



The Colenso Society
32 Hawkestone Street
Thorndon Wellington 6011

October 2014
Volume 5 No. 10
ISSN 1179-8351

eColenso

Diarrhoea in Dannevirke

William Colenso's letters to his more intimate friends (notably Coupland Harding and Andrew Luff) contain detail about his health, often unselfconsciously mentioning diarrhoea. There are of course many causes for diarrhoea, from simple food poisoning, viral gastroenteritis, mental stress, enteric fevers (typhoid, paratyphoid, cholera) to autoimmune colitis, often associated with back and joint pain.

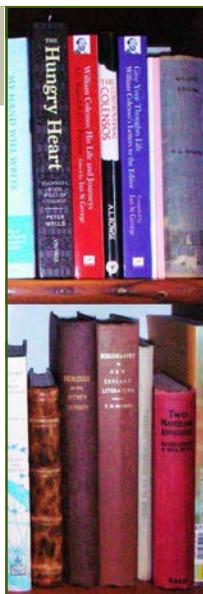
It is quite possible Colenso's recurrent "rheumatism" fits this last, and tempting to think so when he writes to Harding,

...diarrhoea, rather severe, obliged to have recourse to med., and great pains in all big joints (worse in bed!) akin, as it were, to Rheumatism but *not R.*¹

Sometimes the diarrhoea was viral, for "Dr. Macallan, this day, told me, such symptoms are common here—from colds."

Some episodes were life-threatening, as this was, after a wetting in the bush near Dannevirke,

...that night I was hot dry, feverish, (with 2 cases *here* of typhoid fever—one, *in* this hotel, & one over the way, *within speaking distance*, & both brought hither from Napier!) Saty. mg. I determined *not* to proceed to N. & that night was a terrible one to me! of colic & diarrhoea! & all *in darkness*, too!



IN THIS ISSUE

Diarrhoea	1
Notices	4
Colenso & Hector	5
Electric cure	6
Stammering	12
Photo album	14
Hobson's speech	15
Letter	18
Erebus found	19
Conference	20

eColenso is a free email publication which should be forwarded to interested others. Contributions on William Colenso might be emailed to the editor,
Ian St George,

how I longed for mg.—for some one to speak to. Mg. came—at last! could not get up to bkfst., Dr. soon came—med., & all that day only a cup of (poor) tea! The weather too had changed on Saty. aftn. now pouring rain, & cold withal: well, that Sunday was a sad one... Monday—still unwell, in bed, & very *weak*, but that nt. I got a little sleep. Tuesday mg., by daylight, informed, that out of *us* “4”—2 had been taken, & 2 left!! (Here I may mention, the man who died *in* this hotel, was the owner of the “Strasburg Clock” show; & the man who died across the street—French, the master of Robjohns’ Store, whose *sister* Charl. R. married—*both*, it was known, had brought t.f. w. them from N.—Indeed, F. had most imprudently slept in *same* bed w. his brother from Xt.Ch. whom he had gone thither to meet, who was then under the influence of t.f., & is *now* laid up w. it!) Well, the body from this hotel was buried yesty. (rain still pouring!) & the body of F. taken by early train this mg. to N. for interment: Cy. Robjohns having come hither yesty. for that purpose. Yesty. was rather a sad day w. me—not well able either to write or to read! still *very weak* (shall I say to you—*both* body & mind?) I wanted something *nourishing*: Dr. presd., Brandy in *milk* this *latter* I dislike raw—however I used it—wishing for my *old sustaining* regimen—“Guinness Extra stout”, which Dr. disappd. of, fearing return of diarrhoea, [at my house in N., in *this respect*, I could have fared better:] finding myself so *low* & cold, yesty. evg., I (having abjured By. & Mk.) got a bottle of port wine, & 2 glasses, w. hot water & nutmeg & sugar, I took last nt. at x. & to bed, & feel better today—able to sit up & write this.”²²

This time it may have been stress (his dogs had been killed), or it may have been a contagious infection,

