the same time shouting gleefully, ‘But what good this, eh?’ The Chinaman eyed his antagonist askance, picked up his hat, and silently marched off, leaving Potiki in possession of the field.”

One of the richest pieces of land in the gold field is known as the “Blue Spur,” near the town of Lawrence. This hill is of great height, and the most powerful means have been adopted to waste and destroy this small mountain. One way of accomplishing this is the diversion of rivers, brooks, or the melting snows of distant mountains, which are led into water races, and carried for thirty-five miles from points at a higher elevation than the “Blue Spur.” To this point all the water races converge, and then fall in a white cascade over a precipice of clay and gravel, and bear the *débris*

down to the bottom of the hill, separating by this violent process the precious metal from the earthy matter, in which it has been hidden for ages. This process of disintegration is further assisted by long tunnels cut into the mountains, into which two and three tons of powder are packed in casks ; and when the tunnel has been refilled with stones and earth, it is blasted at night with a galvanic battery. By this means 100 tons of earth may be shaken, and then the water is carried to the near rents by flexible tubes of canvas, and the work of destruction goes on. Sometimes these great blasts affect the claim of a rival company, when they go to law, perhaps paying £4000 of law expenses without any advantage to either party; but so rich are these claims, that they seem to require a great amount of legal advice in the course of a year. One of the holders of a rich claim is the son of an Aberdeenshire farmer, near the Bridge of Don. He happened to "wash up" the night I was at Lawrence, and the result was £500 worth of gold dust. It is impossible to say when this mineral wealth will be exhausted. For fourteen years great bodies of water have been pouring almost night and day upon this "Blue Spur," and it will go on for years to come, and, considering the vast amount of auriferous land which has been discovered—thousands of square miles—it must be many centuries before the treasures of Otago can be brought to an end.

GOLD EXPORT.

The *New Zealand Gazette* contains returns of the quantity and value of gold exported from New Zealand from the 1st of April 1857 to the 31st of December 1873, and also returns of the quantity and value of gold exported from New Zealand for the years ended 31st December 1872 and 1873. From the first we find the total exports from the different provinces, up to the 31st December 1873, to have been—

	Quantity.	Value.
Auckland, . . .	853,688 oz.	£2,989,876
Wellington, . . .	30 „	120
Picton, . . .	41,880 „	162,322
Nelson, . . .	1,308,332 „	5,185,652
Westland, . . .	1,810,484 „	7,147,311
Otago, . . .	3,209,171 „	12,568,120

The total export of gold for the colony was 7,223,585 oz., of a value of £28,053,401. The exports for the years 1872 and 1873 contrasted were—

	1873.		1872.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Auckland, .	119,449 oz.	£426,589	104,890 oz.	£369,341
Picton, .	907 „	3,628	1,682 „	6,728
Nelson, .	14,064 „	56,256	8,550 „	34,200
Westport, .	37,145 „	148,580	33,550 „	134,200
Greymouth, .	80,092	320,368	68,217 „	272,868
Hokitika, .	67,446 „	69,784	671,732 „	279,928
Okarito, .	3,818 „	15,272	2,880 „	11,520
Lyttelton, .	—	—	195 „	780
Dunedin, .	178,813 „	715,252	152,324 „	609,296
Invercargill,	3,603 „	14,603	5,350 „	21,400

The totals are, for 1873, an export of 505,337 oz., of a value of £1,970,141; and for 1872, an export of 445,370 oz., of a value of £1,731,261, being an increase, in 1873, of 59,967 oz., of a value of £238,880.

XXI.

AGRICULTURE.

Founder—Oamaru—Fertility of Soil.

THE founder of agriculture in Otago was a woman. The hesitancy with which persons of means engaged in agricultural pursuits reminds one of the reluctance of Barak to engage with Sisera, and was punished by seeing the glory of his triumphant battle accorded to a woman.

Mrs S. was left a widow with a small farm in the suburbs of Dunedin. Her husband, who had just put in the seed, said, with a remarkable prescience, to his wife, "I have put in the crop, but I shall never reap it." Before harvest came round he was cut down and gathered to his fathers. The widow was left with the small sum of £12 after paying all her debts, and on this sum she had to provide for a large family, and be prepared for the exigencies of the

harvest. This work was nobly accomplished ; she and her family braced themselves for the difficulties of a new country. A systematic dairy was begun and carried on for many years ; her crops far more than paid her expenses. Up to that time it had always been said that "farming would not pay ;" and those who had engaged in it appeared to believe this, as they never relied on it as their only source of livelihood. They were like the angler on the banks of streams who is satisfied with a solitary fish, or at most with small results. But this child's-play would not suit the limited means of a vigorous-minded woman. She felt that she must sink or swim by agriculture—that her all was embarked in it, and she resolved to give it a fair trial ; and her efforts have been crowned with complete success. She started her eldest son on a farm in the great farming district of the Taieri plain. The mantle of the mother had fallen on the child, for in a short time he surpassed all others as an agriculturist. He farmed 500 acres of land, mostly wheat, but when the gold rush took place he grew oats largely and sold them at 8s., 10s., and 12s. per bushel. At this moment he is engaged in an important work. The river Taieri sometimes overflows its banks and inundates his land. To prevent this in future, he has, at great expense and labour, erected artificial banks to dam the river at flood-times. This work has been attended with success.

The farmers of the Taieri plain are in general the best farmers in New Zealand. There is no other district where so many real agriculturists are settled together. It was there that reaping-machines, portable steam thrashing-mills, and double ploughs were first introduced. The crops grown there yield generally from 40 to 60 bushels per acre, and when the land is laid down in grass it is unsurpassed for richness. The Chief Inspector of Sheep on one occasion saw thirteen sheep to the acre on a Taieri field, and the corners of the field had to be cut down for cattle. The soil of the Taieri plains is a vegetable mould, and yields most readily after a few months' fallow ; but in the Tokomairiro plain, and throughout the country generally, a year's fallow is necessary before cropping new land.

Mr Holmes, a well-known farmer, has 7000 acres, which are now

laid down in artificial grass, and stocked with English sheep of the best blood. The New Zealand Land Company have also farmed a great extent of country, which for many miles adorns both sides of the main road from Hampden to Oamaru. The Oamaru settlers have done much for their district, but nature has done more. The climate is the most salubrious in New Zealand; and standing on the rising ground at Holmes's House, the spectator beholds one of the fairest spots on earth. Southward he sees thirty miles of rolling downs, highly cultivated and green as emerald; westward a fine tract of arable land, where the great farms of Messrs Reid and Menlove are situated. This land runs right back to the base of lofty mountains, whose snow-capped summits rise to an altitude of 7000 feet; north, the beautiful town of Oamaru is seen on the edge of the sea, beyond the prairie of Waitaki and Canterbury; and on the east the great Pacific Ocean stretches away in an unbroken expanse of 4000 miles to Cape Horn. A subsoil of lime underlies the whole district, most favourable to the growth of wheat and clover. The climate is favourable to pulmonary disease. The porous nature of the soil drains the country rapidly after rain, and destroys the evaporation that is common to land having a clayey subsoil. Clay is common throughout New Zealand. Perhaps the only disadvantage to which Oamaru is subject is a scarcity of rain, the rainfall being rather less in this district than elsewhere on the sea-coast.

The following table will show the comparative fertility of the soil of Otago as compared with other provinces of New Zealand:—

WHEAT.

	Average Bushels per Acre, 1873.	
		OTAGO.
Auckland,	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{1}{4}$
Taranaki,	18 $\frac{1}{2}$	„
Wellington,	18	„
Hawke's Bay,	25 $\frac{3}{4}$	„
Nelson,	13	„
Marlborough,	17	„
Canterbury,	21 $\frac{3}{4}$	„

OATS.

Average Bushels per Acre, 1873.

		OTAGO.
Auckland,	18½	30¼
Taranaki,	18	„
Wellington,	20	„
Hawke's Bay,	20	„
Nelson,	17	„
Marlborough,	20¼	„
Canterbury,	24	„

BARLEY.

Auckland,	17½	26¾
Taranaki,	14½	„
Wellington,	16	„
Hawke's Bay,	24½	„
Nelson,	11½	„
Marlborough,	18	„
Canterbury,	19¾	„

It will thus be seen that Otago is one of the best agricultural districts in New Zealand, and compares favourably with any of the Australian colonies. Over a long series of years, 11 bushels per acre has been a high average yield of wheat in Australia, but in a moderately favourable season an Otago farmer may calculate upon 35 or 45 bushels per acre according to soil, careful cultivation, and selection of seed. The average wheat crop on my farm last year was 44 bushels per acre.

In referring to the progress that agriculture has been making in one portion of Otago, a more detailed reference to the authorized statistics published by the Colonial Government will throw still further light on this branch of the subject, and must be read with interest by agriculturists. The figures were compiled in February 1873, but as matters advance rapidly in the colony, they are to be looked upon as anything but an approximation to next year's statistics.

PROVINCE OF OTAGO.

	1869. Acres.	1873. Acres.
Wheat,	21,357	50,781
Oats,	49,221	51,695
Barley,	3,433	4,897
Oats for green food, . . . . .	...	12,629
Potatoes,	3,604	4,027
Permanent English grasses,	106,547	170,958
Other crops,	3,493	10,155
Ploughed for crops,	33,517	46,423

SUMMARY OF FOREGOING.

	Acres.
Total in cultivation, 1869,	221,170
Do. do. 1873,	351,565
Total number of holdings, 1869,	3,023
Do. do. 1873,	3,705

These figures will enable thoughtful men to judge for themselves as to the progress agriculture is making in this province.

XXII.

LAND ON DEFERRED PAYMENTS.

Land for Emigrants and Small Farmers—An Otago Farm.

THE demand for land in Otago has now become so great that the Provincial Council have resolved to prevent the sale of large blocks of arable land, from which Invercargill and Southland generally has suffered so much. To prevent this in future, a very wise and judicious Act has been passed by the Legislature, by which the most valuable land is not to be *sold* but *leased*, on the principle of deferred payments. By this arrangement the capital of a poor lessee is devoted to the improvement of his land, the erection of houses, &c. The *rent* to be paid is 2s. 6d. per acre annually. This may be continued for ten years, at the end of which time the land is his own; or if the leaseholder wishes to pay up at the end of three years, he may obtain his title-deeds on payment of 17s. 6d. per acre. In

both cases the sum paid for the land is 25s. an acre, but as this is spread over ten years, the real price paid for the land is equivalent to an immediate payment of 13s. 10d. per acre. The land for which this sum is asked could all be sold in a year at £2 and £3 per acre, if the Government would throw it open to large purchasers, so that the person who takes land on the principle of deferred payments has the land *given to him at one-half of its real value.*

An applicant for this land can get 50 acres or 200 acres, if desired, but this quantity cannot be increased, except in the case of large families whose sons are of age to take up land on their own account:—

- 1st.—There are certain conditions annexed to the occupation and purchase of this land, the chief of which is the *bona fide* occupation of the land, and its improvement.
- 2d.—The land must be fenced by the end of the third year.
- 3d.—One-tenth of the land must be cultivated before the end of the lease, that is, before the end of the ten years, or if the title-deeds are wanted up at the end of the three years, one-tenth of the land must be improved, in either case, as the emigrant may elect.

Thirty thousand acres of land have been set apart as an inducement to agriculturists and ploughmen to emigrate to Otago. That I might speak authoritatively I examined a fine level block, about ten miles across. It is land on the left bank of the Mataura river that has been set aside for small farmers, or emigrants, when they are able to settle on it. This block has the following characteristics:—

- 1st.—It is good, and can be ploughed at once by setting fire to the grass.
- 2d.—The Great Southern Trunk Railway runs through the hill near it. One hundred miles was opened for traffic in 1875, and the line will be opened from Dunedin to Invercargill this year (1876).

3d.—Coal has been found all over the district, about six feet from the surface.

Lastly.—When one-third of this block is sold, another block will be proclaimed adjoining the above.

There are sixteen agricultural districts in the province which have been cultivated to the following extent:—

	Total number of Acres under Crop, (including Sown Grasses.)
Bruce,	30,081 $\frac{3}{4}$
Caversham,	10,573 $\frac{1}{2}$
Clutha,	32,486 $\frac{1}{4}$
Dunstan,	3,786 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mount Ida,	1,968 $\frac{1}{2}$
Port Chalmers,	3,338 $\frac{1}{2}$
Roslyn,	2,500 $\frac{1}{2}$
Taieri,	31,151 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tuapeka,	8,012 $\frac{3}{4}$
Wakatipu,	8,707
Waikaia,	3,603 $\frac{3}{4}$
Waikouaiti,	30,471
Waitaki,	79,654 $\frac{3}{4}$
Mataura,	36,573 $\frac{1}{4}$
Riverton,	19,041 $\frac{1}{4}$
Wallace,	3,191
Total,	<hr/> 305,141 $\frac{3}{4}$

The soil of the province of Otago is excellent, and well adapted to the cultivation of grain of all kinds. Its depth, however, cannot be judged of by the weight of the crops grown, as flax has been found growing ten feet high upon a soil not more than six inches in depth; and luxuriant crops of wheat have been raised from soil five inches deep. The climate of Otago is the real source of its fertility, and when the soil is exposed to its influence for ten months it yields a much greater crop. Inch Clutha, Waikouaiti, and other localities, have rich soil from two to three feet deep, which yields sixty bushels per acre. Heavy timber grows upon Inch Clutha, a delta seven miles long, in the centre of the Clutha River, with fine natural scenery.

Flax and grass land is the only kind cultivated now; it is cleared at a much less outlay than bush land. Flax land is prepared for the plough at 25s. per acre; grass land, by merely setting fire to it,

is at once fitted for being ploughed. There are no stones, and it turns over to the plough the same as lea.

RETURN of *Lands and their Classes in the Province of Otago*
at 31st March 1873.

	<i>Class.</i>	Acres.
Forest,	1,421,000
Lakes,	284,800
Barren,	2,346,240
Agricultural,	9,308,600
Southland,	3,000,000
Total Area of Otago,		16,360,640
Area under Pastoral Leases,	6,404,498
" " License,	20,000
" Agricultural Leases,	65,572
" Coal-Mining Leases (No. of Leases 35),	1,585
Area sold or otherwise disposed of within Hundreds,	1,126,256
" outside Hundreds and outside Goldfields,	36,686
" within Goldfields,	71,992
" within Goldfields previously held under Agricultural Leases,	11,428
Area unsold within Hundreds,	314,144
Area of Hundreds,	1,440,400

In the north of Otago there are some large farms: that of Mr Reid of Elderslie, though not the largest in New Zealand, is one of the best conducted.

Elderslie consists of 18,000 acres, of which about one-half is under crop, and in course of cultivation, viz. :—

In Wheat,	. . . . .	2,200 acres.
In Barley,	. . . . .	700 "
In Oat,	. . . . .	500 "
Rye Grass for seed,	. . . . .	50 "
Prairie Grass for seed,	. . . . .	200 "
Rape for seed,	. . . . .	50 "
Rape for feed,	. . . . .	800 "
Total quantity in Crop,		4,500 "

There are also 1500 acres in permanent pasture (English grasses), fifty acres in plantations, principally Californian trees, and 3000

acres of stubble and new land preparing for sowing after harvest, with rape, prairie, and English grasses.

Mr Reid has three six-furrow ploughs at work on his farm, besides two and three-furrow ploughs. The six-furrow ploughs have a seat for the ploughman, from which he can adjust the plough to any depth. Eight horses are managed by one man, and the furrows are from one to three miles long. These ploughs have completely superseded the steam plough. They have revolving coulter 17½ inches in diameter, sharp as a knife, thereby reducing the draught to a minimum.

Mr Reid also owns one-third of a farm on the Taieri plain, which consists of 8000 acres freehold, and 2500 of leasehold. There are on this farm 1100 head of cattle, and 10,000 sheep, fattening for the Dunedin market, for which purpose this farm is specially adapted. There are 2500 acres in English grasses, and 1100 acres of rape, which grows on this farm in a most extraordinary manner.

One of Mr Reid's neighbours (Mr Menlove) has 5000 acres of grain crop this year. The average yield is thirty bushels per acre, and the wages paid on the farm amount to £8000. Last year he tried the London market with the produce of one field (30,000 bushels) of Tuscan wheat, which was highly esteemed, and realized 7s. 6d. per bushel.

There are 3700 farmers in Otago whose farms range from twenty to 20,000 acres. Any one paying his passage to New Zealand may obtain twenty acres of land, and if there is a family, twenty acres will be allowed for the elder sons, and ten acres for the younger, provided it is claimed within sixty days after landing.—(See page 128). Parties who wish to avail themselves of these grants of land must first be approved of by the Agent-General—Dr Featherston, No. 7 Westminster Chambers, London, or George Andrew, Esq., 3 Hope Street, Edinburgh.

XXIII.

MY NEIGHBOURS.

The Aberdeen Brothers—Energy Rewarded—A Dundee Apprentice.

MY nearest neighbours were two young men from Dundee, and two brothers from Aberdeen. The Aberdeen brothers were for a time employed at sawing timber, and had so little knowledge of the proper mode of sharpening a saw, that their labour was double what it might have been.

