

# COLENZO

The e-organ of the Colenso Society Inc.—dedicated to making known  
the life and work of the Reverend William Colenso—

—“one of the first and greatest of those who hold before us an image  
of this amalgam of land and living things we call New Zealand”  
(Leicester Kyle).

## CHAPTER IX.

The Spaniard was even darker than is usual with people of his race ; also he had an aquiline nose and hair very straight, glossy and black. His eyes were large and brilliant, his mouth rather full and a trifle sensual, and his lean, alert figure was peculiarly straight and upright. Added to these advantages he wore a heavy black moustache, which he twirled at times with an insolent air ; so that on the whole he was a remarkably handsome man. But there was something uncivilised about him—a strange, wild look, which suggested the soldier of fortune.

# COLENZO'S GOOD MICROSCOPE

The Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa bought William Colenso's lacquered brass Ross dissecting microscope at Bethunes at Webb's auction in 2012.



Colenso referred to the instrument in a number of letters to JD Hooker....

*W Colenso to JD Hooker*

*31 December 1884*

And now I come to my great want – a long-standing one, viz. a good Microscope; with which I can investigate our Mosses & Hep. I have long been hesitating (partly owing to cost, partly to my age, &c.,) – but, Jacta est alea! (*The die is cast—Ed.*) I have now passed the Rubicon. Enclosed, please find a Dft. for £40 for that purpose: £20 – £25 may suffice: if so, all right: I look to you to get me a suitable one, (which, I dare say, you can both well & easily manage through your skilled assistants, or friends). I have received lots of Catalogues, from Browning, Collins, and various opticians, – indeed, too many, they bother me, both as to the great variety of instruments; and their prices, and qualities; and I do not exactly like to order “right away” from any of those makers. I have long had two small compound ones, (one being an early present from a lady you well knew – Lady Franklin!) and one of these has done me great service, only, unfortunately, I cannot use its higher power, as it projects onto and touches the object before it is quite in focus! and, then, again, from its old fashion vertical construction I have great difficulty w. an opaque object, – as I cannot throw the light required in underneath. I have formerly used Dr. Spencer’s fine binocular, but that is kept in his consultation room, and now that he is the Mayor of this town, &c., &c., – neither are so readily accessible. It almost seems ridiculous for a man nearly ½ way ’tween 70 & 80 to go in for such a thing! – Still, as I have ever wished to die in harness, – I don’t expect to get a scolding from you. –

*8 April 1885*

Your letter, a long one, is entirely about microscopes. You have given me lots of good first rate advice, and I heartily thank you: at one thing, however, I feel vexed – with myself, I mean – at having given you so much trouble, or, rather, stolen so much of your valuable time, in your writing me this letter.

In one word: all I want is, such a mic. as you & your ever honoured Father, Mitten & Wilson have so long and successfully used, nothing more: as you say, – “a simple dissg. mic., costing £4 – £8”, or so: and, again, “one not exceedg. £10 – £12.” – that will do, exactly: never mind the over plus – anon. –

All I require is one that will enable me well & clearly to examine the teeth, &c., of Mosses, &c. I dread the very thought of going in for anything high deep and recon-dite! all that I leave for others – abler & younger men. Indeed, had the highest power of my present glass been usable, I believe I should have been content.

*21 May 1885*

Three weeks ago, while up in the high interior woods, I received your very kind & thoughtful letter of March 8<sup>th</sup>. Just as on the last occasion (6 weeks back) – I was

both vexed & pleased on reading it: vexed w. myself, at having given you all this extra bother, – and now, in addition thereto, Dr. Carpenter, also! Your & his great kindness in this matter I fear I can never repay. However, my note to you of 8<sup>th</sup> April per “Ruapehu”, (to hand, I should hope by this,) will have finally settled the matter of the microscope. One of the kind (or similar) you & your confreres used in Botanical work (which you had kindly mentioned) will serve me very well – as I shall never take up those higher pursuits & studies: I must leave all that for younger and more able hands.

### ***9 October 1885***

Thanks many & big, for all your kindnesses: – I am not able to write by this mail (closing), but purpose fully doing so by “Tongariro” leaving Auckland 25<sup>th</sup>: by her I hope to send your case of specimens, now nearly ready.

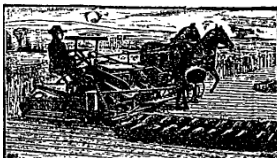
I have received 2 recent letters from you; to reply to, anon. One of July 5, and one of July 30<sup>th</sup>. Microscope arrived here 3-4 days ago, and (spite of my warning and precaution) those ———— fellows at the Customs must break open the case in quest of smuggled goods! (these Instruments do say no duty,) and they, or the shipping agents, in overhauling, managed to lose a part of the said Instrument! I have written 2ce and my man has been down searching closely in Customs’ examining shed – but nil!

I have just written to Ross, describing as well as I can from its empty cell or niche, and ordering “such another” – whatever it may be: and so I just send a line to you, as you may hear of it from R. All being well you shall hear fully from me per “Tongariro”. I am dreadfully busy, w. hand sore from so much writing: ditto chest.