I have been laid up a week or more w. *severe* diarrhoea & vomiting (which left me *very weak*). James’ wife said it was thinking about the dogs, but the disorder has been very prevalent....³

Here are some more episodes,

I was unwell on *that day*, & my illness, *severe* Diarrhoea, (which came on also on *that day*, & very suddenly too...)⁴

very unwell—*severe diarrhoea*, Saty. nt. & Sundy. mg.⁵

I cannot tell you in a letter *all* I have had to endure,—my complaints (2–3 together!) Rheumatism, *piles*, Diarrhoea, making me all but *helpless!*⁶

not well here, *stubborn* diarrhoea.⁷

I was *unwell* from severe & obstinate diarrhoea, that continued 4 days, so that I was obliged to see Dr. & take med.—it left me *very weak!*⁸

Now, given that Colenso was spending three quarters of his time in Napier, it is striking that three quarters of these episodes happened in Dannevirke. Colenso stayed in Baddeley’s Railway Hotel when he was in Dannevirke, run by Mrs Baddeley and later managed by Scrimgeour (partner of Gow of the Tavistock, Waipukurau).

Colenso wrote in his diary (August 1894), “Taken suddenly unwell at IV. a.m. & had a sad time of it! *Severe Diarrhæa*, much as before (on 2 occasions) when last here.”

Henry Hill must also have stayed there on his rounds of school inspection and must have commented disparagingly on Mrs Baddeley's cooking, for Colenso replied to him,

I go with you in your remarks on Baddeley's *cuisine*—always low, *bad!* *many* have been my remarks to *her* (it being her own doings): and I had long ago determined that, If I resided there again for a lengthened period, as before, I would order my own butcher's meat. Hence, too, it was, that I managed, now & then, to have a fowl to *myself*—which, however, was always to last *six* meals! to the——of Robertshawe.⁹ I was *against* Scrimgeour going thither: B. *cannot* afford to *lose* customers in these times....¹⁰

That must be a pretty good clue about the cause of Colenso's recurrent diarrhoea in Dannevirke. Mind you, he had this to say (to Harding) of Mrs Anderson, his Napier housekeeper,

Again: your remarks are excellent, because truthful natural, re my sticking to my "home" and "fitting all surroundings to me", &c. (as you too, are enabled to do) but now and for 2–3 years I have another important factor to deal with—loss of teeth, so that I am driven to soft foods—a bit of stewed mutton or its soup, every day, w. sardines &c. (not liking eggs), and my appetite, though good, dislikes the sameness, &c. I have been to Wilson several times re set of teeth, he has thrown it up! unless I consent to extraction of several low stumps in both jaws, which are firmly set. I could not endure the pain; W. proposes "Chloroform",—"NO, not at my age": and so it ends. Were I at hotel, or good kind thoughtful Housekpr. all would be

well enough—Tapioca, Rice, A-Root, C-flour puddings &c, &c. would suit me well—but I must not think of such things. While Mary A. makes such commonly for her son John. But I must stop this: you cannot form a correct notion of what I have, in such simple matters! submitted to. Hence it was, that I formerly made such long stays in Country Hotels (change in diet), and never called this house—"Home"!!! (It may however, alter yet for the better.)¹¹

References

1. Colenso to Coupland Harding from Dannevirke 7 July 1897.
2. Colenso to Harding from Dannevirke 30 May 1894.
3. Colenso to Andrew Luff from Napier 1 March 1878.
4. Colenso to Luff from Napier 28 June 1876.
5. Colenso to Harding from Dannevirke 1 December 1890.
6. Colenso to Harding from Dannevirke 25 March 1891.
7. Colenso to Harding from Dannevirke 20 February 1894.
8. Colenso to Harding from Dannevirke 2 March 1894.
9. Elsewhere Colenso hints that Rev. Robertshawe was obese.
10. Colenso to Henry Hill 15 November 1895.
11. Colenso to Harding 15 January 1896. It did "alter for the better" as Mary Anderson took a trip home to England.