The elder brother was a man of great energy, and an enumeration of the things in which he engaged reads like a catalogue. He was bushman, sawyer, boat-builder, butcher, farmer, hotel-keeper, mill-owner, brewer, grain and flour merchant, gold-digger, and quartz-crusher. In all these except the last money was made by the elder brother so fast, that he twice retired and went to Great Britain, and gave his family a good education in Scotland, while he lived in Clifton on an income of £900 a year.

This energetic but restless spirit landed without anything, and succeeded in a remarkable degree, was much respected for his go-ahead qualities and personal worth, but the last accounts of him indicate this he has retired for a third time from business, and is on his way to California. This is one of my neighbours.

The other brother was a boiler-maker, which business he left at the end of his apprenticeship. The two brothers were very different in the conduct of their business, and yet both succeeded equally well. The younger brother had a quiet and unobtrusive way all through life, and is perhaps at this moment more respected than any other man in Otago for his upright and consistent character. For a while he was associated with his brother in the purchase of stock, but afterwards became a farmer. He pays £1000 annually in wages, owns 4000 acres of freehold land, and farms the rich delta at the mouth of the Waikouaiti River, sending 15,000 bushels of wheat and 700 tons of potatoes annually to Dunedin. He also owns a large flock of sheep, and has attained a position he never

could have reached as an Aberdeen boiler-maker. This is my second neighbour.

My other two neighbours were equally remarkable. One of them had been a Dundee apprentice, and came first to the province of Nelson, where he met his partner Mr A., and afterwards settled in Dunedin. This choice was fortunate, both for themselves and for Otago. Nothing seemed to come wrong to these men; they could saw timber for building a store, cut their own firewood, and reduce the 4 lb. loaf one-half in price. After a few years, they bought a small flock of sheep and some land in the Tokomairiro plain, and when they dissolved partnership Mr A. became the second farmer in the Taieri plain, having 1500 acres of arable land (500 acres in crop) and 3000 acres of pastoral land well stocked with Merino and Leicester sheep.

The Dundee apprentice, Mr S., to whom allusion has been made, is of all my neighbours the most remarkable. This energetic man began emigrant life without any capital, but he had what is equally valuable in new countries—willing hands and a willing heart. These were early disciplined to habits of industry. On leaving Dunedin for the country he became a small farmer in the Tokomairiro plain (a district thirty-five miles from Dunedin). About five years after, he purchased the lease of a run in the neighbourhood from an old London meal merchant, who had no taste for sheep-farming. This run has 60,000 acres and 40,000 sheep. Since that time he has been breaking up about 1700 acres a year, from which he takes two crops of wheat or barley, and then sows it down in English grass. He has now thousands of acres in this State, and can keep 20,000 sheep on artificial grass. The newspapers from the colony by last mail have three separate advertisements of his calling for contracts to break up and cross-plough three separate blocks of land, each of 1000 acres. All this is in addition to what is being done by his own farm-servants. The crop of Mr S. will realize £8000 and the wool £12,000.

There has been nothing adventitious in the lot of this clear-headed man. He never went gold-digging or picked up wealth in lottery fashion by speculations in quartz mines. He and his family

did the work that lay to their hands, and they have reaped well-merited success. There are many who make themselves ridiculous by their success, but on Mr S. it has not made the slightest change; he has never forgotten that he was once a Dundee apprentice. Although there has thus been nothing adventitious in the state of Mr S.'s affairs, no emigrant need aspire to reach his position, or be disappointed because he cannot do so. He has distanced all competitors, from an innate vigour of mind and a peculiar facility of adaptation to surrounding circumstances. The success of Mr S. is not, however, an isolated case. The Roxburgh shepherd who first tended Mr S.'s little flock of 500 sheep now drives to church in his phaeton. This shepherd owns 13,000 sheep and a large quantity of freehold land—the result mainly of a thorough knowledge of sheep. The influence which wealth has on a man's position is similar to what it has in Britain; it is never in the ratio of that wealth. Some who are poor, are more esteemed and honoured without wealth, than some men with abundance. This is as it ought to be. In some respects wealth has a more subordinate place in New Zealand than in Britain.

XXIV.

CLIMATE.

Temperature—Prevalent Winds—Rain—Fall—Thunder—Birth-Rate—Death-Rate—Pulmonary Disease—Rivers—Mountains.

THE soil of New Zealand is good. It is peopled with the Anglo-Saxon race. Christianity is the dominant religion. Education is universal and abundant in Otago. All fruits and flowers common to Britain grow in perfection, and the colony is in a most prosperous condition; but what would all these avail if the climate was unhealthy and our offspring sickly and wan? The climate of Otago is one of its chief recommendations. It is absolutely free from those waves of intense frost that passed over Canada four years ago, and it is equally free from the scorching heat of Australia.

Three causes contribute to produce this uniformity of temperature, viz., the latitude, prevailing winds, the configuration of the Middle Island, and its mountains. The latitude and longitude of New Zealand correspond to those of France and Spain, the inhabitants of Otago being the antipodes of those who live in the south of France. The city of Dunedin is three degrees nearer the equator than Paris, yet the mean temperature of both places is nearly the same. The following tables, containing the result of many years' observations, will furnish some idea of the climate:—

TABLE I.

TEMPERATURE at DUNEDIN for YEAR ending JUNE 30, 1857, and its results, as compared with the Five preceding Years.

MONTHS, Ending June 30, 1857.	THERMOMETER.			BAROMETER.	
	Max.	Min.	Mean.	Mercury.	Aneroid.
July 1856, . . .	46°0	38°5	42°2	29·96 in.	29·91 in.
August, . . .	50·9	43·0	46·9	29·88	29·87
September, . . .	54·3	43·8	49·0	29·90	29·91
October, . . .	62·1	47·9	55·0	29·60	29·71
November, . . .	58·4	47·3	52·8	29·70	29·78
December, . . .	69·5	53·8	61·6	29·82	30·12
January 1857, . . .	67·1	52·6	59·9	29·73	29·98
February, . . .	63·8	50·7	57·2	29·83	30·04
March, . . .	62·6	48·7	55·6	29·77	29·96
April, . . .	58·4	47·7	53·0	30·15	30·23
May, . . .	51·4	43·6	47·5	29·84	29·80
June, . . .	46·5	40·6	43·6	30·18	30·07
Year's Results (1856-7)	57·5	46·5	52·0	29·86	29·94
1856, . . .	57·3	45·1	51·2	29·96	29·99
1855, . . .	57·4	44·0	50·7	29·93	29·66
1854, . . .	57·4	43·9	50·6	28·87	
1853, . . .	55·1	41·7	48·4	29·84	
1852, . . .			50·5	29·85	

Highest degree of temperature throughout the year, 79°5 on December 29, 1856.
 Lowest degree of temperature throughout the year, 26° 5 on July 27, 1856.

TABLE II.

Year	Mean Temperature	°
1863		51·3
1864	...	51·0
1865	...	50·8
1866	...	51·1
1867	...	51·4
1868	...	50·0
1869	...	50·6
1870	...	50·0
1871	...	50·4
1872	...	51·4

These tables established—what is the highest quality of any climate—the *uniformity of temperature*. Next to purity of atmosphere must be reckoned the equability of summer and winter, both of which are common to Otago.

The Isle of Wight is the most southern residence of the Queen, the most uniform as to temperature, and comes nearer to the general climate of Dunedin than any other portion of Great Britain. The annual mean temperature of Ventnor in the Isle of Wight is 51°·5, while at Dunedin, 1872, it is 51°·4.

The absence of the extremes of heat and cold appears to depend upon the size of the island. The Middle Island is 500 miles long and 150 miles broad, and lying, as it does, in a slanting direction, across eight degrees of longitude and six of latitude, the westerly gales are intercepted, and bend to the shape of the coast. These winds, from whatever direction they blow, always blow from the sea, and communicate to the land the equable temperature of the Pacific Ocean. There are only two winds on the east coast.

The north-east winds blow 174 days in the year, and south-west 129 days. The other 62 days are either calms or wind across the island.

The high chain of mountains to which allusion has been made exercises a powerful influence on the climate. It is apt to be imagined that the islands of New Zealand would be more valuable were they less mountainous, but this is doubtful. These great reservoirs of snow are the perennial source of our clear streams and broad rivers, and are as indispensable to the climate of New Zealand

as they are to the fertility of the soil, as it is to their attraction of the clouds that the Otago farmer is indebted for the seasonable showers which secure his crops, cattle, and sheep from scorching droughts at one time, and tropical rains at another.

The rain-fall of a country enters largely into the consideration of climate and agriculture. As a farmer, I would say that of Otago is perfect. The mean rain-fall for the ten years from 1863 to 1872 was $32\frac{1}{2}$ inches; in 1871 it was the same as in London, in 1872 the same as in Edinburgh.

On the level parts of England and Scotland the rain-fall is 25 and 28 inches respectively, but on the west coast of both countries it ranges from 45 to 65; while in Cumberland the mean is 127 inches, and this is much exceeded in other mountainous regions farther north. Otago compares most favourably with Great Britain in this respect.

During five years the average number of days without rain has been 233; and the number of rainy days as compared with other countries is—Scotland, East Coast, 142 days; West Coast, 200, London 178, Otago 140 days.

These figures present the climate of Otago in an aspect in which it is not generally known. For some time that part of Otago called Southland was regarded as too moist in its climate, but during the last ten years it has undergone a great change, probably in consequence of increased cultivation. Dunedin compares favourably with the capitals of Ireland, Canada, and America, the rain-fall of which is—

Dublin,	.	.	.	31 inches.
Quebec,	.	.	.	40 do.
New York,	.	.	.	55 do.
Dunedin,	.	.	.	32·7 do.

Thunder-storms are less frequent than in Britain, and when they occur, the electric cloud discharges its contents on the mountains, so that accidents from lightning are almost unknown. There is about the atmosphere a purity and lightness, of which persons newly landed are quite sensible, producing a buoyancy and elevation of spirits which they never experienced before. Sixteen years

ago a son of mine came to this country, and was sent to school; but he was taken from it nine times in consequence of severe colds, and at last he was sent back to Otago, his cough being something fearful; this continued during the voyage, but it completely left him the day after landing in New Zealand. Children born in the colony furnish a good index as to the salubrity of the climate. Other causes, no doubt, contribute to health as well as the climate. The crowding of the inhabitants is far in the future, and the child of the poor man never knows what it is to want wholesome food. The following table gives approximately, during the twelve years from 1860 to 1871, the proportion of births and deaths to every thousand persons living :—

TABLE III.

YEAR.	Estimated population at middle of year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS.	
		Number of Births.	Ratio per 1000 Living.	Number of Deaths.	Ratio per 1000 Living.
1860	76,390	3146	41·18	1091	14·28
1861	89,323	3441	38·52	1109	12·41
1862	112,416	4064	36·15	1231	10·95
1863	144,930	5115	35·29	1983	13·68
1864	168,833	6501	38·50	2921	17·30
1865	182,113	7490	41·12	2757	15·13
1866	197,360	8466	42·89	2540	12·86
1867	211,391	8918	42·18	2702	12·78
1868	222,825	9391	42·14	2662	11·94
1869	231,934	9718	41·90	2722	11·73
1870	242,824	10,277	42·32	7031	11·13
1871	260,630	10,592	40·64	2642	10·13

These figures show for the year 1871 one birth to every twenty-four and a half persons, and *one death to every ninety-eight and a half persons living*—in other words, about 1 per cent. of the people die. This is a condition of things that places the climate of New Zealand, and the health of its inhabitants, before all other countries. A reference to the following table shows that the mortality of other lands is double and treble that of New Zealand :—

TABLE IV.

ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1000 OF POPULATION.

In 1870.		In 1871.	
England and Wales,	22·8	London,	24·7
France,	28·3	Portsmouth,	19·3
Austria,	28·9	Liverpool,	35·1
Prussia,	28·6	Sunderland,	36·5
Italy,	29·8	Calcutta,	24·0
Scotland,	22·0	Madras,	30·0
Glasgow,	29·6	New York,	29·0
Edinburgh,	23·7	Healthiest Rural District	
Dundee,	26·9	of England,	17·0
Aberdeen,	22·1	New Zealand,	10·13
New Zealand.	11·13		

Frost and snow are rarely seen about Dunedin, and the latter is always dispelled by the meridian sun, but in the highlands of the interior snow is to be seen all the year round.

The mildness of the winter is such that the farmer would prefer more frost to destroy the weeds, but this again is counterbalanced by other advantages, such as breaking up new land when the ground is moist, and carrying on all kinds of out-door work as in summer. On my farm 120 acres of virgin soil were broken up last year by a pair of Pirie's double-furrow ploughs, and the work was done in a winter month.

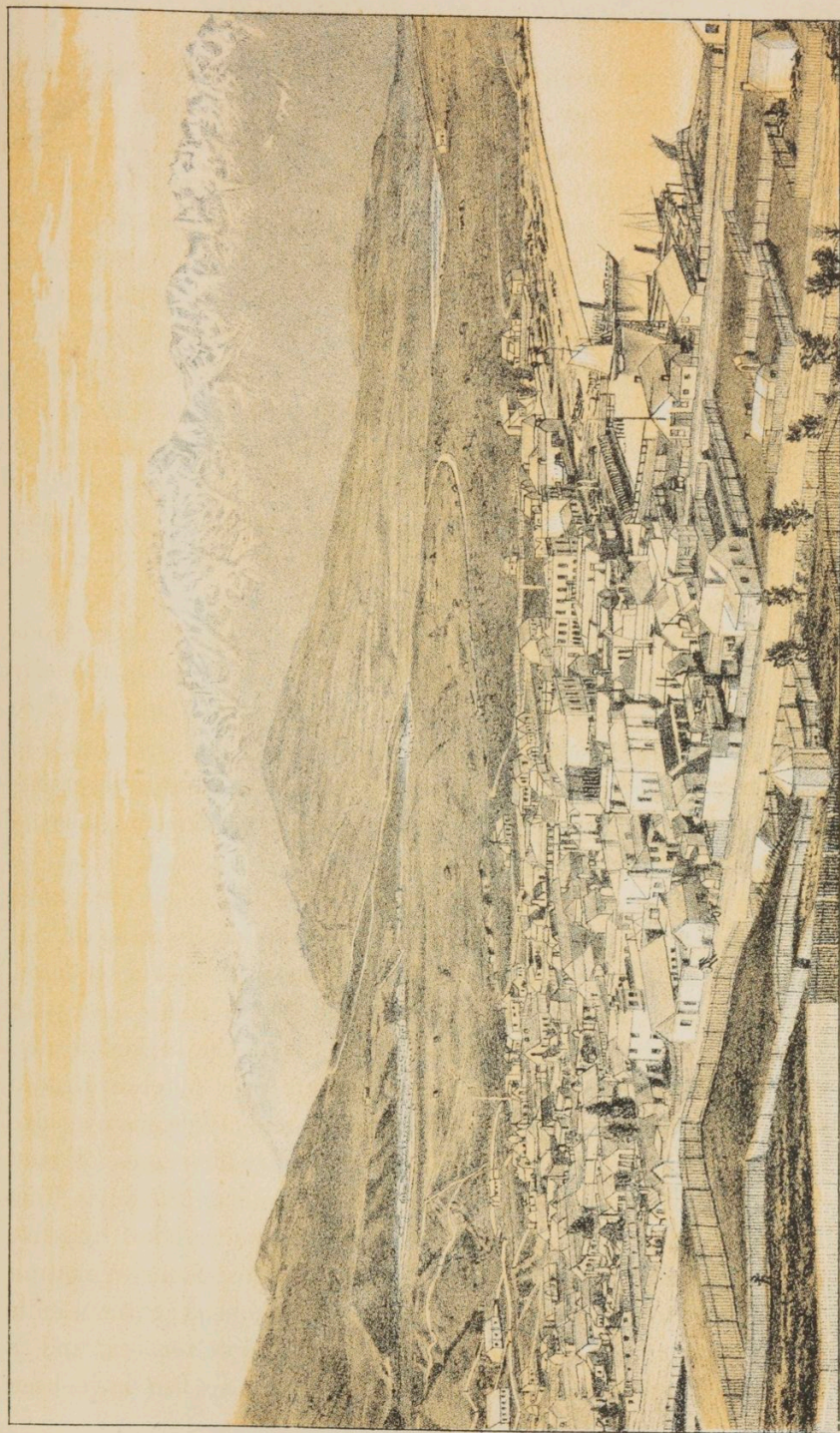
The out-door labourer has nothing to fear from stormy days, for he cannot in any circumstances lose more than a week in a single winter. The effect of climate is further illustrated by the circumstance that sheep and cattle, whether on plains or mountains, never leave their pasture lands. The growth of grass and other plants is retarded in winter, but to a very different extent from what obtains in Scotland. The weeping-willow, for example, remains in a dormant state in this country for five months, while at my place in Otago it puts forth its buds and leaves two months after the fall of the autumn leaf.

