

2010

COLENZO

A Monthly Newsletter and Historical Review

DEVOTED TO

THE ADVANCEMENT OF KNOWLEDGE OF WILLIAM COLENZO
AND THE INTERESTS OF THE PRINTING, BOTANICAL, POLITICAL, ECCLESIASTICAL,
SCIENTIFIC, ETHNOLOGICAL, LINGUISTIC, HISTORICAL AND RELATED TRADES.

JULY



Wellington, New Zealand.

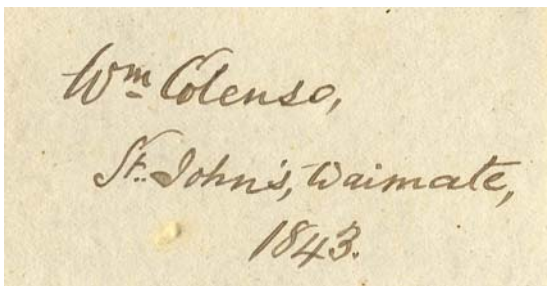
THE COLENZO SOCIETY, PROPRIETOR AND PUBLISHER
2010

The Genuine Epistles of the Apostolical Fathers

Twentyish William Colenso, at the end of his printing apprenticeship with The Penzance firm of John Thomas, noted (in his 1831 "History of Mounts Bay with every civil and military transaction, Saint Michael's Mount, Marazion, Penzance, Paul, Buryan, Saint Levan, Sennen, Saint Just, &c.") The third edition, revised and corrected with considerable additions. Penzance; printed by and for John Thomas, and sold by T. Tegg, 73 Cheapside, London), "that a little beyond Mousehole is an islet, and a chapel of St. Clements in it". St Clement was one of the Catholic Apostolic Fathers, and Colenso quoted verbatim from his writing in his 1878 "Tracts for the times; No. 1, On the Sabbath and its due observance" (reprinted from letters to the *Hawke's Bay Herald*) Napier, Dinwiddie, Morrison & Co. 46p.

He quoted another of the Apostolic Fathers, St Ignatius, as well as St Clement in his 1898 "Certain errors of the Church of Rome plainly shown from Holy Scripture and the Catholic Fathers in a series of letters" (originally published in the *Hawke's Bay Herald*). Napier, Dinwiddie, Walker & Co. 85p.

I recently acquired a book in Melbourne; it is a first edition of Wake W. (Ed.), 1693. "The genuine epistles of the Apostolical Fathers. S. Barnabas, S. Ignatius, S. Clement, S. Polycarp. The Shepherd of Hermas, and the Martyrdoms of St. Ignatius and St. Polycarp....". It is inscribed "W. Colenso, St. John's, Waimate, 1843", and bears marginalia in ink in his early hand and in pencil in his later. Possibly he kept this book even when he was forced to sell others, or lost them in the fire.



A hundred volumes were destroyed in his 1852 house fire, and he had to sell many of the rest after being defrocked. He told RC Harding in a letter dated 20 January 1898 that he had sold his Breeches Bible in Wellington: "I sent it thither w. sevl. other books & articles for auction in 1853 when I was very hard up—not a 1/- to call my own!"

But by 1860 a correspondent could write to the *Herald* (31 March), "There is the Rev. Mr. Colenso, a rich man,—with lots of land everywhere...", in 1863 Colenso could boast "the best Botanical library in the country", and in 1865 would send his most prized books for display at the New Zealand Exhibition in Dunedin.

The *Herald* of 9 September 1899 reported that Colenso's son Latimer had sold his late father's library to Angus and Robertson of Melbourne. Perhaps this book came from that lot (the Melbourne provenance is unknown): if so, he had kept it for most of his life, and so clearly treasured it.

The Genuine
EPISTLES
OF THE
Apostolical Fathers

S. BARNABAS, } **S. CLEMENT,**
S. IGNATIUS, } **S. POLYCARP.**

THE
SHEPHERD of HERMAS,

And the **Martyrdoms** of

St. Ignatius and St. Polycarp,

Written by Those who were present at
their Sufferings.