THE ORIGINAL OR PARENT NON-POISONOUS DIP.

is free from the Danger and Injurious Effects of Poisoned Dressings. It is a True Specific for Scab, Kite, and other diseases which affect all kinds of Animals. Heals all Sores and Wounds. Finely stimulates the Growth of the Wool. Whilst its action in destroying Insects is more certain than poisons it does not act by POISONING, but has the effect of regulating or solidifying the Insects so that they instantly cease to breathe.

For Sale by HAWKES BAY FARMERS' CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED. 388



THOMAS' SHEEP DIP is the best in the market. It kills all Ticks and Lice, and improves the condition of the Wool.

At the test of Dips held under the auspices of the

HAWKES BAY AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL SOCIETY

THOMAS' DIP gained most points of any, and the Judge reported that "THOMAS' DIP leaves the Wool in the most perfect condition, as soft and lustrous as silk."

The Best is the Cheapest in the end, and THOMAS' DIP is the best and the most lasting, and gives good effects.

The first of the season's supply of this Dip is fully manufactured and packed in various sizes to suit purchasers, has just been received by the undersigned.

HARMOOD A. BANNER, SOLE AGENT FOR HAWKES BAY. 32

IMPORTANT.

MURTON'S SHEEP-DIPPING SPECIFICS.

will attend there in future on TUESDAYS and FRIDAYS, and her Napier Studio on the alternate days. 7

WANTED KNOWN - I am a Purchaser of New Potatoes in any quantity for Cash. Will take delivery **JAMES MAGILL, Miller street Napier**

For Sale

FOR SALE

WILLIAM COLENZO: THE COMPLETE WORKS. CDs of Colenso's letters, early journals, letters to editors, published papers and letters and plant lists to Kew, are available now.

Published by the Colenso Society. Apply to **I.M. ST GEORGE** istge@yahoo.co.nz

KORONEHO—JOYFUL NEWS OUT OF THE NEW FOUND WORLD by LEICESTER KYLE. His book-length poem about the botanical discoveries of Rev. William Colenso.

Published by the Leicester Kyle Literary Estate and the Colenso Society. Apply to **I.M. ST GEORGE** istge@yahoo.co.nz

DR COLENZO I PRESUME? An essay on midnineteenth century missionary medicine in New Zealand.

Published by the Colenso Society. Apply to **I.M. ST GEORGE** istge@yahoo.co.nz

Wanted Known

WANTED KNOWN - THE SECOND COLENZO CONFERENCE will be held in Napier on 18 to 20 November 2016. Mark it in your diary now.

CARNELL'S FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO (Van Der Weyde Patent), SHAKESPEARE ROAD, NEAR POST OFFICE, NAPIER.

Awarded First and Second Orders of Merit at Melbourne Exhibition.

[ESTABLISHED 33 YEARS.]

Cabinet Photos,

NEW GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

THIS SEASON I have made extensive preparations for Holiday trade and have to report arrival recently of

- 14 CASES EX RUAPEHU
- 15 CASES EX TAINUI
- 13 CASES EX MAMARI
- 2 CASES EX KAIKOURA
- 10 CASES RECEIVED SINCE NOVEMBER 14TH.

Special Values in Hosiery, Gloves, Sunsh Umbrellas, Ribbons, Laces, Embroid Handkerchiefs, Prints, and Wash Fabrics.

Large Quantities Embroidered Chiffon, in designs, Ladies' Corsets, Dressing Jackets and Gowns, Mantles, Dust Cloaks, Jackets.

Layette, complete set, 15s 6d to 50s.

Ladies' Ready-made Costumes in Latest Designs for 20s and upwards.

DRESSMAKING UNDER CAPABLE MANAGEMENT. Prices for Making from 8s 6d.

TRIMMED MILLINERY A SPECIALTY. See Windows for Samples.

Pleno Hats from 6d Straw and Lace Hats in immense variety.

THE MEN'S DEPARTMENT IS FULLY STOCKED.