### ***14 October 1885***

This Steamer (Arawa) is supposed to arrive at Home by 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. You may therefore receive my last week’s note by S.F. a fortnight earlier, and will have learned my mishap about the microscope: nothing fresh has transpired here since (I did not expect it), and I have had no time since to think about it, much less to look at it.

**THE  
HORNSBY  
BINDER  
PURSUES ITS CONQUERING  
WAY.**



# Who was Mr Broughton?

By Ann Collins

William Colenso sent his *Memorandum of Journies* to his parents via the Secretaries of the Christian Missionary Society, from Paihia on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 1841,<sup>1</sup> with the following message:

*"By the vessel which takes the Mail containing this Letter, I send a paper parcel directed to you, in which are... a Ms. of Extracts from my Journal. The latter is for my Father, (who has often expressed his surprise at my never having given him any Information relative to my movements in N. Zealand,) and I would be much obliged in your forwarding it to him, by Coach, as soon as convenient. Should Mr. Broughton, or the Revd. J.W. Colenso, of Harrow, apply to you for a sight of the same, you will please to allow them to peruse it, ere it be sent on to my parents; but with the express understanding, that it must be returned to you as soon as possible, in order that it may be despatched on to Cornwall, without any great delay. For I am very sure, that my parents, (who, perhaps, are far too anxiously solicitous on my account,) will not be satisfied until they receive it."*

Another letter to the CMS of the 17<sup>th</sup> November 1841 lists the following:

*"I enclose, in the small parcel of Books, Notes of my late visit to Wangarei; which I would thank you, my dear Sirs, to pass on to my Father at Penzance; as I have not time to make a copy of the same."*

*"There is also in the Box, a copy of my late Travelling Journal, with a few Sketches stitched up with it. This I would thank you to deliver to my old and much-esteemed friend Mr. Broughton, who having read the same will have the goodness to send it to my cousin the Rev. J.W. Colenso, Harrow, who will forward it to Mrs. Garnon, the person for whom it was written. Of course you are quite welcome to make whatever use you please of the contents."*<sup>2</sup>

The missionary Richard Davies,<sup>3</sup> who arrived in New Zealand in 1824 as a "pious agriculturalist", also mentions his faithful friend and regular correspondent, Mr Broughton of Holborn Bridge, in a letter to the CMS dated the 19<sup>th</sup> September 1831. He also baptised Ripi as Nicholas Broughton, after his esteemed friend of Swan Yard, Holborn Bridge in 1841.

The most expansive description of Nicholas Broughton is provided in the memoirs of the architect, Sir George Gilbert Scott (1811-1878). He was a grandson of the Reverend Thomas Scott, founding secretary of the CMS and a biblical commentator. George journeyed to London as a child in 1818, and recalled the following.

*"Of the coach journey to London, I have hardly a glimmer of recollection. On our arrival, however, we transferred ourselves to the house of a sort of "Gaius mine host," who dwelt hard by the coach-office where we alighted. This was a Mr. Broughton,<sup>4</sup> of Swan-yard, Holborn bridge, who kept a boarding-house for travellers, with a preference for those of the evangelical party, and a still more particular preference for missionaries, and most especially for missionaries to New Zealand. This, his most powerful preference, was rendered manifest to the eye by his rooms being hung with patoo-patoos, war-rugs, and all the marvels of a New Zealand museum; and occasionally a tattooed chief or two, to his intense joy, took up their quarters under his roof. All this, however, I gathered at subsequent visits. Mr. Broughton showed his special regard for the commentator, my grandfather, by opening his house to his descendants at all times gratuitously, indeed he demanded their acceptance of his hospitality as a right. Swan-yard, which has perished in the extension of Farringdon street, was opposite to the then Fleet market. It was a waggon-yard, devoted to broad-wheeled waggons and straw, and the house was far from lively."*

*"At the time of our visit Mrs. Broughton,<sup>5</sup> who was enormously corpulent, was laid up with the gout, and I was forthwith conducted by my aunt to the good lady's bedroom. Here I was so terrified at the sight of her vast person, enveloped in volumes of dimity, and her legs swaddled in a stupendous gouty stocking of white-and-pink lamb's wool, that I at once proclaimed a mutiny, and refused to stop in the house, in which I so resolutely persisted, that my good aunt actually yielded to me, and transferred me to the cabin of the Margate sailing-packet, which was to start in the morning."*

From the above description the location of Swan Yard is probably the Swan Inn, as shown in Rocque's Map of the Parish of St Sepulchre (see map on next page).

Nicholas Broughton was born in London in 1764 and christened in St Giles Cripplegate, the fifth son of carpenter James Broughton and his wife Tabitha Goddard.