Being, together with the Holy Scriptures of the New
Testament, a compleat Collection of the most Primi-
tive Antiquity for about **XL** Years after Christ.

Translated and Publish'd, with a large **Preliminary**
Discourse relating to the several Treatises
here put together,

By **W. Wake**, D.D. Chapl. in Ordinary to their Maj^{ties},
and Preacher to the Honorable Society of *Grays-Inn*.

LONDON. Printed for **Ric. Sare** at *Grays-Inn*
Gate next *Holborn*. 1693.

Title page, actual size

The Ancient and Modern History of Mount's Bay

Bagnall & Petersen wrote (p.21) that in his youth in Cornwall, William Colenso “was an active and keen member of the Penzance Natural History and Antiquarian Society, his particular interest being in the characteristic botany of Cornwall. At the age of eighteen he read his first paper to the Society, dealing with the trade of the Phoenicians with West Cornwall (Colenso to Coupland Harding, 26th November, 1896).”

That is impossible, as the Society was founded in 1839, and in fact what he wrote to Harding was “... *my first paper, written for Mechanics Institute in Penz., when I was 18–19—on St. Michaels Mount, &c., &c....*” I have been unable to discover the date of founding the Mechanics’ Institute in Penzance.

Bagnall & Petersen wrote of his apprenticeship with John Thomas (p.18): “As well as carrying out the printing orders of his regular customers, Mr. Thomas published pamphlets and books dealing with politics and other matters of interest, and even wrote or compiled such works himself. In this he no doubt found an enthusiastic collaborator in young Colenso, who is said himself to have compiled a work on the history of his native town.”

The third edition (1831) of *Ancient and Modern History of Mount's Bay. With every civil and military transaction in St. Michael's Mount, Marazion, Penzance, Paul, Buryan, Saint Levan, Sennen, St. Just, &c.* (Penzance: John Thomas) is anonymous, but is catalogued by the British Library as “Compiled by William Colenso.” This 108-page booklet was enlarged from an 82-page 1820 edition and published when Colenso was 19 or 20, and nearing the end of his apprenticeship with John Thomas. Part of it may have been what he read to the Penzance Mechanics Institute. It clearly forms the basis for his posthumously-published 1899 “Memorabilia, Ancient and Modern; being Remarks and Information respecting some of the Tin-mines in Cornwall, England” (*Transactions of the New Zealand Institute* 32: 309-324).

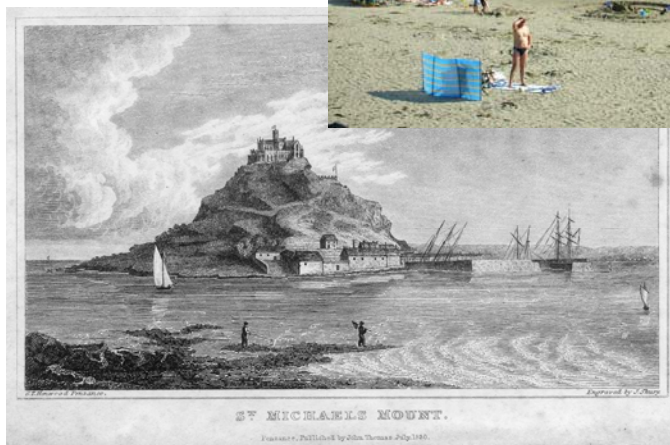
Thus Colenso’s first and last published papers were about his home, Cornwall.