Braces, Shirts, Collars, Scarfs, Pugarees, Bathing Drawers, &c.

Splendid Assortment Ready-made Cloth Good Cut and Style, and Newest Designs in Tweeds.

Boys' Jersey, Washing, and Tweed Suits Variety.

JAMES P. THOMSON DRAFTER AND OUTFITTER.

SPENCE & CO. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL STOREKEEPERS AND IMPORTERS CARLYLE STREET.

IN order to meet the requirements of our rapidly-increasing business have erected

MORE COMMODIOUS PREMISES which will be

OPENED FOR BUSINESS ON SATURDAY, 17TH DECEMBER.

With an Almost Entirely Fresh Stock GROCERIES, CRO. KERYWARE, &c.

All of Best Quality, Which we are prepared to sell at Very Low Prices for Cash.

INSPECTION INVITED.

We beg to apologise to our Customers any inconvenience during our alterations

Colenso and Hector

THE annual general meeting of the Hawke's Bay Philosophical Institute took place yesterday afternoon, and was largely attended. The meeting was remarkable from it being the last at which Mr W. Colenso will be present as the chief executive officer of the society. His retirement cannot but mark an epoch in the history of the Institute. Owing its origin mainly to his exertions, built up and sustained by the deep interest that he has taken in the scientific objects of the society, and by his unwearied services, his resignation of the secretaryship, it must be feared, will be a serious blow to its further advancement. For the last ten years he has been the life and soul of the Institute, and but for him it is very doubtful whether the Hawke's Bay branch would ever have contributed its quota of scientific investigation to the New Zealand Institute. The difficulty of finding a worthy successor to Mr Colenso was fully realised at the meeting, and repeated efforts were made to induce him to withdraw his resignation. He appeared, however, to have made up his mind to retire, and eventually Mr A. Hamilton, of Petane, was elected in his stead. The reasons advanced by Mr Colenso for his resignation did not strike his hearers as being very cogent, but there may have been other causes for such a step that he did not choose to make public. His chief reason was that, engaged as he was in literary pursuits in the cause of science, he could ill spare the time to duties which had not been rendered the lighter or the pleasanter by the relations in which he stood with the director of the New Zealand Institute. Mr Colenso bitterly complained of the neglect shown by Dr Hector to his correspondence, eighteen letters producing only two official communications. Again, the rejection by the Institute of three of the papers written by Mr Colenso on subjects with which no one living can speak with so much authority was an act that could not be forgiven, and we think was accepted by him as an intentional slight. Well might Mr Colenso ask who were they at Wellington to judge whether his papers on Maori nomenclature and traditions were worthy of being included in the transactions of the New Zealand Institute? On those subjects he writes *ex cathedra*, and it certainly was presumption on the part of the committee at Wellington to put

those papers on one side as though they were of inferior merit. As it happened, the papers in question were given to the public at the solicitation of Mr Colenso's friends, and of others interested in the matter treated upon, but it was at his own expense. Curiously enough the rules of the Hawke's Bay branch did not include one giving power to the society to publish papers read before it. This omission was notified at the meeting yesterday, and a rule adopted similar to that of the Auckland and Wellington branches. It was rather thought that by the adoption of this rule Mr Colenso would have consented to allow himself to be re-elected to office; but, though he pointed out how difficult it would be to find a person in every way competent to undertake the duties of secretary, he resolutely declined the appointment for himself. The office of secretary to such a society necessarily demands peculiar qualifications, and we have no hesitation in saying that they are not possessed by any one in Hawke's Bay to such a happy degree as by Mr Colenso. We may well say that his retirement leaves the society poor indeed.

The Daily Telegraph.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1884.

This reports Colenso's account of his struggle with James Hector to have his papers published in the *Transactions*. His letters of the period are rife with angry comments about Hector and the Board of the Institute, with strong suggestions of their perceived bias towards publishing the work of their own friends and ignoring Colenso's better quality writing.