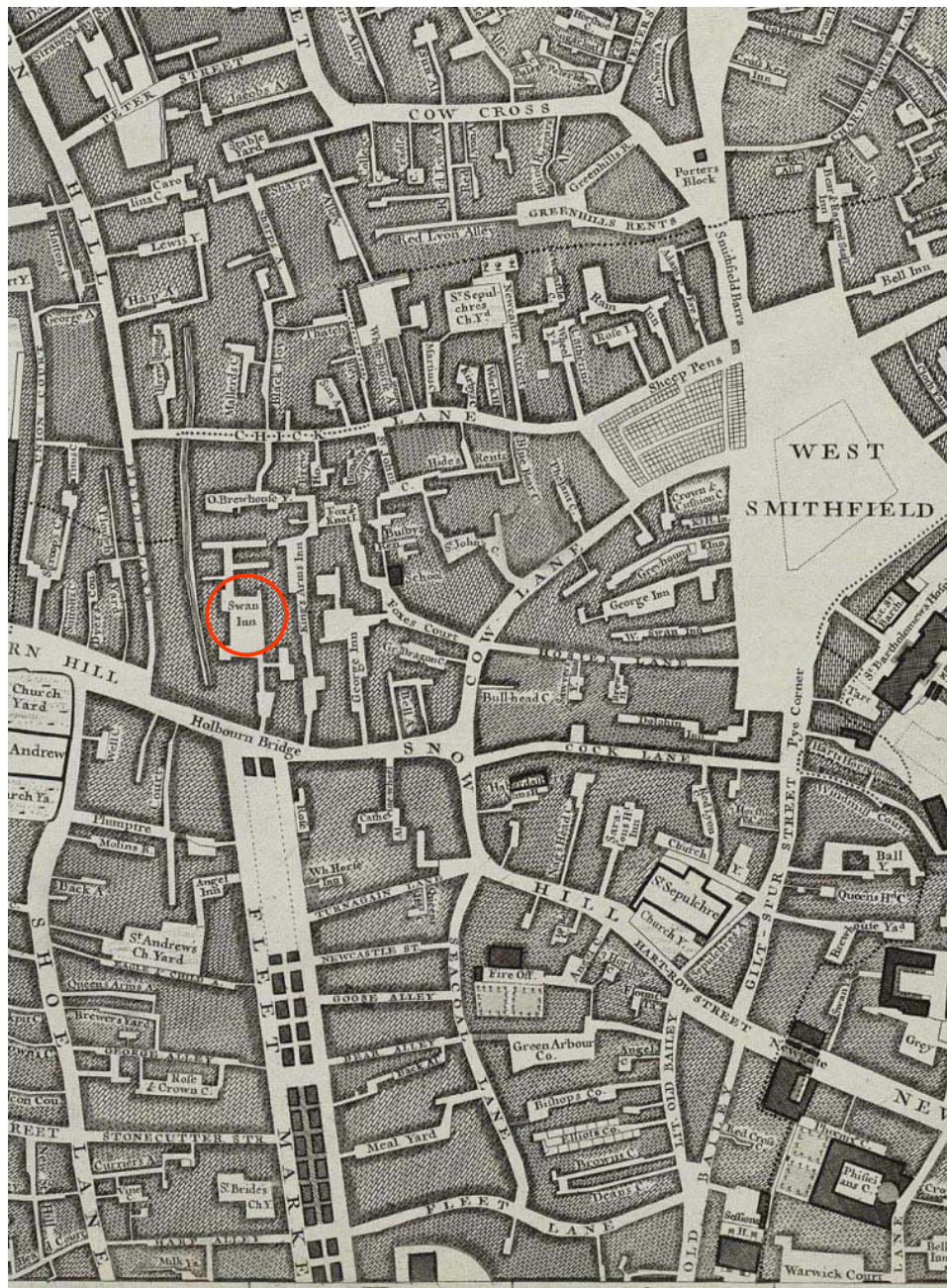
He and his brothers were admitted into the freedom of London, Nicholas as a carpenter. In 1801 he married a widow Anna Maria Crick. The couple do not appear to have had children, although Nicholas was an active uncle for his brother Robert's daughters. From the Sun Fire Office records he became the innholder of the Swan Inn after his brother's death in 1825. It seems that Scott's childhood recollections may have amalgamated the two brothers.

Their particular regard for NZ missionaries must have developed quickly as the first CMS Missionaries were sent there in 1814. Thomas Kendall brought Māori war chief Hongi Hika to London in 1820, creating a small sensation. They arrived in England on board the whaling ship New Zealander and Hongi Hika remained 5 months in London and Cambridge where his facial tattoos made him something of a sensation. They may have spent some time as guests of Mr Broughton (Nicholas or Robert).

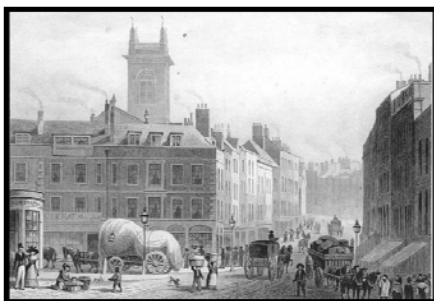
Anna Maria died and was buried in Holborn in 1825. Nicholas continued to reside in Holborn until around 1837 but by the 1841 census he was living in Tooting, near Streatham. He died in 1849.