The copy in the National Library, Wellington, belonged to John Davies Enys 1837–1912 [Born Cornwall, arrived in Lyttelton 1861 with cousin JB Acland. Owned Castle Hill Station. Interested in geology, botany and biology. In 1870 elected to Provincial Government for Rakaia. Returned to Cornwall, selling the Castle Hill property after arranging for the presentation of the font carved from Castle Hill limestone to the Christchurch Cathedral.] (<http://www.nzetc.org/tm/scholarly/tei-PlaNine-t1-body-d1-d387.html>)

Colenso knew him: he wrote to JD Hooker on 18 May 1883: “*A Mr Enys of Xt.Ch. N.Z., en route for England (I think you know him,) kindly called here last week, most unexpectedly! and to his care I committed a small parcel of seeds for you, (some you had wished to have – in your letter just then to hand – and others, I know desiderata,). I divided what I happened to have by me for you, intending to send those still here by this very mail, supposing that Enys was going by the Red Sea route. But afterwards, on his again calling, I found that he was going by way of S.F.!!.... Enys will tell you how dreadfully busy he found & left me!*”

Just to hand is transcript of copy of a letter from Colenso to Enys, formerly held at the Courtney Library, Truro, Cornwall, but withdrawn and sold by a representative of the Enys family in 2004:

St Michael's Mount, Mounts Bay, Cornwall, June 2010, tide out →



← St Michael's Mount in the engraving for Colenso's guide, tide in.

Friday 2 A.M.

My Dear Enys

I have your note with spn of Lomaria enclosed – thanks. In town yesterday I sought you at the Club – found you were gone inland. I did not before know that you were staying there – had supposed you were at Riverslea.

At our Council Meeting on Tuesday (full attendance), I was talked over to get a paper ready for 14th (the old old story!) this makes me desperately busy. However, I have thought on your kind offer, & have hastily put up a few seeds for Kew – which I send herewith to you – their duplicates I shall send (anon) by Mail to Dr Sir J. H. –

If fine tomorrow I will go down to town, and try to see you; the weather however has again changed, & so I may not have that pleasure. –

If not, I wish you bon voyage, & a true Cornish welcome at Home.

Ever Yours, Sincerely (in haste) Wm Colenso.

That date has to be Friday 11 May 1883.



The cover of this issue is modified from an 1890 cover of Robert Coupland Harding's periodical Typo.



The Tavy, Waipuk.

Colenso wrote some of his letters from hotels and boarding houses in the Bush during his excursions from Napier – and when he was in Napier he often wrote longingly of the Bush.

Bagnall and Petersen wrote, “He saw that the roads and villages (of The Bush)... would give a ready approach to plant communities not studied since his last missionary tour,” and that in 1882, he, “in the reformed youth of his early seventies, made day-long excursions from headquarters in the village hotels.” He recorded visits to the Bush district villages Hampden (Tikokino), Kaikoura (Otane), Waipukurau, Takapau, Norsewood, Matamau, Dannevirke and Woodville.

Colenso had walked through the district on his missionary duties until 1852, and as school inspector (by coach) briefly in the early 60s and again 1872–1878. Railway construction started in Napier in 1872, the line reaching Hastings in 1874, Takapau in 1877, Woodville in 1887, and Palmerston North via the Manawatu Gorge in 1891. It opened up the Central Hawke’s Bay hinterland for Colenso, who complained to JD Hooker, “I am so very liable to take severe colds from *draughts*, but not from being in the ‘open’; almost always in Railway carriage, but never in buggy, gig, or on top of coach.”

Until 1887, then, passengers bound for Woodville would take the train to Makotoku, and onward by coach....

Colenso’s friend Andreas Olsen lived near the Makotoku station and Mortensen’s accommodation house was a short distance further, along what is now Garfield Rd. It was an easy walk or ride toward the mountains via Gundries Rd or Norsewood. As the flats and foothills were cleared he took the daily journey to the receding bush by gig.

Are any of Colenso’s hostelries still extant? Country publicans ran risky businesses, and many of these old country pubs have disappeared.

Firstly, Brewers and publicans had organized opposition to Seddon’s 1893 Electoral Bill, which included Womanhood Suffrage. They failed of course, and when universal suffrage was introduced in 1894 women, in support of a powerful teetotal movement, voted for the “local option”, giving communities the power, through licensing committees, to decide on liquor sales, essentially voting against easy access to alcohol. Many districts voted for “no-licence”, though Hawke’s Bay voted for “reduction”.

