

Masdonnes, Potts, Hodson, Parsons & Miss Matthias
presided at the Fancy goods stall, Mrs P. Hodson
& Mrs J. Gibbie at the Christmas tree.

Cott & Co. coach arrived from Chch, about 11 a.m.
Several other carts also came over, but the arrival
of the "Betsy Douglas," steamer from Lyttelton
changed the aspect of the scene, as she neared
the wharf & poured forth her living freight
all was excitement, people arriving fast, the
"B.D." made three trips to Port. about 2 p.m.
then when on the ground somewhere about 400
persons, all seemed to be highly gratified with
the opportunity thus afforded them of having
a good treat: provisions were soon at a premium
& moved off quickly when the cravings of fasting
appetites were appeared, they then turned
their attention to the goods stall, & kept the
the ladies busily employed for some hours;
amusement was also provided, ballroom
set up, Aunt Sallie of course was on the
ground, Quits, ^{throwing} balls, and another game
a favourite with the young, "Prising" in the
ring. But thirst must be satisfied, so a

general rush for Tea & coffee was the result, so
when I saw them at that stall sore pressed, I
betook myself to their side, to render what assistance
I could amongst the hot steaming coffee & Tea.
Then came a call for bread & butter; so eating &
drinking was the order of the evening.

A. 5 p.m.; ~~then~~ a ~~diminishing~~ diminishing process
commenced, first steamer left for Port soon
after Cott & Co's coach & Chch carts & horse-
men left the ground, 6.30 p.m. another steamer
load left for Port, in the meantime, an Auction
was held, at which the remaining stock on
hand, both of goods & provisions were disposed
of at fair prices, satisfactory to all, "Ho. co"
& we were left with to ourselves, Governor
Bay people only remaining, when we sat down
in a sociable manner, some on the ground
or on any thing that would afford rest to the
weary bones, to a repast of raspberries & cream
Bread & butter, Cake & Etc, all heartily satisfied,
and well pleased, we departed to our several
homes. (if I may so call Mrs Parsons) on our
arrival, we sat down & counted the "Cash
^{about 9 p.m.}