For twenty-six years I have been accustomed to exposure in a variety of ways, but have never had a week's sickness; and the

appearance of the children in a country school convey but one impression—that of exuberant health. Though the climate of Otago is everything that a reasonable man can desire, I would not advise those of a consumptive tendency to emigrate thither, and I would warn the friends of such persons against the folly of sending their invalid relatives to die on the voyage, or amongst strangers in the hospital of Dunedin. Several cases of this kind are known to the writer. Such persons should go to Auckland or Australia, or if they must come to Otago, they should at once proceed to Manuhirikia, an almost rainless district in the interior, or perhaps to the high, cool, clear atmosphere of Queenstown on the margin of Wakatipu—a beautiful lake surrounded by mountains from 6000 to 9000 feet above the sea-level. These places are far in the interior, and require a certain amount of strength to bear the fatigue of such a journey.

Dr D., who had lost all his family from pulmonary disease, stands out in contrast to the foregoing remarks. He is constitutionally liable to the disease that has cut off all his friends. He took three voyages to New Zealand as a ship's doctor, with great advantage to his health, and he has finally settled down as a medical practitioner in one of the sea-coast towns of Otago, in the enjoyment of excellent health.

It may be proper to make here a few remarks about the town just alluded to—Queenstown, of which a sketch is annexed. It has a mayor and corporation, and the finest hotel in the country, which is kept by a German. When at Fort William last year, I heard a lady traveller speak of this hotel in the highest terms; and as far as scenery is concerned, certainly no hotel in Britain can ever occupy such a site. The inhabitants of Queenstown live chiefly by digging for gold, but there are 20,000 acres of land cultivated in the suburbs of the town. It is about 150 miles from Dunedin, situate on the margin of an extensive lake, fifty-five miles long and two miles broad. The native name Wakatipu means "crooked waters," in consequence of the bend in the middle of the lake. It is 1000 feet above the level of the sea, and is nearly as deep as the Dead Sea—1200 feet. No fish have been



Banks & Co. Edinburgh

QUEENSTOWN.

found in it. Two steamers carry the mails from Queenstown, one to the head of the lake and the other to Kingstown at the lower end. The sail from Kingstown to the head of the lake is through the grandest mountain scenery, and dwarfs anything of the kind to be seen on the Caledonian Canal. Remarkable mountains capped with snow skirt the lake for twenty miles, and rise to a height of 6700 feet, and further up Mount Aspiring rises 9700. The mountains seem to rise perpendicularly from the bottom of the lake, for the plum-line when dropped a few yards from the shore goes sheer down 1200 feet. The lake-bottom is perfectly smooth, so that if it were dried it would present a sandy plain. The lake at some remote period had been 1500 feet deep, and it would appear, from terraces of gravel at different heights, that it had burst at five different times.

The winter weather, as in Scotland, is generally reserved for the spring. Our bad weather consists of south-west rains on the east coast, and snow on the lofty mountains which traverse the interior of the Middle Island, and which rise from 3000 to 13,000 feet above the level of the sea. This Alpine range makes New Zealand "a land of hills and valleys, of brooks and streams, out of whose mountains thou mayest dig" *gold* (not brass); gold being actually dug out of the mountains at the rate of one ton every seventeen days!

The rivers of Otago bear some resemblance to the Nile. The Clutha river has a volume of water sixteen times that of the Thames proper; and like the Nile, it begins to rise at a particular season of the year, being greatest in volume when the summer is warmest; at such times it will rise 6, 8, 10, and even 16 feet when there is not a drop of rain. This phenomenon is caused by the melting snows of lofty mountains on the west coast. There are about two and a half million acres of lofty barren mountains on the west coast. This range intercepts the westerly gales laden with moisture. There are no passes in the mountains, and the clouds are tilted up to their summits, but whenever they pass the snow-line all the moisture descends in the form of snow during the winter months of May, June, and July. The moisture thus stored up in

this great reservoir is given off in summer to swell our great rivers to the brim, or converted into clouds that flood across the island, and refresh the thirsty lands on the east coast. This is done with such regularity that I have never lost a sheep or an acre of crop for want of rain. The Clutha river is 225 miles long. The attrition is so great in its passage through some awful ravines in the mountains, that near its embouchure its waters are laden with particles of matter to such an extent that a delta has been formed seven miles long and a mile and a half broad. This delta has been named Inch Clutha, and is the richest section of land in Otago. It is all bought up, and settled with farmers, churches, and schools. The soil grows clover spontaneously, and Tuscan wheat may be grown at the rate of 60 bushels per acre. The Smith brothers have a farm on the banks of the Clutha river. These men, originally from Aberdeen, settled there with a small capital, and they now own some of the finest farms in the Clutha district, the result of steady application and sound judgment.

It is no uncommon thing for a farmer, who is behind with his ploughing, in a wet spring to leave some of his stubble land unploughed, and the oats will grow from the old roots and yield 25 bushels per acre. At first this was supposed to be from shed seed, but an investigation of the matter will satisfy the most credulous of the fact. I have only seen skating once on the Waiholo Lake (near my place). This was sixteen years ago. About the same time I saw snow five inches deep on the Tokomairiro plain, which lay for thirteen days. I have never seen the like again. This will go to show that, like England, we may have a severe winter once in ten or twelve years.

Of all the colonies belonging to Great Britain I believe that New Zealand alone has the climate that will reproduce the Anglo-Saxon with as fine a physique and as healthy a constitution as characterizes him in his native land.

The climate of New Zealand ranges from that of Scotland up to the south of France; Stewart's Island being the Scotland of New Zealand, the Middle Island similar to that of England, and the North Island similar to France. The snow-line is higher in New

Zealand than in Britain. Flagstaff Mountain, the Arthur Seat of Dunedin, is 3000 feet high. Sheep feed upon the top of it, and find excellent pasture; but on Ben Nevis no animal could feed at that height. The diversity in the climate of New Zealand produces diverse results. The extreme north is a thousand miles nearer the equator than the extreme south. The man who wants grapes and Indian corn should go to Auckland, but the man who wants strawberries and turnip fields must go to Otago. My turnips surpass the field that took the prize at the Grange, Banffshire, the other day, and I have a quarter acre of strawberries that for years yielded 19 cwt. of berries every year. Even in Canterbury no such turnips are grown as may be seen in Otago. One of my men writes me that they could load a cart with turnips (picked) 20 lb weight each. Turnips, potatoes, wheat, oats, and barley may be grown as first crop without any manure. Both turnips and potatoes are quite free from any disease. The Messrs Smith grow eighteen tons of potatoes to the acre, and this pays them well at £2 per ton, but in the plain where I live six and seven tons per acre is a fair crop. At the mouths of all rivers a rich delta is formed, which produce enormous quantities of potatoes. There is a native potato, the Mung-a-mung, which Mr Johnstone, an old Otago farmer, has tried to acclimatise in Berwickshire, but which has failed in the district of Dunse from the frost. The moisture of the Otago climate may be inferred from the circumstances, that I have put 60 acres of oats in three stacks 50 feet long, 16 broad, and 20 feet high. Farmers in this country tell me they dare not put grain in such large stacks, because it heats. This shows that although the rainfall is similar in New Zealand and Britain, yet the autumn is much more favourable to the ingathering of the fruits of the earth; generally the three months of autumn is the finest season of the year. Wheat and oats are sown in autumn, but it will also do well in the spring. The farmers of Canada and New Zealand have a very different lot. In Canada all is hurry-burry in the five months of spring and summer, but the New Zealand farmer has plenty of time for everything, and when winter comes he quietly begins to break up virgin soil. During the last winter 40,000 acres of new

land was ploughed up in Otago, and during the last three years 100,000 acres have been reclaimed, but for all New Zealand 172,000 acres have been taken in. What do these figures really represent? This, that a district of country 267 miles long by one mile broad has been reclaimed from the wilderness and made to blossom as the rose.

The streets of Dunedin are named after the streets of Edinburgh. The original intention of the founders of the Scotch settlement was to call the capital of Otago New Edinburgh, but at the suggestion of Robert Chambers the Celtic name of Edinburgh was given to her New Zealand rival. So far as the history of Dunedin has yet gone the name does not appear too ambitious, for it is the capital of a district nearly as large as Scotland; and Princes Street in Dunedin is two miles long, and closely built on *both sides*. Fine buildings adorn the streets, some of which have cost from £10,000 up to £35,000; and in some parts of Princes Street, Dunedin, as high as £9 per foot is paid every year. The traffic from ten o'clock A.M. to four o'clock P.M. is so great that policemen have to regulate the traffic at certain points. Although the city of Dunedin has no claim to the hoary antiquity of its prototype, yet its institutions, as will be seen from several of the chapters which follow, are a wonderful development of energy and enterprise.

There are five banks doing a prosperous business; there are four engineers' shops. Small steamers have been built in Dunedin and completed. There is a railway open to the south and another to the north, the former 120 miles long, and the latter will probably extend the whole length of the Middle Island. Telegraphs extend 120 miles to Invercargill on one side, and thence to Auckland 900 miles on the other side. Indeed, the whole country is changed as by a touch of a magic wand in the short space of a quarter of a century.



Banks & Co. Edinburgh

DUNEDIN FROM THE HORTICULTURAL GARDENS.

XXV.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

Churches—University—High School—Ladies' School—Primary and Grammar Schools—Industrial School—Libraries—Newspapers.

THE educational institutions of New Zealand, and specially those of Otago, which are far ahead of other places in New Zealand, are such as to commend themselves to families who hesitate to emigrate lest the education of their children should suffer by transplanting them to the ends of the earth.

The finest building in New Zealand is the First Church in Dunedin.¹ This building is of pure white stone, and will compare favourably in architecture with any ecclesiastical structure in Edinburgh. It is pleasant to find architecture exerting her highest effort in the cause of religion. This building is the property of the Presbyterian Church of Otago.

Christianity is the religion of New Zealand. The heathenism of the aborigines of New Zealand nowhere meets the eye. The Maori is professedly Christian. Temples for the worship of the true God are scattered over the length and breadth of the land, and the Sabbath is universally acknowledged and respected by all orders of men, except by draymen and railway officials. Even the Jews, who observe their own Sabbath, close their places of business on Sunday. All denominations are on a footing of equality.

The prevailing sects are to be found everywhere—Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Methodists, Roman Catholics, Baptists, Independents, Plymouth Brethren, Jews, Christian Israelites, &c.

The Presbyterians are the most powerful body in Otago, and have forty congregations, four presbyteries, and a synod. They have done much hard pioneer work in connection with the settle-

¹ The material taken from rock was used in forming two new streets reclaimed from the harbour. The reclaimed land was sold for thirty thousand pounds, and is already built upon.

ment of Otago. The other denominations are in point of numbers in the order in which I have put them, and the Episcopalians and Roman Catholics have each a bishop exclusively devoted to the interests of their respective churches.

The Presbyterians of Otago are all one family. There is no such divisions as Cameronian, U. P., Free, or Established Church. This union has given consistency and great strength to the Presbyterian cause, so that they are able to send clergymen to outlying districts where no other denomination can do so. They have a Sustentation Fund similar to the Free Church of Scotland, and last year the equal dividend was £214. This sum is supplemented from door-collections and seat-rents, so that the salaries of Presbyterian clergymen range from £270 to £700 a year. The voluntary offerings at church doors stand out in strong contrast to what is common in Scotland. Ploughmen and hard-working men generally put silver in the plate. If an elder of Dr M'Gilvray's was standing at a church door in Otago he would see very little of Alexander the coppersmith, so omnipotent in Free Gilcomston and elsewhere. In the rural district where the author lives a new church was required, and a house carpenter from Dornoch headed the subscription list with £50, and another carpenter from the town of Dunse put down £50 also. Had these men been in Scotland £5 would have been the utmost they would have subscribed; so much are people cramped in their liberality by the doings of others. The good example of these two open-handed carpenters was followed by others, and produced £1600 in a week, and a church was immediately built at a cost of £2200.

Denominationalism does not present such strong features of antagonism as exists in England, Ireland, and Scotland. This does not arise from any want of orthodoxy, but from circumstances over which the worshipper has very little control. For example, a request was made to the Clutha Presbytery, to supply a far-off town with the means of grace. The district had few Presbyterians (six I believe); the great body of the people were Episcopalians and Wesleyans. A deputation was sent from the Presbytery to confer with them, and the result was that the inhabitants should contribute

£100 annually. The Presbytery would send a clergyman, build a manse, and pay the salary; and if at the end of three years the Episcopalians were strong enough to hive off and call a minister of their own, the Presbytery would not consider that the applicants had broken faith with them. This proposition was acceptable to all parties, and at the end of three years the Episcopalians and Wesleyans were each strong enough to call a minister of their own denomination, and now there are four churches, where at one time they could not have had the means of grace but for some such combination as I have indicated. One effect of thus worshipping together for some time is a greater respect for each other ever after. They attend each other's meetings, and aid in building each other's churches. Where there is more than work for all, why should they strive? When souls are perishing for want of bread, it is folly to waste time as to the mode of serving it. The Sabbath is well observed in New Zealand, and specially so in Otago. Last year evangelistic meetings were frequently held in the theatre of Dunedin and other places in the province, to ask for some of the spiritual blessings that were showered upon the churches of Britain that year. The moral character of the people of New Zealand compares favourably with such towns as Elgin or Aberdeen, or with Wigtownshire, where the births of illegitimate children have now reached 14 per cent. In our churches such cases are almost unknown.

The next educational institution is the University of Dunedin. Here five professors exert their skill in preparing our youths for the higher departments of mental labour. The university is a fine structure in the Grecian style, built of white stone, and presents a most graceful elevation on three sides. There is a clock-tower with illuminated dials, and the most approved machinery to regulate the time. The front elevations have broad balconies supported on Corinthian pillars, white as marble. The pillars were turned on steam-lathes, and are perfect in form, with richly-carved capitals. The Oamaru stone, of which the university is built, is capable of being wrought in the highest style of carving—bunches of grapes, fern-leaves, birds on wing and feeding their young in the nest; and

these devices form part of the ornamentation of the Presbyterian cathedral, and of the University of Dunedin.

The interior of the University is perhaps still more interesting. First, English and Classics are taught by Professor Sale, Mathematics by Professor Shand, Moral Philosophy by Dr M'Grigor, Chemistry and the Physical Sciences by Dr Black, Law by Mr Stout, and Anatomy by Professor Coughtrey. The Presbyterian Church endowed the important chair of Moral Philosophy with a salary of £600 a year. They also endowed a chair of Theology with £600. In addition to these University endowments, the Presbyterian Church annually pays £18,373 for Christian and missionary purposes.

The *High School* is the great preparatory institution for fitting youths for commercial pursuits, and for the University. This school is on the model of the Edinburgh High School, and is gradually finding its way to a high position, the Government being anxious to have it in the highest state of efficiency.

Ladies' High School.—This is an institution corresponding to a large extent to the High School for boys. This establishment has been in existence for some years, and has been a complete success. Indeed, it has eclipsed the relative institution of the boys, as it has had a fairer start and a more hearty co-operation from the beginning. The inhabitants generally give a higher education to their daughters than is given by the same class of persons in Britain. The Girls' High School was established in 1870, its object being to impart a thoroughly useful and liberal education, combined with careful moral and religious training. The ordinary course of instruction embraces a thorough English education, viz., Reading, Grammar, Composition, Elocution, History, Natural Science, Geography, Writing, Arithmetic, Singing, French, Needle-work, Drawing, Dancing, and Gymnastics.

	Per Quarter.
The terms are, Day Pupils (ordinary course),	£2
Day Boarders (extra),	3
Resident do. (including day-school fees and washing),	15

Mrs Burns is the Lady Principal, who presides over the whole

establishment, boarding as well as education; in the latter she is assisted by professional gentlemen, five of whom are visiting Masters; the other teachers are Governesses.

This school is so evidently gaining in public favour and confidence, that it has been found necessary to make arrangements for conducting its operations on a more comprehensive scale. It is contemplated to remove the boys to the new rectory, which hitherto has failed in its purpose as a boarding establishment, and to devote the whole of the present High School buildings to the purposes of the Girls' School. This arrangement will entail a complete and separate staff of teachers for the girls, which will be more than counterbalanced by the increased available boarding accommodation, and there can be little doubt that the very excellent management that will by this new arrangement be made still more perfect, will add to the already large attendance.

The school has now been in existence for four years, and has met with unprecedented favour, and the highest class this year has gone through an elementary course in Chemistry, Zoology, and Physiology.

There are six *Grammar Schools*, situated respectively in the towns of Invercargill, Oamaru, Port Chalmers, Milton, Lawrence, and Queenstown.

The primary and grammar schools—schools on which the great work of education mainly rests—occupy a position similar to the old parochial schools of Scotland. Wherever fifty children are found located three miles distant from another school, the Government erect a school-building, and endow it with £50 annually from public funds until the district increases in size. When this occurs, the "side school" has its designation changed to a district school; the salary of the teacher is doubled, and a portion of the fees added as supplement. Salaries of teachers in district schools vary from £150 to £300 per annum. The number of children who attended school in 1872 was 8662, or one-seventh part of the whole population of the province. This gives 14 per cent. of an attendance, which is the same as that of Scotland. But taking into consideration the great number of adults introduced by emigration, the percentage must be nearer to Prussia, which is the highest in the world.

The cost of education in Otago is £23,306, and the cost of each pupil to the State is £1, 15s. 3d. There is an educational endowment of land, which brings annually about £8008, 12s., and from other sources £3638, 1s. 11d. The two sums reduced the actual payment from ordinary revenue to £8261, 10s. 10d.