There is also a hint in this *Daily Telegraph* editorial of the Wellington-Hawke's Bay rivalry of 25 years earlier—and of (justifiable?) small-town paranoia.

As for Colenso, he eventually accepted nomination and became President of the HBPI in March 1885.

Shock cure sparked by electric power

On 30 November 1886 William Colenso wrote to David Balfour,

I am pretty (or *very*) well again. A great change with me, for the better took place on Sunday last, & yesterday; *Electricity* clinched the nail. I have for 50 years been a great believer in electricity,—& am of the opinion, that future ages will make wondrous uses of it, & also find it a *great curative* power.

On 13 January 1891 he wrote to Coupland Harding,

I have *lots* to do, and daily get on (with my *pie!*) not, withstanding Rheum. which comes & goes! It was *severe* last Thursday–Saty., & made me to fear for Sunday—but it was very much less then, & *not at all* while in Ch(urch). I have a letter *re* Electropathic belt on its way.

REMARKABLE Cures effected by Electricity—Rheumatism, Sciatica, Indigestion, Nervous Weakness, etc. Electropathic Rooms, Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Albert-street.—W. Crosher, Electrician.

Although it was advertised from Auckland, apparently Latimer in England had recommended the Electropathic belt, for Colenso wrote on 3 September 1893 to Wiremu,

I have very little Rheum. now... I am marvellously better than I was this time last year, & yet I was then inland *working!* GOD has been, & *is!* good to me. Lat's. Rheumatic "Electric Belt" (which I ordered & pd. for) & your Medicine so kindly sent,—are still *unopened!*

It is perhaps as well he had not tried the Electropathic belt, or he may have attributed the improvement in his pain to its effects. The belt had been developed by a Dr Scott, but was soon in the hands

of a Mr Harness. Electricity was something new and strange to the general public at the time, and was seized upon in many ways for commercial and therapeutic purposes. Harness' Electropathic Belts were supposed to generate "new life and vigor ... for weak men, for delicate women" as well as cure "nervousness, debility, sleeplessness, rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, torpid liver, organic weakness and kindred ailments".¹

They did very well indeed, a gullible public flocking to the fashionable Oxford St premises of the Medical Battery Company. They poured profits into expensive advertising—just look up Google images of "electropathic belt".

ALL IN SEARCH OF HEALTH
Should Wear Harness'
**"ELECTROPATHIC"
BELT.**

FOR SUFFERING
MEN &
WOMEN

FOR NERVOUS EXHAUSTION,
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, INDIGESTION,
SLEEPLESSNESS, LADIES' AILMENTS &c.
IT IMPARTS NEW LIFE AND VIGOUR.

NOTE THE ADDRESS
THE MEDICAL BATTERY CO. LTD.
52, OXFORD ST. LONDON, W.
(Corner of Rathbone Place.)

Dampeners
Also
Consultations
FREE.

ALL IN SEARCH OF HEALTH.

Should
Wear

HARNESS

FOR WEAK MEN



FOR DELICATE WOMEN



ELECTROPATHIC BELTS

Scientifically

Constructed

**FOR
NEW LIFE
AND
VIGOR**



PAMPHLETS
AND
CONSULTATIONS FREE
AT THE

ELECTROPATHIC & ZANDER INSTITUTE
52 OXFORD ST. LONDON W.



M^r. C.B. HARNESS.
PRESIDENT

WEAKNESS OVERCOME

**HARNESS
ELECTROPATHIC
BELT**

HEALTH RESTORED AND **WITHOUT PHYSIC.**
EVERY MAN AND WOMAN SUFFERING FROM
Nervousness, Debility, Sleeplessness, Rheumatism, Sciatica,
Lumbago, Torpid Liver, Organic Weakness, and Kindred Affections,
Should call or write at once for particulars. Note only Address—
THE MEDICAL BATTERY CO^Y LTD.