There is no record of William meeting Mr Broughton in his London diary, but Nicholas Broughton's involvement with the CMS makes it likely that they met during this time. Holborn Bridge, with its proximity to the Smithfield and Fleet Markets was a bustling part of the metropolis in 1831, as indicated in the engraving by Thomas H Shepherd on page 8.<sup>6</sup>





Rocque's Map of Georgian London 1746



In his will, proved on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 1849, he bequeathed £100 to “William Colenso of New Zealand”, with no conditions on how it was to be spent. The will also deliberately mentions that nothing has been bequeathed to the CMS, as he has donated to it in his lifetime. William may have used this money to buy a few acres of land from the Government after McLean settled with the Chiefs around 1851.<sup>7</sup>

This is the last Will & Testament of me Nicholas Broughton of Otago in the County of Dunedin first I commend my soul into the hands of him that has willed me in his most precious blood. It is my will and desire that I may be interred in Scotch Church yard with as little expense as possible. I do hereby bequeath to Miss Catherine Colenso of little Dunedin the sum of one hundred pounds & also to William Colenso of New Zealand the sum of one hundred pounds. To my wife Catherine I leave a legacy

William's other correspondent in 1841 was Mrs Garnon born Mary Dennis Rock in Birmingham in 1793, daughter of a merchant Thomas Rock and Mary Dennis, a native of Penzance. She married the Reverend William Garnon in 1816 and accompanied him to Sierra Leone where he was the first chaplain, until he died in 1818. She returned to London and was mentioned in the letters of Joseph Carne, a member of a banking family from Penzance. She married the Cornish banker William Bolitho in 1845 and was living with him in Gulval in 1851, a village adjacent to William Colenso's home town of Penzance. She was the granddaughter of John Dennis, founder of another Penzance bank.

## References

1. Email from Ian St George.
2. Also an email from Ian St George.
3. A memoir of the Reverend Richard Davies: for thirty-nine years a missionary in New Zealand.
4. Robert Broughton, from the Sun Fire Records was an inn holder from around 1811.
5. Robert's second wife Louisa Mary Briel, who he married in 1808. His first wife, and mother of his three daughters, Mary Ann Hankins died in 1804.
6. [www.londir.co.uk/holborn](http://www.londir.co.uk/holborn)
7. 1 August 1851: Colenso to McLean: "I think I shall be quite ready to buy a few acres of land from the Govt. immediately after you have settled with the Chiefs." (Ian St George)

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# The LEXICON...

Journals of the House 6 August 1902

## THE LATE WILLIAM COLENZO

The Hon. Mr. BOWEN moved, *That the Government be requested to take steps to inquire as to the position of the literary remains of the late William Colenso, with a view to the publication of his Maori Lexicon, and to the preservation of the fruits of his life-long botanical studies in New Zealand.* Sir, I gave notice of this motion with a view to ascertaining whether any steps have been taken by the Government, or with their knowledge by any one else, to preserve the literary remains of the late William Colenso, especially his philological work—his Maori Lexicon—and the results of his botanical researches. I have mentioned the matter before in this Council, and have been incited to do so again by a letter from Sir Joseph Hooker, who is the earliest and greatest botanical authority with regard to New Zealand flora, and who has done so much for us in that respect. We all know that his Handbook of Botany was for a long time the only authority on the

subject to which we could refer; and he still takes a deep interest in New Zealand. No man is better known for his scientific attainments, and for the vigour with which during a long life he has prosecuted his labours. He writes to inquire as to the fate of



The Hon. C. C. Bowen.

Colenso's papers, and to ask whether the New Zealand Government may be induced to publish that eminent philologist's Maori Lexicon. He has been assured by competent authorities that Mr. Colenso's work has not been superseded, and that any lexicon of

standard value must either be his or founded upon it. I do not know what steps are being taken, or have been taken; but I feel sure that it would be a national crime to neglect the work of an author who is regarded as one of the greatest authorities on the Maori language, their legends, and their customs. I have in my hand a short sketch of Mr. Colenso's life, contributed by Sir Joseph Hooker to the "Year-book" of the Royal

Society, in which he alludes to the long time during which Mr. Colenso studied the Maori language and New Zealand botany. He landed in the Bay of Islands in 1834, some years before the colony was founded, and within three years printed the whole New Testament in Maori, with the assistance of Maoris only. After recapitulating the botanical work which Mr. Colenso did in the North Island, especially in the Ruahine Mountains and other unexplored regions, up to his eighty-seventh year, in which he sent specimens and observations on plants to Kew, Sir Joseph Hooker goes on to say,—

“For upwards of sixty years Mr. Colenso systematically took advantage of his unique opportunities for collecting information regarding the language, customs, myths, proverbs, songs, &c., of the Maoris—subjects that had a special fascination for him; and as the information obtained was direct from Native sources—some of it from men who remembered Captain Cook’s visits, and antedated the corruptions introduced by Europeans—the collection is of unique value.”

The history of the communications between Mr. Colenso and the New Zealand Government with regard to the publication of his Maori Lexicon is not known to many members of the Legislature

at this date, and is half forgotten by others. I am one of those who think that Mr. Colenso was exceedingly badly treated by a previous Government; and that the colony is the poorer for their conduct in the transaction. I will read Sir Joseph Hooker’s account of it, which, I am sure, will interest the Council:—