The common schools are under the control of school boards elected by the residents in the school district. The number of a school board is generally seven. All matters pertaining to the schools are absolutely in their hands. The question of reading the Bible in the schools never disturbed the public mind, till the appointment of Dr Moran as Bishop of the Roman Catholics. The law, however, has always been, that any parent objecting to his child reading the Bible, which is generally done in the first half-hour of the school, would have his wishes respected in that matter, and, with the exception of a fabricated case, got up in the inland town of Milton, and brought under the notice of Bishop Moran by one of his priests, no one has ever complained of the good, sound, and substantial education received in Otago. The case of the Roman Catholic child was thoroughly sifted and reported on by a commission appointed by the Government, and the result was anything but creditable to the priest chiefly implicated, for both parent and child denied in the most emphatic manner the charges brought against the rector of Milton Grammar School. Jews and Christians have nothing to fear at our public school. Not a single instance of proselytism has occurred in the schools, which have been in existence for five-and-twenty years.

The number of schools at the end of 1874 was 154, employing a staff of 266 teachers, viz., 155 schoolmasters, 44 schoolmistresses, 9 male pupil-teachers, 47 female teachers, and 11 teachers of sewing. Some of the schools possess sewing-machines, so that girls are taught to do both hand and machine work. These figures give an increase of 45 teachers for the year.

The number of children attending school is perhaps the most significant feature of our school system, in a country where the temptation to employ children at high wages is so very strong. In 1874 there were 7404 boys at school, and 6277 girls, being a

total of 13,681. This gives a seventh of the population at school; and when it is remembered that our adult population is greater in proportion than in old countries, it shows that a high value is set upon education in Otago.

Industrial School.—Some years ago, the question of an Industrial School was prominently put before the Government by the late Superintendent of Police, Mr Branigan. He was requested to furnish a return of the number of vagrant children who were under no restraint, and the number was sufficient to induce the Provincial Council to make provision for their education; and there is now a regular Industrial School, where the children are educated and taught to work; and the advanced boys are let out to respectable persons for so much a year. All money received as wages is banked by the institution, and, when settled in life, it is handed over to them.

The results of the Industrial School are so satisfactory, that as an educative agency it is second to none in Otago, for it has been the means of providing a comfortable refuge for the distressed, and turned stray waifs into blessings, who would otherwise have become criminals, and added to the expense of the country in watching the matured wickedness of neglected youth. Some of these children have considerable sums of money at their credit, and the habit of saving having been acquired, they are labouring earnestly to add to these savings.

The cost to the State of these children is 4s. 10½d. each. This includes maintenance, fuel, light, salaries, and incidental expenses. The boys are employed in garden-work, and the girls in household work and sewing.

Libraries.—Another means of education largely patronized by the young are our public libraries, of which there are seventy. The Government aid small communities by gifts of money for the formation of libraries in proportion of £2 for every £1 subscribed by the inhabitants.

Newspapers.—There are seventy newspapers in New Zealand; the number published in Otago is thirteen, of which three are daily, two bi-weekly; but every little town has its paper specially devoted to local news. The daily papers are well conducted, no expense

being spared in procuring the best informed men to occupy the important post of editor. These men are generally the most advanced thinkers on the side to which their paper belongs, and it is not often that the dailies descend to matters of a personal nature, but generally treat all subjects from a public point of view. This is the highest style of journalism, and although that point has not been reached, yet these papers will bear favourable comparison with journalism elsewhere.

The number of newspapers despatched from New Zealand in 1871 was	1,622,728
and the number received,	2,266,934
Total,	3,889,662

These figures show that ignorance at least is not common to the people of New Zealand, or they would not seek to digest such quantities of newspaper literature.

XXVI.

SHEEP FARMING.

Runs—Value of Wool—A New Zealand Duke—Number of Sheep—Broadcast Turnips—Fencing.

NEW ZEALAND was for a long time supposed to be ill-adapted for the growth of wool. Sixteen years ago the writer was asked by an intelligent person if sheep would thrive in Otago!

The development of Otago has in a great measure been brought about by the enterprise of sheep-farmers in search of grazing country. The Otago Government wisely offered sheep-runs for fourteen years to those who discovered them, on payment of a few pounds annually, and on condition that the runs were partially stocked with sheep (500) in six months. Sheep farmers traversed the country in all directions to spy out the grazing land, and in a short time the country was explored to the Billowy Mountains on the west, and the discovery of immense areas of pastoral country may be said to have finally determined the prosperity of Otago. The sheep usually depastured on the waste land of the province is

the Merino ; but the New Zealand Land Company and others have imported long-woolled sheep, with great advantage to themselves and the province. The long-woolled sheep are common on the lowlands, but the Merino is the best for the highlands of Otago.

The extent of a run generally depends on such natural boundaries as rivers, brooks, and mountains, and vary in size from 15,000 to 60,000 acres.

Up to 1866 the small sum of £4000 was all the rent the Government received for 6,000,000 acres ; but a law was passed in that year which converted the £4000 of rent into £50,000 annually. This was accomplished by offering to add ten years to existing leases, which would expire in a few years. For a while it was thought none would avail themselves of this privilege, but ultimately all the run-holders agreed to pay the increased rental, and receive an increase of tenure. The consequence of this Act was a great increase in the revenues of Otago, a great increase of sheep,—for some of the runs had never been fully stocked,—a great increase in the export of wool, and general prosperity of the place. The real author of this change in the rent-roll of Otago was Sir F. D. Bell, who was a member of the Provincial Council at the time of its passing, and first suggested the idea to the Government.

In 1853 the wool trade of Otago was represented by the trifling sum of £300 ; but the following table shows how it has increased—

In 1854 the value of wool was	£5,000	In 1864 the value of wool was	£340,549
1855,	8,901	1865,	393,087
1856,	19,591	1866,	513,956
1857,	18,318	1867,	585,136
1858,	38,215	1868,	572,939
1859,	60,058	1869,	642,867
1860,	47,805	1870,	730,593
1861,	119,450	1871,	689,182
1862,	192,596	1872, . . . . .	... 1
1863,	256,281	1873, . . . . .	... 1

The total wool export for New Zealand from 1853 to 1873 amounts to £19,783,588
and for Otago for same period (as shown above), 7,556,028²

¹ Statistics of 1872 and 1873 are not yet published.

² *Otago Guardian*.

Here we see the wool industry of Otago rise in twenty years from nothing to seven and a half millions sterling, and the next twenty years will see that great sum doubled, even at the present rate of production; for the run-holders are increasing the grazing powers of their runs by cultivation. In the south of the province Mr Campbell has advertised for the ploughing of 10,000 acres in one of his runs. This gentleman leases an area equal to any dukedom in Great Britain.

Sheep-farming has now become so prosperous that fears are entertained that they will buy up the whole country, and it is to prevent this that the arable land has been *reserved for small capitalists and emigrants* on deferred payments (see page 85). All the land would be taken up at £2 per acre, and it is perhaps the highest test of the value of the waste lands of Otago that sheep farmers would give such a price for land in its primitive state; but the natural grasses are very abundant, and well adapted for sheep pasture.

The number of sheep in 1871 was	3,731,445
Cattle,	143,609
Horses,	25,804
Pigs,	20,024

There are about seven and a half millions of acres leased in the province, and the quantity for all New Zealand is fifteen millions of acres. But as the area of New Zealand is similar to the area of Great Britain and Ireland, what must the future of New Zealand be when its seventy million acres of surface are utilized and stocked with sheep and cattle? The day is not far distant when the gold of the white man will purchase the last acre of the Maori. No purpose of man can stay the rapid stride of destiny in this direction. Everything has been done to pamper, to please, and preserve the most splendid savage in the world, but it will not do. The very revenues which he derives from leasing his lands to the white man only accelerates the great work of Maori decay. When that work is complete, New Zealand will rise with renewed strength and vigour to take that place amongst the nations which position, climate, people, and Providence have assigned to her.

The profits of sheep-farming induced me, thirteen years ago, to sell my land in the suburbs of Dunedin, and purchase seven square miles of beautiful land, most of it arable, and surrounded with twenty miles of substantial sod fence. The farmers are largely engaged in the breeding and fattening of sheep. Turnips are growing for winter feed on a plan that supersedes thinning. This is a kind of labour that cannot be got except through Chinamen, who take contracts to thin turnips at 5s. per acre; but the plan to which I allude is this:— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of turnip seed is mixed with a sack of sids or shillicks, and put into a grass sowing-machine, which sows a bag to the acre. Thousands of acres are annually sown in this way, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of seed being uniformly distributed over an acre. They come away beautifully, and the sheep are netted upon them in the ordinary way. Last year the writer weaned 1000 cross-bred Leicester lambs upon thirty-two acres of oats and rye-grass, and this kept them for four months in fine condition.

There are thousands of miles of fencing on the runs of Otago. Two kinds of fencing are used, post and wire fence, and sod dike, with double ditch. This sod bank is built like a stone wall, four, five, and six feet high, with ditches on each side: it is a sheep-proof fence, and costs 14s. per chain. It is three feet thick at the base, and fifteen inches on cap sod. Farmers use the same fence for cattle.

XXVII.

INDUSTRIES.

Woollen-Mills—Breweries—Saw-Mills—Steam-Plough—Banking—Railways—
Debt and Assets.

THE progressive character of Otago may be inferred with tolerable accuracy from the mere enumeration of local industries. The woollen mill of Mr A. J. Burns, which has been a complete success, has been purchased by a company for the purpose of doubling the production of tweed, blankets, stockings, and yarn. There is also a factory erecting near Dunedin for the manufacture of flannel, serge,

and blankets. There is a number of breweries which produce first-class beer, and a large distillery with £30,000 worth of spirits and gin in bond. The spring which supplies the distillery has been purchased from a famous total abstainer for ever, at so much, and converted into an alcoholic stream.¹ There are foundries and boiler-makers: an iron steamer was lately built, and her engines made in Dunedin. Meat-preserving companies killing 4000 sheep and 150 bullocks weekly; boot and shoe factories; rope, brick, tile, pottery, gas, candle, and soap-works; sash and door factories. The largest concern of this kind is in Dunedin, which manufactures doors, windows, and all kinds of mouldings by the mile. Here the files for sharpening the circular saws are driven by machinery; a touch of this wheel-file instantaneously grinds the teeth to the proper form. Sixty-eight men and boys are employed at the establishment of Messrs Clayton and Gibbs, and the whole is under the direction of an accomplished Yankee. Americans certainly surpass all other nations in the manipulation of timber, and here the process may be seen in perfection, from a broom-handle to the most elaborate mouldings. There are cheese, confection, and biscuit manufactories; quartz, bone, flax, flour, barley, rice, coffee, pepper, and oatmeal mills, driven by water and steam; collieries all over the country; some are wrought in the usual way, but the majority are surface collieries, which are wrought in the same way as stone quarries; some of the seams are 20 feet thick. There is a clothing factory just opened, which wants 300 needle-women at once (see letter of manager at page 137.) There is an agricultural implement manufactory busily engaged in the manufacture of all labour-saving machines, and notably in ploughs with two, three, four, five, and six furrows mould-boards. The steam-plough has been completely superseded by these simple and handy machines; they are drawn by six and eight horses, and the driver sits on the plough and directs its breadth and depth at pleasure. The number of the horses may appear to Scotch farmers a hindrance at the end

¹ I have just learned that the Government have closed the distillery, and paid the proprietor £20,000 as compensation in consequence of the loss to the revenue from this distillery making whisky.

of the "rig," but where a rig is three miles long, that is a matter of small consequence. The friction is reduced to a minimum by the use of a revolving coulter 17½ inches in a diameter, sharp as a cheese-knife, and in a six-furrow plough the draught is reduced by one-half. There are no stones to blunt the fine edge of these sharp coulters, which shows conclusively how easy it is to break up virgin soil. (See page 89.)

Banking, in a certain sense, is both a general and a local industry, and is the truest register of the commercial and industrial transactions of the community which can be found. In 1871 the number of Post-Office Saving Banks throughout New Zealand was eighty-one, of which twenty-seven were in the Province of Otago; 4615 new accounts were opened, and the total deposits (including additions to open accounts) amounted to £357,654, 14s. 6d. on the 31st December of that year.

There are other five banks in Dunedin, viz., the Bank of New Zealand, the National Bank of New Zealand, the Bank of New South Wales, the Union Bank of Australia, and the Bank of Australasia. The head-offices of these Banks are in Dunedin, Auckland, Sydney, and London. The report of one of these institutions must be taken as a sample of the others, merely premising that it is the half-yearly meeting of the Bank of New Zealand, and the twenty-fourth report.

The Bank of New Zealand.—"The directors have much satisfaction in announcing the result of the past half-year's operations, which, notwithstanding the increased competition, and the maintenance of low rates during the whole period, justifies them in recommending the usual appropriation for dividend.

The net profit at 30th September, after making full allowance for all debts known to be bad or doubtful, and for the usual reduction of bank premises and furniture accounts, amounts to	£37,737 17 3
To which has to be added—Balance of undivided profit at 31st March 1873, . . .	8,654 3 6
Making a total available for division, of . . .	£46,392 0 9

The following appropriation of which is now recommended:—

To payment of dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum,	£30,000	0	0
To bonus of 2s. 6d. per share, equal to 2½ per cent. per annum,	7,500	0	0
To balance carried to profit and loss 'New Account,'	8,892	0	9
	<u>£46,392</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>

"The dividend and bonus will be payable at head office, Auckland, on Friday the 24th October, and at the branches on receipt of advice.

"For the Board of Directors,

"C. J. STONE, *Chairman.*"

"AGGREGATE *Balance-sheet of the Bank of New Zealand, at 30th September 1873, including London Offices Balances, at 30th June 1873.*

Dr.

Bank Stock,	£600,000	0	0
Reserve Fund,	180,000	0	0
Notes in circulation,	375,169	0	0
Bills in circulation,	1,351,755	10	5
Deposits and other liabilities,	3,183,531	1	4
Balance of profit and loss account at 31st			
March 1873,	8,654	3	6
Net profit for half-year,	37,737	17	3
	<u>£5,736,847</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>

"The Chairman said—I rise to move the adoption of the report and balance-sheet you have just heard read, and in doing so allow me to congratulate you on the gratifying result of the past half-year's operations, and to recommend a dividend and bonus equal to 12½ per cent. Gentlemen, we hear sometimes of the dulness of

trade, but these things like the showers that pass over our head, are only local when you see our deposits amount to over three millions, our bills and notes circulation reaching over £1,700,000. It is, I think, an evidence of the growing wealth and increased spending power of the colony.

“Dr Campbell seconded the motion.”

BANK RETURNS.

The *New Zealand Gazette* published lately a general statement of the liabilities and assets of the various banking corporations trading in the colony for the quarter ended December 31, 1873. From this we find that the liabilities are—

Notes in circulation,	£709,305	1	0
Bills in circulation,	101,578	11	10
Balances due to other banks,	64,372	1	6
Government deposits,	1,115,428	13	11
Deposits not bearing interest,	2,479,180	19	6
Deposits bearing interest,	1,412,199	11	1

—making a total of liabilities of £5,882,322, 18s. 10d. Against this the assets are—

Coin,	£1,325,797	18	1
Bullion,	312,857	7	0
Notes and bills of other banks,	30,386	9	6
Balances due from other banks,	52,591	7	3
Landed property,	145,397	7	6
Notes and bills discounted,	2,597,476	1	3
Colonial Government securities,	157,600	0	0
Other founded securities,	3,175	1	6
Debts due (exclusive of bad),	3,307,602	7	9
Other securities,	526,109	7	7

—making total assets of £8,458,993, 7s. 5d., of which coin and bullion amount to £1,638,645, 5s. 1d. There is a further return of capital and profits, showing the total capital paid up of the banks to be £4,350,000, 10s., the amount of last dividends declared, £253,750, and the amount of reserved fund at the time of declaration of such dividends, £253,750. These dividends were as follow:—Bank of New Zealand, 12½ per cent.; Union Bank of Australia, 13

per cent.; Bank of New South Wales, 15 per cent.; Bank of Australasia, 10 per cent.; and National Bank, *nil*.

Water Supply.—There is a Water Company with a capital of £40,000, with which they have constructed a reservoir ten acres in extent about a mile from Dunedin. The water is led through the town in very strong pipes. The pressure is 150 lbs to the square inch, and answers the purpose of a fire-engine without the intervention of machinery. Small hydraulic engines are driven with the water on the same principle as the steam-engine, and answer admirably for light work.

Railways.—The greatest work of an industrial nature is the railway scheme of New Zealand. The first work of this kind was undertaken by the Provincial Government of Canterbury, and was designed to connect the harbour with the great plain of Canterbury and Christchurch, the capital of that province. The Otago Government also completed the survey of a railway from Dunedin south to Balclutha, a distance of sixty miles; and a private firm constructed the railway from Port Chalmers to Dunedin on a guarantee of eight per cent. on £80,000.