COACHES

COBB & CO'S ROYAL MAIL COACH.

MAKATOKU TO WOODVILLE AND PALMERSTON.

ON and after December 1st intending passengers for Woodville and Palmerston must leave Napier by the 3 p.m. train on **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY,** resting at Makotoku all night, leaving by coach following morning at 6 o'clock.

JAMES MACARA,
Proprietor.

13s

Consequently a number of country hotels closed. Colenso had publicly supported a more moderate stance, and expressed his disappointment: "In my opinion the Licensing Committee of 1884 did a great wrong to the Public—and particularly to the *travelling* public—by so closing all those hotels...."

Secondly too, these grand 19th century wooden structures burned easily: the incendiary combination of open fire heating, naked flame lighting, almost universal tobacco smoking and inebriated inattention accounted for the demise of many.

Fletchers Hotel in Otane township was burned and replaced four times. In 1907 a fire swept through the wooden hotel at Takapau and completely destroyed it. Fernhills was owned by Mortensen in Colenso's time, but his accommodation house burned in the great fire of 1888. The Matamau hotel no longer exists. The Railway Hotel has gone from Dannevirke. Woodville's Abercorn Arms lasted four years, and burned in 1887. The Commercial hotel in Woodville burned in 1898. The Club Hotel in Woodville burned in 1935. The Tikokino hotel, the second on the site after the first (built in 1864) was destroyed by fire, is still called the Sawyer's Arms after the foresters who used to drink there.

One that has survived is the Tavistock at Waipukurau. Colenso wrote that he stayed at "Gow's Hotel, Te Waipukurau".

HR Russell first erected the Tavistock Hotel in the late 1850s about half a mile from what was to be the site for the Waipukurau railway station. When the railway from Napier reached Waipukurau, the Hotel was rebuilt as a large two-storeyed wooden building, with a verandah in front, and a balcony on two sides. There were two large dining rooms, capable of seating over 100 guests, a well-appointed commercial room, several comfortable sitting rooms, and a bar stocked with the best wines, spirits, ales, and other beverages, about thirty comfortable bedrooms, two well-furnished sitting rooms, and convenient bathrooms and toilets. A large billiard room occupied a detached building, and there was a commodious stable that contained twenty stalls and ten loose boxes. Horses and vehicles could be obtained for hire. The Tavistock was the stopping place for the Porangahau coach.

Hotels.

DANEVIRKE HOTEL,

JAMES ALLARDICE
Proprietor.

This Old Established and Favorite Hostelry offers every comfort to the Travelling Public at very moderate tariff rates. Attached to the Hotel is a spacious Billiard Saloon, fitted with two new and superior tables.

Good Stabling and Paddock Accommodation. Buggies and Saddle Horses always on hire.

The Bar is stocked with a Choice Assortment of the best brands of Liquors.

The Proprietor wishes to point out that

DANEVIRKE

Is the Most Healthy and Pleasant

Settlement in the Bush,

And that its immediate surroundings offer the best and most varied attraction to the Tourist, the Sportsman, and the Botanist, the virgin bush, in its pristine beauty, coming close up to the Township on all sides.

Families in search of a healthy Summer Resort, or Persons seeking a few days outing have come and found themselves delighted with the place, and returned there again and again.

The Proprietor offers special facilities for such visitors in the form of Comfortable Accommodation, Guides, Cheap Saddle Horses, or Vehicles.

DANEVIRKE HOTEL.

JAMES ALLARDICE.

Peter Gow and Alexander Scrimgeour became the next proprietors in 1875. Gow would have known Colenso as a member of the Hawke's Bay Philosophical Institute in the 1880s. He ran the hotel for 25 years.