“In 1861 Mr. Colenso entered Parliament as representative of Napier, when he moved and carried a resolution that the time had come for the State to make an organized attempt to rescue the dying language of New Zealand from oblivion. Being at the time unable to undertake such a work himself, he offered to present the Government with his whole collection of materials for it. In 1865 the Government took up the subject, and in 1866 Mr. Colenso, then being more at liberty, was successfully urged, as the one man in New Zealand thoroughly qualified, to take up the work. Seven years was fixed for its completion, the remuneration to be £300 per annum. Before half that period had expired another Ministry, with other views of the value of a lexicon, had supervened, by whom its author was informed that, half the time allowed for the completion of the work having expired, one-half of the work itself should have been in the Press. On the unreasonableness of this view in the

case of a work requiring innumerable cross references being represented, a Committee of qualified persons was appointed to examine and report on the progress made. The report was to the effect that the author had advanced further in his work than was due up to the time employed, that thousands of pages had been written from the first word to the last, and that seven years was too short a time for the completion of a work of such magnitude. The report was withheld from Parliament, funds for proceeding with the Lexicon were refused, and the unfinished materials were thrown upon the author's hands, one finger of which was permanently disabled by writer's cramp, due to his labours on the Lexicon. A sample portion was, however, demanded to be laid before the House, and letter 'A' produced; but this was 'lost,' and not discovered till eighteen years afterwards in a departmental pigeon-hole. It was then printed and distributed by Government, partly at its author's expense, in the year preceding his death. Its appearance, dedicated to his old friend Sir George Grey, has been followed by urgent representations to the Colonial Government that the whole materials, which are bequeathed to the State, should be intrusted to a competent editor for publication."

I hope my honourable friend

will be able to tell us that something more creditable to the colony will be done now to hand down to posterity the actual work of Mr. Colenso, and that the Government will do justice to such a legacy as he has left to the country.

The Hon. Mr. W. C. WALKER.—I do not quite follow the honourable gentleman in all his statements. He said that the lexicon was bequeathed by Mr. Colenso to the State.

The Hon. Mr. BOWEN.—I was quoting from Dr. Hooker, who thinks so.

The Hon. Mr. W. C. WALKER.—I think he must have been mistaken.

The Hon. Mr. BOWEN.—He says, "the materials have been bequeathed to the State."

The Hon. Mr. W. C. WALKER.—Here is Mr. Colenso's own preface to letter "A" of the Lexicon:—

"In 1865 the House and Government (after many delays) confirmed the original application of 1861. I was then in a great measure free from those other duties, and so, early in 1866, I undertook the work—the heavy task. Let it suffice here, very briefly, to say that in March, 1870, the Government of the day suddenly stopped the carrying-on of the work (as is clearly shown in Parliamentary Paper, G-11, 1875); and although a few spasmodic attempts have at various times since then been

made—or, rather, agreed to for a time by the Government—yet such were always somehow frustrated, hindered, broken off. A future generation may, very likely, better know the reasons than I can assign them, and also more clearly see the unfortunate consequences. However, in 1884, the late Hon. Mr. Ballance and the Hon. Sir R. Stout, after a personal interview with both here, in Napier, induced me to again take up the work; and for a time (say nine months) I again worked hard at it, sending in to the Government in February, 1885, this first portion, or letter 'A' (contained in 249 folio foolscap pages, clean copy for press), it having been proposed by the Government that the Lexicon should be published in parts. Notwithstanding, the printing was again put off, and finally, in July, 1891, set aside (officially 'countermanded'), until in September, 1895, the present Premier, the Right Hon. R. J. Seddon, consented to this small portion being printed at the Government Press."

The Hon. Mr. BOWEN.—There is nothing contradictory in that to the statement of Sir Joseph Hooker.

The Hon. Mr. W. C. WALKER.—It certainly is the property of the Government at the present time; and I am informed that it was not in any shape or form a bequest of Mr. Colenso, but that it was pur-

chased from his executors. It is quite possible—speaking from memory—that he may have directed in his will that the Government should have the first right to purchase the manuscript of the Lexicon. The manuscript of the Lexicon has been purchased by the Government, and is now their property. Further dealing with the work has been deferred owing to the difficulty of securing a competent editor; and the remainder of the work is awaiting the good office of some one competent to deal with it before sending it to the press. Of course, another matter is the cost of the work. I will place a copy of Part I. of the Lexicon, including letter "A," on the table for the information of honourable members. The letter "A" cost £80, and to print the complete Lexicon it would certainly require £1,000. However, the main difficulty is to get a suitable editor; because such a work requires to be edited, and it would be absurd to put the work into the hands of any one who is not a very competent man. The Government is fully aware of the value of the work from a philological point of view, and will do anything in reason to facilitate its publication, as is evidenced by the fact that in 1895 the present Premier dealt with the matter and secured the publication of the first part. With respect to what the honourable

gentleman said as to Mr. Colenso's botanical remains, I am unable to give him any information. No doubt Mr. Colenso was a very able botanical student and inquirer, but the Government has no information as to what he left, or as to what could be done in the way of securing the remains for the colony.

The Hon. Mr. BOWEN.—Sir, with the leave of the Council, I would like to say further that I understand the whole dictionary has been more or less completed except one very important part of it under the letters "NG," which is the symbol for the peculiar Maori nasal sound. With regard to the botanical remains, there are ugly stories abroad of neglect on the part of—I do not know whom. It

is said there were boxes of papers found in an outhouse of his dwelling that were sold as waste paper. I hope that is not true, but it has been commonly reported, and inquiry should be made. I expected to get a more definite statement of the intentions of the Government in the matter, especially of the Lexicon. Before the session is ended the honourable gentleman, I trust, will be able to tell the Council that some practical step has been taken. I am not blaming the present Government for past neglect. That is the fault of a previous Government. But the warning note of such an authority as Sir Joseph Hooker ought to rouse us to effective action before it is too late.