Five years ago the present premier of New Zealand, Sir J. Vogel, propounded the scheme of State railways, by which the general Government of New Zealand undertake the construction of all railways throughout the colony. New Zealand is about 900 miles in length, and 767 miles of railway have been authorized; a large portion of this distance having been already contracted for. The General Government has purchased all the existing railways, so that New Zealand will be able to manage her railway system from a central office in a complete, uniform, and economical manner. This department has been four and a half years under the management of an eminent Scotch engineer, Mr Carruthers, and is a remarkable instance of rapidity of development and of high organization.

The author of this great work made the following remarks on the indebtedness of New Zealand at a banquet given to him in Dunedin lately:—"Because certain gentlemen have chosen to enter upon various problems or speculations as to what might be the indebtedness of the colony in certain circumstances, it has been

assumed in some places, and especially it has been assumed outside the colony, that we were ignorant of our indebtedness. Let me take a homely example. If any one of you were called upon to pay the price of a dress for wife or daughter, you would know the amount when the bill was placed before you; but if you had presented to you an infant girl and were asked to calculate the cost of dressing her from the cradle to a presumed old age—(laughter)—you would think it a very difficult calculation to enter upon, and, at any rate, you would agree that the possible amount would be very different from the present cost of the child's outfit. (Hear, hear.) But, while making the calculations to which I have referred, as to the indebtedness of the colony, the makers of them have claimed the right to speak potentially upon financial questions; and they have insisted upon their right to mix up present liabilities with possible indebtedness for indefinite purposes, when some undefined time shall have arrived. I shall state as briefly as possible what are the facts of the case. The amount of our debt on the 30th June last (after deducting the amount invested in New Zealand securities on account of Sinking Fund) was—On colonial account, £6,465,900; on provincial account, £3,156,200; or, together, £9,622,100. As far as the provincial indebtedness is concerned, the amount is, no doubt, ultimately a colonial liability; but, at the same, it is secured, primarily, upon the Land Revenue of the colony; and of the nature of that security you may gain an adequate idea, when I tell you that, between the 1st July 1872 and the 20th December 1873, the land revenue of the colony, exclusive of receipts on amount of Gold and Native, amounted to £1,370,000. When you know that in a year and a half the land revenue, subject to the exceptions named, yielded £1,370,000, you need not, I think, be fearful as to a liability of a little over £3,000,000, with such a security at its back. (Applause.) There remained on the 30th June, to be negotiated, £2,352,600 of loans already authorized; thus making a total, when all the loans authorized up to June last have been negotiated, of £11,974,000. Beyond that amount there was required to complete the railways authorized up to the end of the session of 1872, or 767 miles of line in all, £1,886,900; and adding that amount, the total

will be £13,860,900. But that is not the amount of our present indebtedness. It is the amount of the debt that will exist when 767 miles of railway have been completed; when £1,000,000 has been expended on immigration; when £200,000 has been spent in acquiring native lands; when £400,000 has been devoted to making roads in the North Island; and when £300,000 has been spent in works upon the gold-fields. Then, but not until then, the total indebtedness of the colony may be estimated at £13,860,900. That debt will include £6,000,000 for public works, of which, at the date I have mentioned, only some £2,000,000 had been expended. When the question is raised, What will be our position when all that money is expended? no one is entitled to take the present position of the colony as the sole test, and to ignore the fact that by the expenditure of £4,000,000 on public works during the time that has to elapse, to say nothing of natural and ordinary progress, the prosperity of the colony must be increased, and a state of things be created different from that which now exists. (Applause.) It is absurd to suppose, if anybody does suppose, that a trunk railway through each island is to be constructed for £2,000,000 or £3,000,000. By the time the trunk line is completed, with the various branches already commenced, the public debt must be very much increased; but it will be a misfortune to the country, if you fail to see that you will then have good value for your money, in the immense addition to your population, and the means of traversing the country from end to end which will have been provided. (Applause.) What I have next to say will at any rate not be uninteresting, as an evidence of what we may look for in the future. I have obtained a return of the revenue received during a little less than six months—from the 1st July to the 27th December—together with returns for corresponding half years. From the 1st July to the 31st December, 1870, the receipts into the Consolidated Fund were £474,000; 1871, £485,000; 1872, £494,000; and for 1873, for a few days less than the half year, the receipts reached £625,000; being an increase over the corresponding period of last year of £131,000, or at the rate of £262,000 a year. I ask you, then, to recollect that if we have to pay additional interest because of an

increased amount of borrowed money, we have additional means out of which to pay it. (Applause.) The Land Revenue returns are yet more remarkable, as an indication of the prosperity of the country. In 1870 the land revenue amounted to £194,000; for 1871 it was £230,000; in 1872 it reached £500,000; but for 1873 it was no less than £1,116,000. In fact, the receipts during 1873 exceeded those of the previous three years. (Applause.) Before I leave the question of the financial position of the colony, I will ask you to recollect that the true indication of the pressure of a public debt is not to be found in any mere statement of figures of amount without considering surrounding circumstances. The mere amount of debt tells nothing; the annual amount which is to be paid as interest tells little more; nor does even the division of that amount amongst a stated number of persons tell anything conclusive, unless you go also into the question of the means out of which it is to be paid. A person who earns £50 a year may be less able to afford to pay £5 than another who earns £70 may be able to afford to pay £10. I speak not unadvisedly when I say that, in dealing with the question of the pressure of a debt, you have to consider first the number of persons who have to meet it, and then the amount of the earnings of those persons out of which they have to satisfy the requirements of the revenue. Then, and then only, you are able to arrive at a fair conclusion. When that test is applied you find that New Zealand does not by any means compare badly with other colonies, or even with large nations. I entered into this question very fully last session, and those who care to study it will find in *Hansard* a long dissertation upon it. I will now simply state to you a few figures representing conclusions to which I came. Taking the amount of the interest on our debt, exclusive of that for public works and provincial, the charge amounts, as far as I have been able to ascertain, to 1·2 per cent. of the average earnings of the population; inclusive of public works, but still excluding provincial, the annual charge is 1·6 per cent., or, including both public works and provincial, the annual charge amounts to 2·4 per cent. on the average earnings of the population. But I ask you to recollect that in making a comparison with other countries, it is in most cases fairer

to take the amount of the indebtedness exclusive of provincial and public works, because from the sale of lands, and from the works, there are special revenues from which to meet the indebtedness excluded. With some exceptions these are not elements of revenue in countries with which we have to compare our public debts; and when we take the amount of our debt, omitting that portion of it which is either charged on the land or is for works which elsewhere are provided by private enterprise, the annual charge is, as I have stated, 1·2 per cent. on the average earnings of the population. If we make a comparison with the United Kingdom, we find that the average there is 2·8 per cent. of the average earnings of the population. In the United States it is 2·7; in Russia, 2·5; in France, 2·3; in Austria, 2·2; and in the German Empire, 1."

The debt of New Zealand will require large additions for some years to come before it will amount to even one-half of the expenditure of some of the railway companies in Scotland, and when it has reached the sum named by the Premier, there will stand opposite that debt all the public works of New Zealand for the last eighteen years, and 767 miles of new railways with complete rolling stock, and 70,000,000 acres of land. Any firm or company whose books show such liabilities and assets would be accounted prosperous.

XXVIII.

THE ABORIGINES.

Discovery of New Zealand—Columbus and Kupe—Original Home of Maori—Records—Moa—Education—Progress—Hongi—Wars—Decay of the Race.

THE history of New Zealand and its discovery by the Maori dates from the middle of the 14th century, or about a century before Columbus was born. The contrast between the discoverer of America and the discoverer of New Zealand is all on the side of the Maori. Columbus's mariners were a continual source of uneasiness and trouble to him. They fully expected every night that their ships

would fall over the edge of the world and tumble them into the midnight of chaos. The Maori fearlessly launched his war canoe in search of a great island in the Southern Ocean, 3000 miles distant from his tropical home. No fears disturbed those savage navigators about their craft falling over the edge of the world. In their case "ignorance was bliss;" in the other it was a curse, and, but for the energy of one man, would have been followed by the most disastrous failure.

The first Maori who braved the dangers of the Southern Ocean, and discovered the unknown land of New Zealand, was the great chief Kupe. This he accomplished in the canoe *Matahourua*, in company with his brave warriors and their wives. It is creditable to the discoverer of New Zealand that his thirst for geographical knowledge of the new-found country was more intense than that of the discoverer of America. Columbus erroneously imagined he had discovered the continent of America, and returned to Europe under that belief, yet it was only the island of Guanahani; but the New Zealand discoverer no sooner refreshed his crew, than he circumnavigated the north island, and named its principal rivers, bays, and mountains, which are substantially the names they still bear.

Nine other canoes followed the *Matahourua* in rapid succession. Each canoe had its chief and a faithful band devoted to his interest. The names of these canoes and their captain chiefs are still carefully preserved in the traditionary records of the tribes, whose progenitors they bore through storm and tempest to the land of the Maori.

There are two questions connected with the early history of New Zealand that are difficult of solution. The one is a philological, the other a nautical question. The concurrent testimony of the natives is that the first ten canoes came from Hawaiki. The only island in the Pacific Ocean that has any resemblance in name to Hawaiki is Hawaii, the largest of the Sandwich Islands. Two difficulties occur here. First, the languages of Hawaii and New Zealand are not similar. To this it may be remarked that an unwritten language would change very much in five hundred years, even the written language of Scotland five centuries ago is almost unintel-

ligible to many now-a-days. Secondly, the distance of the Sandwich Islands, 3000 miles, is thought to be too great for frail canoes to navigate; but to this objection the answer is—that the canoes of the Polynesians have often encountered great storms successfully; besides, the nearest land the Maori could have come from is 1200 miles from New Zealand, and if they navigated the stormiest part of the journey, they would have less difficulty through the trade winds. The other question is, that the Maori must have come from Raratonga, because it is nearer than Hawaii, and the language is a little nearer to Maori than that of the Sandwich Islanders. The advocates for this theory get over the Maori tradition of their ancestors coming from Hawaiki by saying it is a figurative expression. This supposition is rather gratuitous, for the traditions of the New Zealanders are in general most trustworthy. There is a deeper question than the original home of the Maori—Why did he expect to find a great island in the far south? Here speculation may exhaust herself. There is evidence that a race existed in New Zealand prior to the landing of the Maori, who were contemporaneous with the giant Moa bird, whose head was twelve feet high when standing on the ground.

Maori Records.—The mode by which the New Zealander preserves the records of his tribe is both interesting and instructive; and the systematic and fourfold manner in which it was done, shows most conclusively that the greatest accuracy was sought in recording the history of the past. Some of the tribes possess a genealogical tree, or stick, on which a notch is cut for every generation since they landed on the shores of New Zealand. The custodier of this record was invariably the priest of the tribe. It was the duty of the priesthood to hand to their successors the genealogical stick, and all that had been learned from their predecessors of the history of the tribe—their quarrels, wars, and extent of their lands. Further, at certain seasons the tribe was assembled, like the Jews, for historical instruction, when the priest rehearsed the leading events of their history. And lastly, the son of the chief from his infancy was taught the names of his forefathers, and the great incidents of their lives. When he grew up he never left his father's side; in

season and out of season, in the house and on the field, in fishing and hunting, the universal theme was the history of the tribe—the wars they had waged,—the tribes they had conquered,—and, in particular, *the unavenged wrongs of his forefathers*. No matter how great the interval that had intervened, these proud chieftains taught their children never to forgive, until the family stain had been wiped out by the best blood of their enemies. Another important part of the chief's education was the boundary of his dukedom. For the purpose of riveting the boundaries more firmly in his mind, he was taken to the confines of his country, and made to cultivate a portion of it, that in the event of his title ever being questioned he could refer to these outside cultivations in proof of ownership. So thorough was the historical training of a young chief, that some of them could recount the history of his tribe for twelve generations back. These facts attest the accuracy of Maori traditions.

Their progress, after landing in their adopted country, seems to have been very great. For centuries they seem to have increased very rapidly, Maori mothers having been known to have ten, and even twelve children; but the zenith of Maori prosperity is long since past. From 1814 to 1840 sixty thousand of the flower of the race perished by the hands of their own countrymen. Up to that time not a single emigrant ship had sailed from Britain for New Zealand, so that the colonists are free from all blame in these exterminating wars, which resulted in great measure from a foolish present of fire-arms made to Hongi, a New Zealand chief, when on a visit to the King of England in 1822. Hongi became the Buonaparte of New Zealand. He carried all before him; like Napoleon he revelled in victory and bloodshed, until he involved his tribe and nation in hopeless decay—a decay that is irresistible and sure, and which will only terminate with the last New Zealander, not “on the broken arch of London bridge,” but in his own untidy, cheerless, and dirty home. The extinction of the Maori is a mere question of time. They feel they are a doomed race, and look forward to it with the resignation of the fatalist. In Canterbury and Otago they never had a dispute with the colonists, and yet there is not a native to be seen where they once roamed in thousands. Wherever you go,

there is hardly a native child to be seen, only half-castes, and even these in the second generation are sickly and puny-looking. Whatever may be the cause it is beyond human control. If it is the judgment of Heaven, it must be in consequence of the fierce and horrible passions of their forefathers being visited upon the children to the third and fourth generation. Putting the decay of the Maori in this hypothetical manner may be objectionable to some, but it is most difficult to account for the decadence of the race if you ignore an overruling Providence; but the next forty years will speak more decidedly in the direction indicated than anything that can be said on this most painful subject. That natural causes are at work is readily admitted. For example, I have seen a Maori chief on a warm sunshine day walking about with a red blanket wrapped closely round him, and the perspiration oozing from every pore of his body, and at night lie on the cold damp ground, with nothing more than the red blanket. He catches cold and dies of consumption, or some other irresistible disease. And this state of matters is not mended by building a house for him, or even in providing him with money, food, and clothing. The Maori *will* live in his own way, mingling civilized and savage habits in the most incongruous and pernicious manner. Every one must be familiar with the ridiculous way in which they are reported to have combined heathenism and Christianity in the North Island during the last native war.

The Maori feels he can no longer cope with the Anglo-Saxon. He sees that he is destitute of his energy and perseverance; that the European prospers where the native would starve; that the white man is not a fighting man, but when he fights he is sure to win; that the prestige of the Maori is gone; that the land which his forefathers wrested from others has been wrested from himself by the gold of a race that will never die. He plainly sees that his countrymen are dwindling away, and that nothing can resuscitate the glory of the past. He has lost all hope, and become a confirmed fatalist, looking on the exterminating future as an invincible foe.

XXIX.

BUSH.

Fern Tree—Pines—Turnip Trees—Free Grants of Land—Blue Gum—Birds
—A Lark—Beasts and Reptiles—Area of Forests.

THE bush of New Zealand differs from that of other countries. It has a dark, dank look, the foliage is generally dark green, and so close that the rays of the sun even at noon scarcely penetrate the leafy canopy. Locomotion in the bush is necessarily slow. Sometimes a dead pine, 40 feet long, and 2 or 3 feet in diameter, obstructs the path; at another supple-jacks and prickly thorns bar all progress. The intervening space between large trees is filled up with a rich undergrowth of young trees and ferns; the latter alone number fifty varieties in the vicinity of Dunedin. Here the tree fern grows in perfection, and is the most beautiful plant in New Zealand. This tree requires age to show its graceful drapery, but looks prettiest when it is about 10 or 12 feet high, although it attains double that height in very secluded places. The fronds are 6 and 8 feet long, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad, giving to the tree the appearance of a gigantic green parasol, highly figured, and having a long slender black stem. The wood of the fern tree is valueless, yet it is sometimes made into picture frames, and these are regularly spotted like the skin of the leopard.

Beautiful as is the fern tree, it is almost equalled by the young rimu. This is a tree that attains maturity in two hundred years, and is always beautiful; but when five or six years of age, its long, graceful, cord-like leaves hang down like the weeping-willow, and give it an appearance quite different from the aged tree. Thousands of these young trees have been transplanted because of their beauty, but only to wither and die.

The principal native wood used for building purposes are the White, Red, and Black pines, and Black birch; also Miro and Totara, both of which have a grain like cedar. None of these trees have cones. There is a great variety of other trees used for fencing,

fuel, and food. The Hini-hini is the most useful tree for a man who settles in the bush, where there is no grass for a cow. I have often seen on a stormy night a bush farmer take an American axe and cut this tree for food to his cows; and so fond are they of the green leaves and small twigs, that the moment they see the axe in the farmer's hand, they commence to low and run after him. They stand quietly by while a tree 6 or 8 inches in diameter is being felled, and the moment the crash is over they rush forward and devour the leaves. Two such trees make an excellent supper for half a dozen cows, which they munch with the relish of turnips.

Persons settling in the bush in Stewart's Island, and such localities, will find the Hini-hini and the laurel leaves of the Broadleaf (a large tree, generally hollow) most excellent herbage for cows, and the milk makes rich butter. As the Government offers land to persons paying their own passage to New Zealand, I would advise hardy bushmen and fishermen to settle on such land. They do not need much capital, the fencing is all round them, and the crops can be put in the moment the bush is felled, dried, and burned off.

The following extract is from an Act passed in October 1873, for giving free grants of land to certain immigrants:—

“Immigrant paying own passage to New Zealand entitled to land of value of £20 for himself, and if with family, like portion of land for each adult member.