The building was later shifted to a site in Ruataniwha St near the railway line. It is probably the only building standing in Central Hawke's Bay that Colenso stayed in.

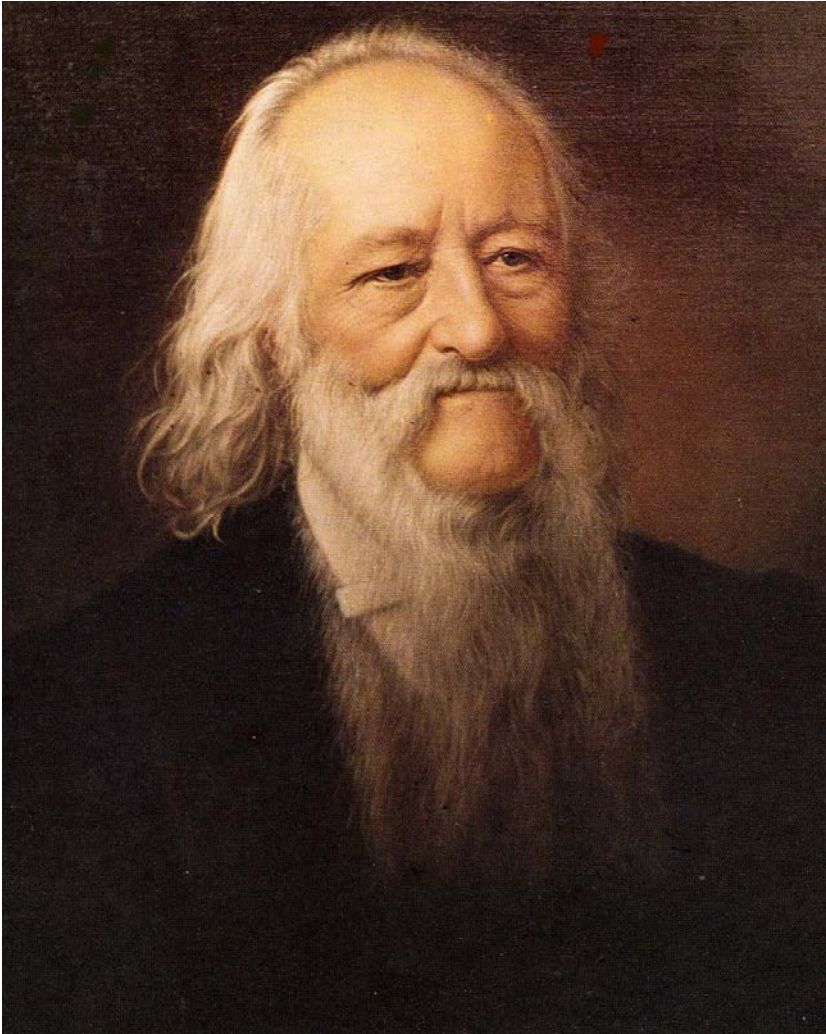


Above: Gow's Tavistock Hotel in Colenso's time.
Below: the Tavy today.



Portrait photographs of Colenso.

Lower right is dated 1887 in the National Library website, and is attributed to Samuel Carnell 1832-1920; lower left was until recently dated 1860 in the Te Papa website; but these all appear to have been taken on the same day (his hair has dried out as the sitting progressed). Colenso looks rather younger than in the Lindauer portrait (1894, next page) and I think these were taken in 1881 (see June Newsletter pp.2, 3).



William Colenso: the portrait by Gottfreid Lindauer of Woodville, painted in 1894, presented to Colenso by the Hawke's Bay Philosophical Institute.
From the Collection of Hawke's Bay Museums Trust,
Hawke's Bay Museum & Art Gallery; reproduced with permission.



Colenso is a free email Newsletter published irregularly by the Colenso Society.
The editor invites contributions on any matter relating to the life and work of
the Rev. William Colenso FLS FRS.

Such contributions should be emailed to ian.stgeorge@rnzcgp.org.nz.