Motion agreed to.



## Reaction

*Wellington's New Zealand Times of 28 August 1902 carried a response from Henry Hill, "Special to the Times"....*

Mr H. Hill, Inspector of Schools for Hawke's Bay, who was an intimate friend of the late Mr William Colenso, R.R.S., has something interesting to say of the literary remains of the deceased, regarding which the Hon. C.C. Bowen recently asked a question in the Legislative Council, with a view to the

publication of his Maori Lexicon and the preservation of the fruits of Mr Colenso's lifelong botanical studies in New Zealand.

Mr Bowen's statement that valuable manuscripts of the late scholar had been sold to buttermen is not far from the truth. Mr Hill bought a number of boxes of



old books and publications that were issued from the church missionary press when established at Paihia, in the Bay of Islands, but these included no manuscripts of any sort. "A few days after the sale," says Mr Hill, "I heard that a woman in the town had purchased several manuscripts, with a number of other books, and these I subsequently obtained, among them being the original day and waste book of the printing press, containing the records of the first books printed in New Zealand; but I have not been able to trace any of Mr Colenso's diaries, which I know were continuous from the time of his arrival in the colony up to the time he met with an accident at Woodville, three years or so before his death."

With regard to Mr Colenso's botanical studies, Mr Hill says deceased's plants were left to the Hawke's Bay branch of the New Zealand Institute, and these Mr Hill was deputed to receive from the executors of the will. Subsequently they were sent to Mr Cheeseman, curator of the Auckland Museum, who is engaged by the New Zealand Government on the preparation of a new edition of the "New Zealand Flora". The specimens were sent to Mr Cheeseman by Mr Hill, on the approval of the society, and all expenses in connection with their transit were met by the Government. They are to be returned to the Philosophical Institute in Napier, and if it is the opinion of Sir J.D. Hooker that the plants should be sent to Kew, Mr Hill will bring the matter before the Hawke's Bay Institute. No one has touched the plants except Mr Cheeseman, who has arranged them for easy reference.

Commenting upon the subject, the "Hawke's Bay Herald" expresses regret that the interest in the Colenso papers did not show itself at an earlier date, when it would have been possible perhaps to take steps to preserve intact for the benefit of the colony such of the papers of the late Mr Colenso as were of public value.

"Although the Government declare that they have the Lexicon manuscript," says the "Herald," "we have heard of at least two gentlemen in the colony who have what appear to be portions of the collections made by Mr Colenso for the dictionary. This should be inquired into. Still more surprising is the loss of Mr Colenso's early diaries. We had occasion at different times to ask Mr Colenso for certain information which necessitated reference to those records. The accounts of the early trips through the forest which then occupied the southern part of this province and of the Maori settlements he visited were of the greatest interest and value. They have often been quoted in the Native Land Court to settle disputed questions of title, yet they were all sold for waste paper. It is fair to say that we believe the executors were not to blame for this. But it is unaccountable that some opportunity was not given to the Government to acquire these records of early settlement. We understand that they are still in existence in the colony. Perhaps it is not too late to secure them. They are of no possible value to anyone but the Government, and they should certainly form part of the public collection of books and papers affecting the early history of the colony."

# The NOMINATION

*Hawke's Bay Herald*, 7 November 1857, Page 3 (and *Papers Past*)

On Tuesday last, a Public Meeting of the electors of Ahuriri was held in front of the Court House, Napier, convened for the purpose of nominating two fit and proper persons to represent the District in the Provincial Council of Wellington.

....

The following gentlemen were then duly nominated and seconded Thomas Purvis Russell, by Frederick John Tiffen and Robert Pharaxyn respectively Robert Pharazyn, by Wm. Marshall and Francis Slater Donald Gollan, by Alexander McLean and J. B. Ferguson. Thomas Henry FitzGerald, by Thomas Hitchings and Wm. Burton.

....

The Rev. W. Colenso, in addressing those he saw around him as fellow settlers and fellow electors, said that he had not generally interfered in politics but that, on the present occasion, when they were all assembled to exercise their birthright as Britons, he attended for the purpose of expressing his sentiments—

the sentiments of the oldest settler in the District. He had one prefatory remark to make—if there was any place more than another where liberty of speech was allowed, it was the floor of the House of Commons or the public hustings. Like a famed reformer, he stood there to “speak the truth impugn it whoso listeth,” and if any thin-skinned person chose to take offence, he could not help it. He would say to his fellow electors, vote for Gollan and FitzGerald and he would establish his point, negatively as well as positively. The first in opposition to these candidates was Purvis Russell. What! vote for a man who had changed his colours (Laughter) Mr. Russell had spoken largely here, and had done nothing in Wellington. (Laughter.) Then there was Mr. Duncan, of whom he knew but little, but who would no doubt vote for Ahuriri so long as it went with Wellington, but no longer. Don't vote for him. He (Mr. Colenso) had been startled when he read of the insurrection in India, of the loss of the Dunbar, of the forebodings which some had entertained regarding the natives, and the desire to have martial law proclaimed throughout this District; but he was never so much astounded as when