“2. Every person of the age of eighteen years, and not exceeding sixty years, arriving in New Zealand after the passing of this Act from the United Kingdom or elsewhere than any of the Australasian Colonies, including Tasmania, who shall have paid the cost of his passage to New Zealand, and who desires to settle upon and cultivate land therein, shall, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained, be entitled to a free grant of a piece of land to the value of £20.

“And if any such person be the head of a family, the value of the piece of land to which such person shall be entitled shall be proportionate to the number of the members of such family the cost of whose passage shall have been paid by him, that is to say:—

“ In respect of his or her own passage, land to the value of £20 ; and in respect of the passage of each member of such family of the age of fourteen years or upwards, land to the value of £20 ; and for each member of such family of less age than fourteen years, land to the value of £10.

“Family, what may consist of.

“ Members of a family, for the purposes of this Act, shall include wife, child, grandchild, nephew, and niece of the head of the family : Provided that no person shall be entitled to such free grant of land unless he shall, before leaving the place of departure for New Zealand, have obtained from the Agent-General of New Zealand, or any person appointed by him for the purpose, a certificate in writing that he and those members of his family in respect of whom he claims to be entitled as aforesaid are suitable immigrants.

“Immigrant must make claim.

“ 3. Every person claiming to be entitled to land under this Act must, within sixty days after his first arrival in New Zealand, apply personally to the Immigration Officer under ‘The Immigration and Public Works Act, 1870,’ at the port or place where he arrives, or, if there be no such Immigration Officer at that port or place, then to such Immigration Officer whose office shall be nearest to such port or place, and furnish to such officer a statement of his claim to be so entitled, showing when and by what ship and at what port or place he (or he and his family, as the case may be) arrived, and from what port or place he or they emigrated, and the name and age of himself, or of himself and each member of his family, as the case may be ; and he shall then, or within sixty days thereafter, furnish such proof of the truth of the statement as shall be required by the Immigration Officer.

“Claimant to be registered.

“ On the Immigration Officer being satisfied of the truth of such statement, the name of such person shall be registered by the Immigration Officer in a register to be kept for the purpose, together with the amount in value to which he shall be entitled to select land under this Act in respect of his own passage, or his own passage and that of his family, and every such person so registered shall be deemed a registered immigrant.

“At any time within five years registered immigrant may apply for land to be purchased for him, if he has resided continuously in New Zealand.

“5. At any time within five years after the arrival of a registered immigrant in New Zealand, such immigrant may apply to the Minister to purchase for him land to the amount in value to which he is entitled according to such register, if such immigrant shall have resided continuously in New Zealand from the date of such arrival until the time of applying to the Minister, but not otherwise.”

The Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus*) has been acclimatized from Tasmania, and forms the chief feature in the numerous plantations that ornament and shelter the villas of our prosperous settlers, giving to the rural scenes of the country a cosy and home-like look. This tree grows with a rapidity unknown in its native clime, being 20 feet high in ten years, and 50 feet in nineteen years, with fine straight stems. They are evergreen, and cast their bark and leaves so imperceptibly that no change is visible in the winter, and when they are in seed they are covered with white-looking roses, having a resinous smell.

There is a very large white pine bush near Invercargill (the second town in Otago), in which there are sixteen saw mills, and at Riverton, thirty miles distant, there is a great forest, chiefly Red pine. These forests will far more than supply our wants for the next hundred years, and is a good district for sawyers to settle in.

New Zealand does not possess a single good singing bird, but the plumage of some of them is very beautiful. The following is a list of the birds:—The sparrow hawk, tui or parson bird, bell bird or mocker, wood robin, yellow breasted tit, pied fantail, yellow top paroquet, brown parrot, wood pigeon, black oyster catcher or red bill, pied oyster catcher, Weka or wood hen, Paradise duck, little teal, grey duck, two species of gull, cormorant or black shag, pied shag, white throated shag, also another species of shag locally called the “blue shag,” perhaps the most abundant on the coasts of Stewart’s Island, easily shot, and pretty highly esteemed by the sailors as an article of food, the little penguin, the great penguin. This bird was caught alive on the rocks in Halfmoon bay.

The Acclimatization Society has introduced a great number of

birds, amongst which the lark is conspicuous. The last Sabbath I was privileged to spend in my New Zealand home, a happy lark rose at my feet, winging his way to heaven in ever widening circles, and chanting his matin hymn. Strange memories were awakened by the heavenly song, and a strong wish to know if I ever would stand upon that spot again, and hear the lark singing.

There is an agreeable and pleasing sensation in wandering through the primeval forests in the south of New Zealand which is not to be found elsewhere. In other places a sense of undefined danger is apt to steal over the mind, but here the traveller feels he has nothing to fear from man, beast, or reptile. No black snakes, centipedes, grizzly bears, or tigers disturb the universal silence and repose that reign on every side, and the benighted traveller lights his fire, boils his billy, wraps himself in his blankets, and goes to sleep with a sense of complete security. The quantity of forest land in Otago is estimated at 3570 square miles.

The terror of man in an uncivilized state is an evil that must enter largely into the calculations of an emigrant. The strife that was waged for many years between the North American Indians and the first settlers is one of the most terrible episodes of American colonization, and has to a limited extent been re-enacted in Tasmania, Australia, the North Island of New Zealand, and is going on at present in Fiji. These drawbacks to progress and prosperity never have, and never can, blight the energies of the southern settlements; and it is doubtless to the total absence of such disturbing elements that Otago and Canterbury have for many years been the richest and most populous provinces of New Zealand.

XXX.

TO EMIGRANTS.

Who should Emigrate—Hours of Labour—Wages.

IN concluding these chapters I cannot refrain from giving some advice to those who may be inclined to emigrate.

Who should emigrate.—The great question for you to consider is this, Are you really a suitable person for a young colony? for the whole question of emigration is one of adaptation. If you are adapted to colonial pursuits, *go*; if you are *ill* adapted, *stay*. From what has been said in the foregoing pages, any one may form a correct idea of what is to be done in a new colony.

When the writer emigrated twenty-eight years ago, he would have given anything for the information scattered through these pages. He was afraid that he was not suitable for a young colony, as he was destitute of all agricultural knowledge; but fortunately, he was mistaken, and found by experience that he was adapted to the country, and the country to him.

Who should not emigrate.—I would not advise a large family to emigrate, unless the elder children are able to work for themselves; neither would I advise delicately-trained governesses or clerks, nor persons who have consumption developed to a certain extent, nor broken-down schoolmasters and clergymen; all such persons do wrong to emigrate. Youth, health, vigour, and skill are the requisites of the successful emigrant.

Hours of labour.—The hours of labour are in general eight per day. Farm-servants go out to plough after breakfast, and are in the plough at eight o'clock in the morning, and knock off at five in the afternoon, with an hour for dinner at midday. These are the hours of labour amongst tradesmen. Wages of farm servants, £50 to £60 a year; tradesmen, 10s. to 14s. a day. Needle-women, wherever the nature of the business will admit of it, work only eight hours a day. There are also for shop-girls and needle-women certain holidays in the year, and the half of Saturday secured as recreation. Wages, needle-women, 18s. to 25s. per week.

Labour market.—The following returns have been furnished by his Honour the Superintendent :—

LIST OF SHIPS that arrived in Otago, and the number of Immigrants in each, from 29th December 1873 to 31st January 1874.

Ships.	From what Port.	Date of Arrival.	Statute Adults.
City of Dunedin, . . .	Glasgow, . . .	29th December, . . .	114
Surat,	London,	1st January,	223
Dunfillan,	London,	16th January,	137
Total, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	474

LIST OF IMMIGRANTS engaged through the Immigration Office, Dunedin, from 29th December 1873 to 31st January 1874, and the current Rate of Wages given.

Class.	No.	Current Rate of Wages.
Blacksmiths,	5	12s. per day.
Bootmakers,	8	£3, 10s. per week.
Bricklayer,	1	12s. per day.
Carpenter,	18	14s. per day.
Coopers,	3	10s. per day.
Dairymaids,	3	£40 to £45 per annum.
Dressmakers,	2	From 20s. to 25s. per week.
Engineers,	2	12s. per day.
Farm-servants,	42	£52 to £55 per annum, and found.
Female cooks,	6	£40 to £45 per annum, and found.
Female general servants,	61	£30 to £35 per annum, and found.
Gardeners,	5	£60 to £65 per annum, and found.
Grocer,	1	25s. per week.
Groom,	1	20s. per week and found.
Harness-maker,	1	£3, 10s. per week.
Harvest-men,	5	£2, 10s. per week, and found.
Housemaids,	16	£25 to £30 per annum, and found.
Housekeepers,	3	£50 per annum.
Miners,	2	4s. per ton displaced.
Nursery maids,	3	8s. to 10s. per week.
Painters,	2	10s. per day.
Platelayers,	2	8s. to 9s. per day.
Ploughmen,	3	£60 per annum, and found.
Shepherds,	2	£60 per annum, and found.
Tailors,	10	£3 to £3, 10s. per week.
Weavers,	9	As per agreement.

XXXI.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

Class Settlement—Convict Labour—A Digger becomes a Lord—Volunteers—
Humane Institutions—Needle-Women.

THE whole of the Middle Island has been colonized on a basis that would provide for religious and secular instruction. Nelson first, Otago next, and Canterbury last; and although the idea containing this plan has been long since given up, yet friends and foes readily admit that it was a great advantage to the first settlers. The founders of these settlements took for granted that it would be a most difficult matter for an infant colony of three or four hundred persons scattered over a large tract of country, to secure the regular services of a clergyman or schoolmaster, unless they could come to some definite arrangement before leaving this country. Even in the Highlands of Scotland there is difficulty in this respect, and how much more so in a mixed population at the other ends of the earth? Accordingly the social condition of those settlements is very high, and that of Otago, with which I am best acquainted, will not suffer by a comparison with any district in Great Britain.

New Zealand has never been cursed with convict labour. When Earl Grey, some years ago, asked the provinces if any of them would accept of this moral blight, the universal voice of all the provinces was, Away with them!—we will not enrich ourselves to the ruin of posterity and our adopted land. This is one cause for the high social condition of Otago, and another is the great care that was taken by the founders of the colony to secure a superior class of emigrants, none of whom were convicted of crime for the first ten years of the settlement, so that Judge Stephen, who lived among them for nearly two years without a case, was at last removed by the General Government to another sphere in the North Island.

Otago, like all other British colonies, is peopled from every quarter of the globe, but its pith and stamina is British blood. Foreigners are not entitled to a vote in public affairs; but if they renounce their own country and apply to the Sheriff to be

naturalized, they are admitted to all the privileges of British subjects.

There is another class often sent to the colonies—ne'er-do-wells. These invariably belong to the upper classes, and are sent out by their friends on the most specious promises of future assistance, or, perhaps, with the portion of goods that falls to their share, and the result is a mad gallop to ruin, degradation, and poverty. Loosed from all the restraints of home, they soon display their downward tendency, and are shunned by respectable people. One or two of this class have been sought for and found. A digger one day suddenly became an Irish earl of £20,000 a year. It is a pleasing fact that the young men born in Otago have not shown a tendency to the drinking customs of the age.

The volunteer movement has aided the cause of temperance very much, for the best shots have found that a steady aim is best secured by abstinence, and nothing will induce them to peril the prospect of the champion belt for the indulgence of drink.

I have frequently seen a whole squad of crack shots competing with the rival shots of another district, and nothing was served as refreshment but ginger beer. The following is an extract from the *Otago Times*. The top scorer is the first emigrant boy born in Dunedin, to whose birth reference is made in page 42, and is, on the whole, a fair specimen of colonial youths, who have gone into the volunteer movement with great spirit, and a determination to be efficient in time of need :—

“ COLONIAL PRIZE FIRING.

“No. 2 Scottish, competed at the Anderson's Bay butts this morning for choice of company representatives. Nine members came to the range, Sub-Lieutenant John T. Douglas, the officer appointed by the company, being in charge. The weather was dull, with wind from the right and left rear. The ranges, as on the previous day, were 200, 400, 500, and 600 yards, with seven shots at each. The scoring throughout was good, that of Adam with a total of 85, being first-class from beginning to end. At 200 yards Adam was top scorer, with 27 out of a possible 28 ; at 400 yards Buchanan with

23; at 500 yards Adam with a like score; and at 600 yards Taylor with 16. The scores, in detail, were—

	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	600 yds.	Tl.
Adam, . . .	4434444	3324234	3423344	0422420	—85
Jamieson, . . .	4342322	0344344	3240334	4233343	—83
Taylor, . . .	3344444	3333233	3033333	3042430	—83
Creagh, . . .	2344343	3434233	2333334	0233042	—80
Wilson, . . .	4442243	4334033	3232433	2023203	—75
Buchanan, . . .	4433444	3343343	4322420	2002200	—72
Spalding, . . .	4332433	2333433	0330403	2330034	—71
Lindsay, . . .	4424332	4302300	2032333	2343003	—65
Proudfoot, . . .	4432223	3330203	0034230	0 retired.	”

There are several humane institutions supported by voluntary contributions to an extent that reflects the highest credit upon the public. The first of these is the Hospitals.

The up-country hospitals are supported by the public and the Government on the principle of pound for pound. The hospital of Dunedin is a Government institution. The building is a square massive block, and was erected for £17,000. It has a large piece of ground attached, is well lighted, and ventilated on the most approved principles. The cost of each patient per annum is £38, 5s. 5d., the annual cost of the hospital is £5700, and it is presided over by Dr Hulme.

The Lunatic Asylum is a Government institution in the suburbs of Dunedin, with fine grounds attached. A great many of the patients recover—78 per cent., while in Great Britain it is only 36 per cent. This institution costs annually £4340, and is presided over by Mr Hume and Dr Hulme.

The Benevolent Institution is chiefly supported by the public for the benefit of indigent and orphan children. There are a great many churches and a greater number of hotels. There is also a Choral, Acclimatization, and Caledonian Society, a Jockey and Regatta Club.

BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

The First Church cost	£17,000
The University	30,000

The Hospital	£17,000
The Lunatic Asylum, temporary building.	
Benevolent Institution, „	
Provincial Buildings, devoted to Government,	
Post-Office and Telegraph, cost	20,000

Custom-House, banks, churches, business premises, &c., are all wonderful buildings for such a young place as Dunedin.

There is a magnificent graving-dock, capable of accommodating war vessels of any size, which cost £55,809, 7s. 1d.

The following is the letter alluded to on page 60 :—

“ NEW ZEALAND CLOTHING FACTORY,
[DUNEDIN, 23d December 1873.

“ DEAR SIR,—It affords me much pleasure to open a correspondence with you, feeling assured, from the reputation you bear in Otago, that you are the right man in the right place. I only regret *not* being in a position to nominate labour for this colony. I may state I am but a recent arrival myself, having landed within a month at the Bluff, went from thence to Queenstown, the magnificent scenery of which is almost indescribable; from Queenstown I came here *via* Tuapeka and Tokomairiro. The valleys the whole way from Lawrence look beautiful; good sheep and agricultural country all the way.

“ On my arrival in this city of Dunedin I was struck with its magnitude. The importance of the place is at once recognisable from its extent of valuable buildings, large amount of good roads, kerbing, channeling, lighting, and other good sanitary requirements. The enterprise and energy of its business men is not second to any city I have visited, and I honestly believe, if the present Government policy is persevered in, the future of New Zealand will be great.

“ I have come here to settle from Melbourne, Victoria, where I have resided for the past twenty years, and where I was the first man to introduce the industry I am now engaged in, that of a clothing manufacturer, which had its birth just fourteen years gone.

There is to-day not less than five thousand men, women, and girls employed in this industry in Victoria, with a wages roll of something between three and four hundred thousand a year, to the almost utter exclusion of European goods; and I sincerely trust I shall be as successful in keeping as large an amount of wealth in this country, and thus induce a population from the overcrowded workshops of Europe to this healthy and prosperous province. As far as my experience goes, skilled labour is almost unobtainable, and if they were to be had, I am prepared at once to employ two hundred men, women, boys, and girls, and in a year from now to double the number. By the system I have laid down, our factory will be worked by a great subdivision of labour, which will enable us to employ a large amount of unskilled labour; and any intelligent person may learn in a very short period how to earn a living—for example, the machine work is confined to one division, the cutting to another, tacking another, finishing to a fourth, button-holing to a fifth, buttoning to a sixth, ticketing to a seventh, pressing to the eighth, overseering to a ninth; and so the garment is completed, each worker becoming in time such an adept at the small part falling to his or her share, that not only are the goods got up in first-class style, but all employed make good wages. I calculate the average earnings, say of two hundred people, comprising men, women, boys, and girls, ranging from 2s. 6d. per week up to £4, at 18s. per week.

“The two-and-sixpenny hands are girls of twelve years of age learning their trades, as we make it a rule to pay them from the day they enter the factory—taking them at the above age for twelve months as apprentices, giving them 2s. 6d. per week for the first six months, 5s. for the second six, 10s. for the third six, and so on; but wherever a girl or boy shows aptitude, as I am glad to say they often do, we are not bound by this law, but advance them more rapidly, as they deserve. A woman who knows her business as a tailoress can make from 30s. to 40s. per week, fifty-two weeks in the year, and unlike the old country (which, with all its faults, I still love), every child a man has here is a blessing, for each one brings something into the general coffer, instead of being a drain on

it; and although I have and do employ a large amount of juvenile labour, I have not been a hard taskmaster, as my testimonials will prove. I am proud to say I hold some very handsome ones, subscribed by the labour I have been connected with in Victoria, and from which I have culled an efficient staff of teachers to assist me in this my new undertaking, and all of whom, with one exception, were my own apprentices, and have been in my employ from five to ten years, are all volunteers, and in the enjoyment of good salaries.