he learned that Robert Pharazyn sought to be returned member for Ahuriri. Ye Gods only a few days ago he was a boy at school. They wanted the right men in the right place—not boys. Mr. Pharazyn, having been recently at school, should have learned the lesson *seniores priores* and, in making his *debut* in public life, should have remembered the ancient saying, *dies togae virilis*. Mr. Pharazyn came there a nominee. Dr. Pharazyn thinks so and so, and Mr. Pharazyn thinks the same. (No, understood to be from Mr. Pharazyn.) By whom was he supported? Why, by a little knot of office-bearers—men who dared not think or speak for themselves—men who trembled for their places and their salaries. They did not want inexperienced men; they had seen enough of them in the Council already. Nor did they want exclusive legislation for the runholder. Many of that class he respected, but there were others amongst them that he knew to be totally opposed to the progress of the country. For instance, a runholder once said in his (Mr. Colenso's) hearing that he never wished to see more than five Europeans in the country. Mr. Colenso then passed to the positive side of his argument, enumerating the merits of Messrs. Gollan and FitzGerald, although he did not agree with the latter in every thing. The organ of the Government had sneeringly said with reference to Mr. FitzGerald, send him to the Council, and, said the speaker, we will send him. (Cheers.)

The Returning Officer then called for a show of hands for the respective candidates. The numbers were for Mr. Pharazyn 5 for Mr. Russell 6 for Messrs. Gollan and FitzGerald respectively, a very large show, probably from 30 to 40. A poll was thereupon demanded by Messrs Russell and Pharazyn and the day of polling announced for Monday the 17th inst.

*Messrs. Gollan and FitzGerald were duly elected—Ed..*



*eColenso* is a free email Newsletter published by the Colenso Society.

Please forward to anyone who may be interested.

The editor invites contributions on Rev. William Colenso FLS FRS.

Such contributions should be emailed to Ian St George, [istge@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:istge@yahoo.co.nz).

The cover begins the 26 August 1899 instalment of a serial in Napier's *Daily Telegraph*, an example of turgid Victorian prose fiction.



# The intimacy of ephemerae— “Things to do”

Francis McWhannell photographed another scrap of Colensoana before it was auctioned by Bethunes at Webbs last year. It is a lined page, with lists in Colenso's hand on each side—lists of things to do, items either ticked off or crossed off with a double vertical line when done. Amazing that Colenso saved such scraps and even more so that one has survived.

Trivia? certainly, but a window into the mind. The year is 1895. Colenso had been in Dannevirke in May but was now at home in Napier. He was 83 years old.

(over.) Agenda: June July.  
Reviewers Board - 28<sup>th</sup>  
Mrs. Hunter, Bombos, &c.  
Send out "author's copies."  
Will - fix & cut out.  
arrange meetg. w. Knowles  
McHardy's Memo, returns.  
Test. (W.O.) & send to Nordwood  
write check - re Hand Books &c  
Winkelman <sup>sends w. author's C</sup>  
C. Bennett, reply  
Hamilton - copy  
Hans Matanson w. "A.S. Copies."  
Lindauer ("So you in M.Z.  
& I'd at Love")  
Tull  
Nash  
Somerville (see W.O. memo)  
Lund, & Author's C, & require  
Mr. Hunter [w. Author's C]  
Thomas, Greater H. elongation 11<sup>th</sup> July  
Law Seed: Link's! Marvel Pen  
testimonial from Sister.  
and "Descor."

## Side 1

## Side 1

**Agenda:** June, July.

Reviewer's Board—29th.

Mrs. Hunter, Bamboos, &c.

Send out "author's copies."

Will— fix executors

arrange meeting w. Knowles

McHardy's Memo, re trees

Test. (sw.) & seeds to Norsewood

*(Agenda: he was President of the Hawke's Bay Philosophical Institute. The "Board of Reviewers" was the body that reviewed the valuations of land and set the rates: Colenso appealed against its decisions more than once. Mrs Hunter lived in Dan-nevirke—Colenso wrote to Katherine Hollis in February 1896, "Mrs. H. is going to leave her big "house of 7 gables". Colenso had bamboos in his garden in Napier. Author's copies: Colenso had had a number of papers published in the early nineties.*

*Colenso's old friend John Grubb, Napier Postmaster and one of the nominated execu-tors of his will, died in May 1895 and had to be replaced. EW Knowles proprietor of the Daily Telegraph, JB Fielder accountant and CH Edwards gas manager were the Executors and Trustees of Colenso's estate.*

*P McHardy owned Longlands station near Hastings; he may be the one mentioned.)*

write Olsen—re HandBook, &c

—— Winkelman reply w. author's C

—— C. Clemett, reply

—— Hamilton—reply

—— Hans Mortensen, w. "A's copies". (50 yrs. in N.Z., "Tidal Lore"

—— Lindauer

—— Jull

—— Nash

—— Somerville (see Woodville memo)

—— Lund, re author's C., & sequin

—— Mrs Hunter [w. "Author's C—"

*(Andreas Olsen lived near Norsewood and collected for Colenso, who sometimes stayed with him; the Handbook is JD Hookers "Handbook of the New Zealand Flora" (1864). Charles Winkelman had by now moved from Hawke's Bay to Northland, but still sent specimens to Colenso. The Clemetts lived in Norsewood near the Mortensen's boarding house where Colenso usually stayed. Augustus Hamilton had shifted from Petane to Dunedin in 1890; he and Colenso continued to correspond.*

*Hans Mortensen of "Fernhills", Norsewood guest house. The author's copies were of "Fifty years ago in New Zealand; a commemoration; a Jubilee paper; a retrospect; a plain and true story". R.C. Harding, Napier 1888. 49p and " Ancient tide-lore and tales of the sea, from the two ends of the world: also, some highly curious, ancient and legendary little-known East Coast Maori stories". R.C. Harding, Napier 1889. 48p.*



Gottfried Lindauer, artist of Woodville: Colenso sat for his portrait in late 1894. I can find no mention of Jull or Nash in Colenso's papers, and only a brief mention of a Mr. Somerville replacing "Balfour". HM Lund was station master at Makotuku, a collector of coins, encouraged by Colenso; he read papers before the HBPI in 1892 and 1895 but they were not published in the "Transactions"; I don't know what "Sequin" is about.

Venus, greatest E. elongation 11<sup>th</sup>. July

sow seeds: Larkspr. Marvel Peru

\_\_\_\_\_ testimonial fav. Suter.

\_\_\_\_\_ ansr. "Descar."

(The greatest eastern elongation of Venus was on 12 July 1895. He was sowing seeds of Larkspur and of "Four o'clock", *Mirabilis jalapa*, aka "Marvel of Peru". Henry Suter: Colenso wrote to Cheeseman in April 1894 recommending he employ Suter; Suter's descendent Dr Pam Hyde writes, "In September 1894 Cheeseman offered Suter a four month engagement at the Auckland Museum which he took up. He was

once again without work in 1895 and in late June of that year applied for a job as curator at the Museum in Perth WA having given up on finding a position in NZ. He asked Hector for a testimonial (I have a copy of Suter's request and Hector's testimonial) and he asked Cheeseman for one also. I think it is reasonable to assume, given the timing, that he asked Colenso for a testimonial for the same purpose. Suter was not offered the position—it went to a person already on the staff—he was understandably sad and angry."

"Answer 'Descar'" Why the quotes? was "Descar" a nom-de-plume? Descartes?)

Write by this Mail  
W. & S. W. £50.  
Mayor Poyano - Officially  
Tulyan

Sent Copies "D.T.", Monday 9<sup>th</sup>  
(Cathedral Service on) 7<sup>th</sup>  
to Willie { Robertshawe  
Latty { Eccles  
Tulyan { My Lloyd, Hospital.

Sent Copies, "Herald", Monday July 29<sup>th</sup>  
to Willie  
✓ Latty  
✓ Tulyan  
✓ Emily  
✓ Brock  
✓ Harding  
✓ Eccles  
✓ Mrs. Lloyd  
✓ Winkelman  
✓ Preston  
✓ M. Hart

Side 2

## Side 2

Write by this mail  
W. & S. with £50.  
Mayor Penzance—officially  
Julyan

*(W. & S. = his son Willie and wife Sarah; his relative William Harvey Julyan was Mayor of Penzance in the 1890s, so perhaps he wrote “official” and unofficial letters—he was arranging the Colenso Dole.)*

Sent copies of “D.T.”, Monday 9th  
Cathedral Service on 7th  
to Willie | Robertshawe  
Latty | Eccles  
Julyan | Mrs Lloyd, Hospital

*(9 July was actually a Tuesday in 1895. Daily Telegraphs for this period have not survived. His sons Willie and Latimer; WJ Julyan; the Church of England Ministers E Robertshawe at Dannevirke and Canon JC Eccles of Woodville; I can find no record of Mrs Lloyd but suspect she worked at Dannevirke Hospital. Colenso wrote at length to Coupland Harding about the Cathedral service on 7 July 1895).*

Sent copies “Herald”, Monday July 29th  
to Willie  
Latty  
Julyan  
Emily  
Brock  
Harding  
Eccles  
Mrs. Lloyd  
Winkelmann  
Preston  
Bp. Stuart

*(The content and the day-date Monday 29 July place this in 1895; the Herald of that day reported a successful appeal by Dean Hovell for funds for the Cathedral—Colenso read the lessons at the service following.*

*He sent copies of the newspaper to sons Wiremu, Latimer; WJ Julyan; Emily was possibly his sister Jane Emily Tucker (unlikely to have been Emily Hill who was living in Napier in 1895); a “Mr. Brock”, a friend of Emily Tucker’s, was Colenso’s agent in London for arranging the annuity he paid to Wiremu; Coupland Harding, Eccles, Mrs. Lloyd; Charles Winkelmann; GH Preston had been vicar at the Port of Napier and in 1890 moved to Parnell—Colenso wrote to Hooker, “I am very friendly with him, and his good wife—though he is very High Church!”; EC Stuart had resigned as 2<sup>nd</sup> Bishop of Waiapu and gone to Persia, but he had been responsible for Colenso’s rehabilitation into the Church, so was fondly remembered in continuing correspondence).*