“It has always been a source of gratification to me to assist the deserving, by teaching them how to be self-dependent and independent, and if I should induce any who may find it a struggle to gain a livelihood in the old country to come and dwell here in this land of plenty, their prosperity will be my pleasure, and I shall be amply repaid for the slight trouble they may occasion me.

“Accept, dear Sir, my sympathy in your present undertaking, and believe me at all times ready to afford you information. Wishing you every success,—I remain very faithfully yours,

“J. F. ANDERSON,
Managing Partner in the firm of
HALLENSTEIN BROTHERS & Co.,
New Zealand Clothing Factory, Dunedin.”

XXXII.

STEWART'S ISLAND.

Land—Timber—Fish.

THE South Island, or Stewart's Island, is a portion of the province of Otago, and is about the size of Perthshire, very mountainous and densely wooded. In this island there are some of the finest harbours in the world, and it is rich in fish all round the coast and in the harbours. Shell-fish are caught in great quantities, and shipped by steamers trading from Invercargill to Dunedin. The Government lately invited Shetland and Orkney fishermen to

settle there. Small grants of land were to be given, and boats and lines provided, with provisions for six months; but these kind efforts on the part of the Provincial Government to foster fishing enterprise have not been responded to with energy, and, so far as real effort is concerned, they were not likely to do anything while the provisions lasted. After two months, none of them had cleared an acre, or planted a potato, or caught a fish, and yet the water is teeming with fish. I never heard of indolence displaying itself in a more unworthy and objectionable manner than had been done by these emigrant fishermen at Port-William.

If Stewart Island was in Europe, its coast would be as valuable as the fishing-banks of Newfoundland, and the island itself will become most valuable some day, from the number of its fine sheltered bays, rich soil, and heavy timber, suitable for shipbuilding purposes. There are about 25,000 acres of available land, which only require a thousand Nova Scotians to turn land and fish to good account.

“The whole country to the west and south-west of Port Adventure is low and comparatively level for miles. The ironwood timber with which it is at present encumbered will, one would think, some day command a price that will pay for its removal; and then thousands of acres of good ground will be added to the productive resources of the island.

“The teeming abundance of fish in the bays and off the coasts of Stewart Island, the excellent edible qualities of some of the species, and the facility with which they are caught, offer unusual inducements to establish here a fish-curing industry on a large scale.

“The Barracouta, *Thyrsites atun*, a fish well known in Dunedin, is very abundant on rocky bottoms all round the island. With no other appliance than a slip of wood with a nail driven through it, and attached by a piece of cord to a supple rod, we caught them in Kaipipi Bay at the rate of one every minute.

“The Groper or Hapuka, *Oligorus gigas*, frequents deeper water, and is found in large numbers off Stewart Island. Its usual weight is from 30 to 60 lbs, sometimes attaining, however, according to Captain Hutton, a length of 6 feet, and weighing 120 lbs.

“We drew on board from 600 to 700 lbs. weight of this fish, in less than two hours, while becalmed one day.

“It was no unusual event with us, on raising our net in the morning, or late in the evening, two hours after setting it, to land 200 lbs. weight of fish of excellent quality, chiefly Moki, *Latris ciliaris*; Trumpeter, *Latris hecateia*; Blue Cod or Rock Cod, *Percis colias*; and Red Cod, *Lotella bacchus*.

“The Flounder, *Rhombosolea monopus*, is very common on the muddy bottom at the head of the bays and coves, and at the mouths of the creeks all round the coast. In addition to those mentioned above, we caught without much trouble a large number of Butter-fish and Kelp-fish—the former with hook and line in Kaipipi Bay, the latter in our nets, along with the trumpeter and others already mentioned.

“Oysters of large size and good quality are found in great abundance in some of the bays. Cross and Scollay send annually a considerable supply into the Dunedin market. By judicious treatment and strict surveillance over the beds in the close season, this industry might also be largely developed.

“While in Paterson Inlet, we received from the Bluff a basket of fish that had been driven ashore there in immense numbers; covered the beach, we are told, for miles.

“They were, it appears, pursued by large herds of porpoises; and when, in their efforts to escape these, they approached the surface of the water, it was only to be pounced upon by the mutton-birds, which hovered over them in dense clouds, and literally covered the sea over a large area.

“The fish measures from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches in length. It is closely allied to the English sprat, *Harengula sprattus*, if not a variety of it.

“In flavour our party considered it quite equal to the European sardine.

“From the abundance of this fish at certain seasons off the coast of Stewart Island, its excellent quality, and the facility of curing it, it should become, at some future time, the staple of an important industry.”—*Report by Dr James G. Black.*

XXXIII.

WAGES AND PROVISIONS.

THE following list of Wages Rates has been compiled from unimpeachable sources:—

TRADES.

Bakers,	per week,	£2, 10s. to £3.
”	”	With board, 30s., 40s., and 50s. for 3d, 2d, and 1st hands.
Blacksmiths,	per day,	10s. to 14s.
”	”	Shoers, 10s. to 12s.
”	”	Hammermen, 7s. to 8s.
Bootmakers,	per week,	£3 to £3, 10s.
”	job work, per pair,	Wellingtons—making, 15s. ; closing, 10s.
”	”	Watertights—making, 9s. ; closing, 3s. 6d.
”	”	Elastic sides—making, 12s. ; closing 9s.
Brewers,	per week,	£3, 10s. to £4.
”	”	Maltsters, £3 to £4, 10s.
Brickmakers,	per 1000 bricks,	18s., for tempering clay and making.
Builders,	per day,	Stone-masons, 12s. to 14s.
”	”	Bricklayers, 15s.
Butchers,	per week,	£2, 10s. to £3.
Cabinetmakers,	”	£3 to £4.
Carpenters,	per day,	11s. to 12s.
Coachbuilders,	”	14s. to 15s.
”	”	Wheelwrights, 12s. to 14s.
Engineers,	”	10s. to 14s.
Founders,	”	12s. to 14s.
Gardeners,	”	8s. to 10s.
Millers,	per week,	£3 to £3, 10s.
Painters—House,	per day,	10s. to 12s.
” —Coach,	”	12s. 6d. to 15s.
Paperhangers,	”	10s. to 12s.
Plumbers,	”	12s.
Printers—Typographic:—		
Compositors,	per 1000,	1s. 4d.
”	per week,	£3, 10s. to £3, 15s.
”	overtime, per hour,	2s.
Pressmen,	per week,	£3, 10s. to £3, 15s.
”	overtime, per hour,	2s.
Overseers,	per week,	£4 to £5.
Lithographic,	”	£3, 10s. to £4.
Paper-rulers,	”	£4.
Saddlers,	”	£3 to £3, 15s.
”	piece work,	Collars, each, 8s.
”	”	best saddles, each £3.
”	”	weekly average, £3.

Sail-makers, . . .	per day,	. 10s. to 12s.
Sawyers—Bush, . . .	per 100 feet,	. 4s. ; average weekly earnings, £3, 12s.
Sawmill hands, . . .	per week,	. £3 to £3, 10s.
” . . .	”	. Drawers out. £2, 14s.
” . . .	”	. Engineers, £3 to £3, 10s.
” . . .	”	. Foremen, £4, 10s.
Tailors, . . .	”	. £3 to £3, 10s.
” . . .	piece work,	. Coats, double-breasted frock, 40s.
” . . .	”	. ”, single or walking, 28s. to 30s.
” . . .	”	. ”, sacs, 22s.
” . . .	”	. Vests, 10s. to 11s.
” . . .	”	. Trousers, 12s. 6d.
” cutters, . . .	per week,	. £5.
Watch and Clockmakers, Jewellers, &c., . . .	”	. £5.

FEMALE HANDS.

Shopwomen, . . .	per week,	. £2 to £2, 10s.
Dressmakers, . . .	”	. 25s. to £2, 10s.
Milliners, . . .	”	. 20s. to £2, 10s.
Needle-women, . . .	”	. 20s. to 30s.
Machinists:— Crimean Shirtmakers,	piece work,	. 18s. per dozen, and other goods in proportion.

FARM AND STATION HANDS.

Ploughmen, . . .	per annum,	. £50 to £70, with rations.
General hands, . . .	”	. £45 to £50, ”
Married couples, . . .	”	. £65 to £100, ”
Shepherds, . . .	”	. £55 to £65, ”
Head do., . . .	”	. £80, ”
Stockmen, . . .	”	. £60, ”
Overseers, . . .	”	. £100 to £120, ”
Married couples:— Where wife cooks, . . .	”	. £70 to £80, ”
Shearers, . . .	per 100	. 17s. to 20s.

DOMESTIC SERVANTS, &c.

Female:—

Good general . . .	per annum,	. £30 to £35.
Housemaids, . . .	”	. £35.
Cooks, . . .	”	. £36 to £40.
Nursemaids, . . .	”	. £25 to £35.
Laundresses, . . .	per day,	. 5s. to 6s.
” . . .	per doz.,	. 3s. to 5s.

The eight-hours' system is the universal rule for all kinds of day work, and in every trade. The warehouses close at 4 o'clock, and the shops at 6 o'clock (Saturdays excepted) throughout the year.

Both masters and men, employers and employed, have been consulted in the preparation of this list.

Prices of Provisions, &c.—All the necessaries of life are procurable at moderate rates. The following list of retail prices has been compiled from authentic sources, and may be relied on as being correct:—

- Bread, best white, 7d. to 5d. per 4 lb loaf.
- Flour, per ton, £13.
- Butter, 8d. to 10d. per lb., according to season.
- Honey, 9d. to 1s. per lb.
- Cheese, good Colonial, 1s. per lb.
- „ English, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per lb.
- Milk, 4d. per quart.
- Oatmeal, per bag of 25 lb, 5s.
- Potatoes, per 100 lb, 4s. to 5s.
- Tea, from 2s. per lb.
- Coffee, 1s. 6d. per lb.
- Sugar, 5d. to 6d. per lb.
- Meat—mutton, 3d. per lb.
- beef, 4d. per lb.
- Pork, 7d. to 9d. per lb.
- Bacon, good Colonial, 1s. per lb.
- „ English, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. per lb.
- Fowls, 4s. per couple.
- Eggs, 1s. per dozen, according to season.
- Fish of various kinds are cheap and plentiful, large barracouta, weighing from 4 to 6 lb, being sold at from 4d. to 6d. each.
- Ale, good Colonial, of excellent quality and flavour, 2s. to 2s. 3d. per gallon, in small casks for domestic use.

APPENDIX.

LETTERS FROM WORKING MEN WHO HAVE EMIGRATED
TO NEW ZEALAND.

AUCKLAND.

April 24, 1875.

DEAR BROTHER AND SISTER,—I write these few lines to you hoping they will find you all in as good health as it leaves us at present, thank God for it. We are getting on a deal better here than we did in England; I can earn twice as much money as I did in England. I have earned £14 in six weeks, and we have no rent to pay, nor fuel to find. I have never done a day's work since I have been here under 5s., with a privilege of keeping a cow for 1s. 6d. per week. I wish I had come sooner, I should have been a great deal better off now. It is a beautiful country, there are all kinds of fruit grows wild; you can go out and gather as much as you like, and no one to say anything to you. The peaches are as big as a good-sized apple, and grown by tons. There are scores of pheasants, and you can go and shoot one when you think well, and no one to interfere, nor put you in prison as they do in England. Bacon, mutton, and beef is 4d. per pound, and flour is 16s. a bag, of one hundred pounds. I like my master very well, he is a bachelor, and has about 2000 acres of land, it only cost 10s. per acre; you can buy good land of the natives for £1 per acre, all cleared. If I have good health and luck, in the course of time I can buy some land for myself—and live happy on my own land—for the natives keep selling theirs off. There are many of them about here, they are very civil, and treat us well, but are very difficult to understand. Cattle are very cheap, you can buy a sheep for 15s., and as high as a pound; cows £6, and good horses for £15 each. Every poor man ought to come out here, and be careful; they may soon have a home and land of their own. Single men can get £1 a week the year round, food and lodging and all found. The winter is in May, and the summer at Christmas. We had new potatoes and green peas for last Christmas dinner. It is harvest at Christmas, and is a

very busy time of the year. It looked very wild in this country when we first came, but the wildness soon passed away, and turned into joy and comfort, and we like it capital now, and are very comfortable. The shooting season begins on the 1st of May, and the master gives us the day to go shooting. I should have to stay in England a long time before we have that privilege, they want all the game for themselves, but we can have a share of it for ourselves in New Zealand. The worst thing is we are 7 miles from a church, school, or public-house. Ale is 6d. per pint, but as the country gets more populated we shall have these privileges nearer us, and before long we hope to send you one of the native's potraits. I must draw to a close, with our love to you all and to the League that sent me and my family out.—Yours truly,

JOSEPH BROCKLESBY.

Tamehery, near Hambleton, Auckland, New Zealand,
late of Binbrook.

TARANAKI.

Letter from Mr George Clarke, of Taranaki, dated February 1875, and sent for publication to the "Ilfracombe Gazette."

The desire to find a cheap and pleasant home has made me a wanderer for some time, and knowing that there are hundreds of families with similar views, I offer my advice, which is, to start for New Plymouth or Taranaki, a small seaside town, about midway between Wellington and Auckland, the chief towns of the Northern Island of New Zealand. Taking it all in all, I think a person with *small* income will live better here than in the tasty little town of Nelson, which certainly has better schools (though expensive).

Here you have magnificent soil, lovely scenery, healthy climate, cheap and *very good* food, the best meat possible at 4d. per lb, pleasant society, good schools, and library; the former objection to *no sport* is done away with by the rapid multiplication of pheasants and quail. An income of £200 or £300 a year goes a long way here; provided your tastes are simple, you may live a very pleasant life, especially if you have a few hundreds to buy or build a house; and if you are fond of gardening, soil and climate will produce almost anything you like to cultivate. Dinner parties are unknown, but music, dancing, cricket, football, croquet, archery, &c., are much in vogue. Do not arrive between the months of May and September or you will get more rain than is desirable, which is a great hindrance to settling. You can get here all the necessities for housekeeping,

but decidedly bring earthenware, bedding, carpets, curtains, piano, easy chair, garden seeds, and good stock of shoes ; clothing is tolerably cheap, excepting silk goods and gloves. Apply for information to

W. M. BURTON,
(Of Taranaki, N.Z.) at Laceby,
near Grimsby, Lincolnshire.

HAWKE'S BAY.

January 10, 1875.

DEAR MOTHER AND SISTER,—I hope these few lines will find you in good health, which I am, for I never was better in all my life than I have been since I have been here. I hope you spent a happy Christmas at home, but it did not seem like Christmas here ; the sun was very hot, and we were obliged to sleep with the windows open, and that was very different to what it was at home, but I enjoyed myself very well on the New Year's Day, for it came in very wet, and rained all the day. I got wet through, for there was no shelter to get under unless you were close to home. Dear mother and sister, I am learning to ride on horseback, you do not see anyone walking about here the same as you do at home. I am busy now reaping grass seed. I wish you all were out here, for it is a very pleasant place, and then I should know that you had plenty to eat. If you could see me now you would say that I looked as if I had plenty to eat. I have got a good home with Mr Peacock, my master ; they are all very kind to me. I sits with the schoolmaster of a night, and he has plenty of books for me to read. He is an Englishman, but the master is not. I have good living. I wish you and Eliza were here to share it with me, for I have plenty of meat, as much as ever I can eat. I wish I had not brought so much clothes with me, for I have not seen my box since I have been here. I was obliged to leave that at the Barracks, where all the emigrants go to when they get here. We have been getting the sheep in to-day, and it is a tiring job over so many hills, for they are five or six hundred feet high, and I have not been used to such walking as that ; they will begin shearing the sheep very shortly now, and I have begun learning myself. My master is a kind sort of a man, for he will learn me anything, it is like a child learning his A B C ; everything is so different from what it is in England. Two of my shipmates were locked up for being drunk and knocking a lawyer's clerk about. The prisoners here have to go on the road, and there are keepers over them with loaded guns. They do not care to employ you about here if you drinks, for they do not like that. My boss does not mind riding 16 miles to post my letters, he is always pleased to hear that I am

writing home to Old England to you. He asked me last Sunday morning how the place suited me, and I told him very well indeed, and I asked how I suited him, and he said the same. He also said he should have a little more work to do when he began shearing, but he would make me a present of another pound. I have not received any wages since I have been here; my boss pays once a quarter. I shall have £12 pounds to take at the end of this month. We have a young gentleman come here from England to learn sheep farming. He came from Kent, so I have a little more company now. It is very pleasant here now; sometimes I go on the top of the hills to see the sun set, it looks splendid on the sea. I can see for miles across the water. I oftentimes wish I was with you again, although I am getting on much better here than I did at home, but everything is so very different here to what it is at home. We have had a great many more emigrants come here since we came, and it seems surprising where they all go to, but they are taken off as fast as they come, and they keep on crying out for more to come. If any one is coming out here that I know, please let me know.—I remain, your affectionate and trustworthy son,

RICHARD BAILEY.

From Great Milton, Oxfordshire.

WELLINGTON.

Copy of a Letter received by an old labourer living at Haughley (Suffolk), from his son, who left this country for New Zealand last May.

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER,—I have now the pleasure of writing these few lines in the hope they will find you all well, as it leaves us at the present time, thank God. I had not the slightest chance of writing before. I am happy to tell you that we had a splendid voyage. My wife and dear Willie were very sick, but they soon got the better of it. It did not take much effect on me, although we had some on board very bad. We had 461 on board our ship. We had eleven deaths, mostly children. We started from Gravesend on the 9th of May and landed in Wellington on the 4th of August, well and hearty. We were then quite ready for a change of diet; it came very sweet to us. We had a very good home to go to, within half-an-hour's walk. We are as free as you are in the old country. We landed in the afternoon and took a walk round the town till the evening, when we went home. The next day we went on the water again in a steamboat, and had a dreadfully rough twenty-four hours ride. The women were very sick, and had no beds to lay on. The men went into the hold with the luggage; there was plenty of straw to lay on.

We thought we should get no food in so short a journey, so we took a loaf of bread with us ; but it was like taking coals to Newcastle, for we had an abundance of the very best of food supplied by the Government. There were about 50 of us on the boat. We went to a place called Wanganui, arriving there about four in the evening. There was a good house provided for us, with plenty of good food to take to. The next day over 40 of us were engaged. This is another town, but not so big as Wellington. The next day a waggon-load of us tramped up the country to another small town. There we had another house and plenty of good food again. This was Saturday night. On Sunday we had the pleasure of attending church for the first time. On Monday, August 10, I started to work for a farmer four miles further up the country. I left my wife at the emigrants' home till she got a house for me, which she did in a very short time. I am getting £1 per week with house to live in, and plenty of firewood and rations, viz., ten pounds of flour, ten pounds of meat, ten pounds of potatoes, two pounds of sugar, and four ounces of tea per week, which I think is very good for a start. My master has got over 3100 acres of land. He came out here as poor as myself eighteen years ago ; he keeps a very large quantity of cattle. My work is to milk night and morning, and look after the sheep ; but I don't walk, as I have a horse to ride on. My master keeps a butcher on the farm, and sends the meat to the town ; the bullocks' and sheeps' heads and plucks are thrown to the pigs, so I can always have one when I wish, and plenty of fat to make our candles. This is the country to live in ! We can get the very best meat here at 4d. per lb. Some things are very dear here, such as boots, earthenware, and iron, but I believe there is a chance for any man to better his condition in this country if he likes to try. I like the country myself, and wish I had come out ten years ago ; I do not think there are many who come out that regret having done so. There is plenty of work here, and the wages are from 7s. to 9s. per day of eight hours. My master keeps some single men ; they get one pound per week and all found ; the ploughman turns out at eight in the morning, and returns from work at five in the evening, and my hours are the same. I hope you will have a good harvest at home. It seems strange to me for the winter to be in the month of August ; this is the last month of the winter ; it is very wet, but not cold. I cannot tell you more this time, but I shall not be long before I write again. I conclude with our kind love to you and dear sister. I will write again to George and Arthur. Remember me to all. My wife sends her love to you and sister.—I remain your ever affectionate son,

WALTER WARREN.

CANTERBURY.

*The following interesting Letter has been sent to the Editor of the
"Birmingham Daily Post."*

SIR,—Little more than twelve months ago I was tempted to emigrate from the old country to the province of Canterbury, a part of the New Britain of the South, or New Zealand. I had read of the climate and the natural productiveness of the new colony; also of some of the wonders which were said to abound therein, and an opportunity having opened, I availed myself of the offer, and am now a colonist of New Zealand. Eight months have gone by since landing at the port of Lyttelton, called after Lord Lyttelton, who was a great promoter in founding the place; and it will be allowed that I have had ample opportunity of judging as to the merits or demerits of New Zealand, and especially of Canterbury, as a field for emigration. I should not venture to address you upon this subject, but from the scraps of news we receive here about the acts of farmers and the wages of their poor labourers, I think it becomes a bounden duty to make it known that there are places where the oppressed labourer might live and be free, with plenty of money, superior living, and but moderate work. From the place where I now write, for a distance of twenty-five miles, extends a plain, so rich, so varied, and having an area of some million acres, merely waiting to be a granary for the mother country, if the men will but come out and work. If men could but realize the comforts that abound here, they would not hesitate to face the sea and make their home amongst us. Labourers get for working eight hours, a minimum of 1s. per hour; or, if living on the farm, £60 per annum, with all found. By "all found," is meant a comfortable home, equal to any gentleman's home in England, the food surpassing anything which can be obtained by a man with an income of £300 per annum in the old country. There is always beef and mutton three times a day, cooked just to suit the taste of the eater; vegetables and extras *ad libitum*. I know that it is the opinion in England—at least, it was mine when there, and I had good opportunities of obtaining information—that New Zealand is a land of savages, that the colonists have to live in shanties, and cook as best they can. In fact that if you do become a colonist you must expect to rough it. Before starting from England I thought this, and expected to find a loose community, whose standing was not of the best. It will only require you to reach Lyttelton to become convinced that the British do not forget to construct noble places, whether at home or abroad. Railways, tunnels, bridges, and everything as forward as any in England. Town splendidly laid out, houses beautifully built, and far better furnished than any in England,

taking house for house. Every working-man has work to do, and gets good pay for the work. He is not bantered and badgered by masters, but feels that the result of his own labour produces him an independence beyond any outsider's control. Added to this, the cheapness of those things which are the real necessities of life—beef from 2½d. to 4d. ; mutton, at 1½d. to 3½d. ; potatoes, too, cheap, and flour cheaper than at the cheapest times in England, cause such content amongst the people as almost to make them forget that thousands of poor labourers are wanting in the old country. It is impossible for me to impress upon the people, the poor, the necessity of making their home where peace and plenty smiles, where beggars are unknown, and where opportunities are offered to meet old age in abundance ; and last, though not least, where education is offered superior to any in England—at least to the poor. It may seem very strange for better opportunity to be given here than any in England for educating the young—but such is the case. This I will try to explain in my next letter. Suffice it to say, that a steady man, be he labourer, mechanic, or carpenter, may soon save here, for his wages are twice the amount, whilst his living is not nearly so dear as in the mother country. Having lived at the Lye, Stourbridge, for the first eighteen years of my life, and latterly at Nottingham, I have been able to draw a comparison between this and England. I worked at nailmaking at Lye, trained as a pupil teacher at Lye, in the National Schools, and became a master in one of the largest schools in Nottingham. I have felt, therefore, the pinches of the poor, and have lived with ample means as a schoolmaster in Nottingham ; yet I can say I was never half so happy nor comfortable as at present, the main cause being a good income, good living, many comforts, and that best of feelings that your next door neighbour is living just as happy. Only one thing at present dims the horizon, the thought that thousands and tens of thousands of our countrymen are hungering for what here the very dogs will not eat. Could the labourers of England realize half what awaits them in New Zealand, they would flock in thousands to 7 Westminster Chambers, London, and agree to make their home “where men are wanted, and strikes unknown.” Should any one choose to come here I shall most readily give them any assistance in my power, if a letter is dropped to me saying in what ship they sail ; and they may also obtain any information as to my whereabouts from the Vicar of Lye, Stourbridge, or the agent above mentioned.—I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

HENRY HILL.

CHRISTCHURCH, CANTERBURY, N.Z.,
June 1874.

ADDINGTON, *December 31st, 1874.*

DEAR BROTHER AND SISTER,—I now take the opportunity of writing a few lines to you, hoping they will find you all well as they leave us at present, thank God for it. We arrived in Port Lyttelton on Sunday morning, and then we were inspected in the afternoon, and Dunkin came with them; there was beef and mutton, bread and new potatoes, sent on board for us all; and I think every one did his part to get it out of sight, for it tasted very good after living on salt pork and salt beef and preserved meat for nearly fifteen weeks; but we had as pleasant a voyage as possibly could be; for we had no rough weather to what some of them have had. Emma and Betsy were very sea-sick, and I had the measles, and that made me look very badly; but myself and Betsy look better now than ever you saw us, and Emma says we look better, and I think Emma looks better, than she did when we left Laceby. We got a place yesterday; Emma and myself have got £70 a year, and all found. Betsy has got £20, and is only 5 miles from us; Betsy is going to James Woodhouse, and we are going to R. Woodhouse. They are brothers. My master was in the Lincoln Bank at Grimsby before he came out here; he has got a good bit of land of his own; but he lets a good deal of it, and what he has himself he keeps sheep on, and one milch cow for the use of the house; so Emma will have only one cow to milk, and the master and myself to wait on; he is a bachelor, and not very strong, and is often from home; he came out on account of his health being bad at home; he says that Dr Kectley told him that he would not live the winter out before he came out here. I expect my first work will be sheep-shearing, and then sometimes look round to see if there is any sheep out, and if there are, get them in, and keep the garden clean and nice. Emma is going to stay with Betsy at her place for a week or two whilst the other people get out of the house; he has a married woman in the house, but she is Irish, and she cannot cook. I had no trouble to get a place; I had the chance of two more, but I thought this would suit me best; he knows nearly all the farmers around Grimsby that went to the bank. Betsy wishes to be remembered to Mrs Cash, and all inquiring friends. . . . Please to remember me and Emma to John and Mrs Clark, and tell them if Henry had come out with us, he would have had no trouble to have got £50 a year, and board and lodgings. James Hallenby has got £1 per week, and 10s. per week extra for harvest time, or £60 per year, which ever he liked, and all found. . . . Prints is as cheap here as at home, calico is a little dearer, house rent is high in town, and coals is very dear. * * *

TIMARU, August 18th.

DEAR FRIEND,—No doubt you think me a long time writing to you, but I thought you would know a little about the country of New Zealand. . . . We cast anchor on the 14th of July, between two large mountains, about 3000 feet high. Cows and sheep were feeding on them. This was the most beautiful sight I ever saw in my life. Hundreds of wild ducks came flying round the ship, and all kinds of wild fowls. The New Zealand Government Inspectors came on board, and asked us all how we were, and what sort of a voyage we had had; and whether the captain and doctor had treated us well. We told them we had been treated with the greatest kindness. They told us that our ship was the cleanest that ever came into port. They spoke to us for our good, and said we should prosper in New Zealand if we would keep away from the grog-shops. They sent us a boat-load of bread and other provisions—three sides of beef, three dressed sheep, ten sacks of potatoes, one sack of apples for the little children, and about 300 newspapers to look at. We were kept on the ship till the afternoon of the next day, and then they came to us again and picked out twenty-four single men. We were sent 180 miles south in a steamboat, to Lyttelton. That was the first time I had set my foot on land since I left England, which was 84 days; we had come 17,000 miles. We went up the town, and a beautiful place it was. We stayed about two hours there, and then returned to the ship, on which a good hot supper, consisting of roast beef and mutton, and tea, was provided; after which we started for Timaru, where we arrived the next day about eleven o'clock. We got good work and good wages; there were more masters than men, and wages run from 8s. to 10s. per day. I am living with a farmer, and have 25s. per week, and all my food, a good wooden house to live in, and a good bed to lie on. We live on the best of everything. He has promised to double my wages in the summer time (which will be as good as £100 a year), and all my living, if I will attend to his work, and I know I can do that. There is work for thousands of men, and they can't be got. There are no poor men here; all farmers. Bricklayers are getting 12s. per day, and carpenters 12s. to 14s., and labourers from 8s. to 10s. Mutton and beef, 3½d. to 4d. per pound. Clothing is about the same as in England; shoes are a little dearer. It was the best day's work that ever I did to come out here. Give my love to all inquiring friends. I will send you a little money for the club when I receive my half-year's pay.—

Yours truly,

CHARLES LOOMAS.

OTAGO.

Copy of a Letter received from Thos. Arthur, who went out from the Hereford district, with several others, in May last, and who was for many years in the employ of Mr Embry, of St Weonard's, near Ross, Herefordshire.

HUNTLEY, September, 1874.

DEAR FRIEND,—I now take up my pen to write a few lines, as I promised before I left. Of course I have not had much time as yet, but I think this a far better country for a working-man than England, at least I find it so. I have a very good situation; my master is a clergyman. He keeps four good horses, and a man living in the house to help me to look after them. I am to have £75 a year, a house rent free, all our vegetables, and a gallon of new milk every day. The potatoes here are splendid. My hours of work are from half-past seven in the morning till five in the evening, with one hour out for dinner. We arrived at the Depôt on the Wednesday, were engaged on the Thursday, and came to our situation on the Monday following. The people had not gone out of the house, but our master provided us with a comfortable room from Monday till Thursday the week following, and also our living in the house with them. Although they are very rich people, they are extremely kind to us. We are about twenty miles from Dunedin. The land is very plain where we are, and surrounded with hills. Polly is living at Dunedin; she is getting at the rate of £35 for the first three months, and then she is to have £45 per annum. Alfred is getting £25, with the promise of a rise. Our mistress has taken to Blanche, and is sending her to school. Men are getting from 8s. to 9s. per day, but houses being scarce, many have to live in tents. Whilst I was stopping at the Depôt, I had a job at grooming, and should have kept it, but could not get a house. Any man that will work can get a good living here, and put by something for a "rainy day," and when old age or sickness overtakes them they are not dependent upon the cold hand of charity to keep body and soul together. Many that come here work for a time, and then turn round and spend the lot. As regards living—flour, 10s. per hundred; beef, 3d. per pound; mutton a little dearer. We can buy a beef's head and fat for one shilling. Clothing very little dearer than at home. Please send me a *Chronicle*; also let me know how the Union is getting on. I hope it is prospering. I am thankful for its assistance in helping me to come to a country where, by my industry, I shall be able to help myself, and also my children. Write soon, and let me know how all are, not forgetting Benjamin Powell. Our kind regards to Mrs Powell, also to yourself. Tell E. Jones I shall not forget my

promise to help those that helped me. Our best respects to Mr Vaughan and all inquiring friends. If my son William should come into the neighbourhood, be kind enough to instruct him as to the best way of getting to us; we should be so glad to see him. We will send you a paper in a short time. Thomas Hewlet and George Morgan were engaged at £40 each, with board and lodging. I have not heard of them since we parted at the Depôt. Morriss is about ten miles from us. Please have this put in the *Chronicle*, as no doubt many will be anxious to hear how I am getting on. Hoping this will find all well,—I remain yours truly,

T. ARTHUR.

To Mr J. T. Powell,
Garway, near Ross, Herefordshire.

ANOTHER LETTER FROM OTAGO.

CAVERSHAM, August 31st, 1874.

SIR,—I now take the pleasure of writing these few lines to you, hoping they may find you and Mr Arch, and the Union getting along well. I am thankful to say we are doing first-class. We had a wonderful quick voyage in the "Scimitar," but a deal of sickness. We were just ten weeks on the water. I was ill just a month, when I first landed. I have been at work on the railway ever since, platelaying. I made £4, 19s. 6d. the last fortnight, but they gave me £5. I have worked ten or twelve weeks in England at piece-work, and not sent so much money home. There are plenty of men where I came from that would do well out here. A good many have come out that have never done any work at home, and they want to get on here without it. One shilling per hour is what is paid on almost all work, and eight hours is a day's work. That is the best of this country. We go to work at 8 A.M., and leave at five P.M. A man is a man, and not a slave. If I and my wife were to work as hard as we did in England, we should save a lot of money. We can gradually put a little by here. I could not pay for half we eat here, if we lived as well, in England. My two oldest girls bring in 8s. a week, and their food; they have brought in 5s. each, but we had the youngest home, while mother nursed the woman next door. My countrymen were very anxious that I should write to them, and I promised them I would through the *Chronicle*. All hard-working men may rely on my word that they can do well here. Mutton and beef are gone up in price a little, but you can get 3lb here for the price of one in England. There is but very little that is dearer here. Beer is sixpence per pint; shoes are a little dearer. Pots and kettles and

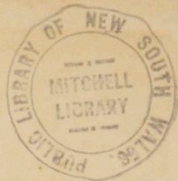
all wearing apparel are about the same as at home. Bread 6d. per loaf of 4lb I am at a loss to know how it was a great many more did not take the opportunity of coming out here when there was a chance. They can get the best meat here for what they can get the cagmag off the farmers. I have given 4d., 5d., and sometimes 6d. per lb for what was not fit to eat. House rent is dear here, but most people get a place of their own before they have been here many years; that they could never do in England. Constant work in England was constant starvation. I tried as hard as any one to do, but never could at home. If I wanted to buy a pig, I had to go and borrow the money from my neighbour, and it was only through Providence that they all got their money; but now I could go and put my hand on the money and pay for everything as it comes in, and I could buy for a pig ready fatted. No more at present from

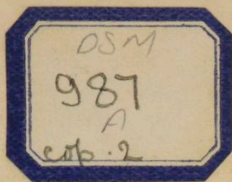
THOMAS LYNN.

Late of Little Faringdon,
near Lechlade, Gloucestershire.



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