**A
BOON TO
SUFFERERS**

52. OXFORD ST. LONDON W.

But it was all chicanery, of course. The *Poverty Bay Herald* relayed this,

QUACK REMEDIES.
THE PALL MALL'S NEW CRUSADE
ATTACK ON HARNESSES
"ELECTROPATHIC" BELTS

(DUNEDIN STAR.)

London, Oct. 20.—The most sensational crusade yet attempted by the *Pall Mall Gazette* under Mr Cust's editorship was commenced yesterday, when that journal opened out a tremendous attack against Harness's electropathic remedies, already partially exposed by Science Siftings, which won a big libel brought against them by the quack medico.

Besides this article (appended) the *Pall Mall Gazette* contains a leader which concludes with a strong appeal to the Press not to consent to be further bribed by "the man Harness." His last request was for a "free editorial." The *Pall Mall Gazette* has granted it.

The article is signed "By One Who Knows the Ins and Outs of the Electropathic Swindle." He says:—

METHODS AND VICTIMS OF THE SWINDLE

On Monday last the papers, with a few notable exceptions, contained an inflated announcement of the issue of £55,000 worth of new preference shares in the Medical Battery Company, Limited. Before these shares are taken up, and at all events before they are allotted, I hope to have put forward sufficient reasons for the suppression of that notorious company to keep would-be subscribers from doing anything which could possibly tend to support it. The Medical Battery Company has for years past been fattening on a system of fraud and imposture which is absolutely unequalled in the annals of swindling. How it has existed so long, and why the Public Prosecutor has not intervened to protect the poor and innocent against its merciless rapacity, is a standing source of amazement to those who are not so blinded by the glowing testimonials and the language of paid advertisements as to miss behind

them all the misery and the mockery of its victims.

This I happened to have seen, and something of it, by good luck, I can at last let others see also. Before anything more is done to keep this fraud alive, and while the impudent demand for funds is still before the public, I will unfold a few of the mysteries which underlie that pretentious establishment in Oxford street presided over by C. B. Harness.

It is to the poor, the ignorant, the suffering; to the credulous and gullible of both sexes; to the weak, the weary, and the overworked; to those who from pain or long illness are ready to catch at any straw for relief; to all, in fact, who are likely to be attracted and duped by

THE HARNESSES ADVERTISEMENTS
these articles are specially addressed.

For I intend to show, and I have reams of evidence to prove, that the Harness "electropathic" treatment, which is so largely advertised and puffed, is nothing better than a cruel fraud; that Harness himself is a man of no pretensions whatever to scientific or medical knowledge, but is a common, illiterate, and unscrupulous charlatan; that the so-called electropathic belt is a swindling appliance, without any electrical virtue whatever; that it is sold for more guineas than it is worth shillings; that Harness issues disgusting pamphlets, teeming with lies, to catch both men and women; that his testimonials are worthless; that he has been exposed most completely in the law courts, and that the reports were suppressed on account of his advertisements; that he has shown that he would rather pay any money than go into a witness box; that his patients are hoaxed by bogus experiments and fraudulent representations; that his whole object is to get money out of them; that he preys on the ignorant poor, whom any other rogue would scorn to rob, and resorts to trickery of the meanest and basest sort to make them pay.

All this I say, and much more I intend to say, with the full consciousness that every word of it can be proved up to the hilt, and that Harness knows it can. Throughout

the length and breadth of the land there are poor duped victims crying out for compensation against this monstrous and insidious quack, who has cozened them of their money and often of their health as well. For the Harness belt not only does not cure; in many cases it has positively injured. Men and women suffering from internal and dangerous complaints, from strains, ruptures, and even incurable diseases, go to him, knowing nothing of their state, in the faith that he will cure them. They believe it because he says so. They see in respectable papers fulsome editorial notices to the same effect, with glowing testimonials of reputed cures; everywhere they encounter the name of this self-styled "Eminent Consulting Medical Electrician." And when they have sought him what do they find?

Not the "Eminent" himself, we may be sure. He is seldom or never seen. An assistant takes his name and place, sums up the visitor's appearance, gets as near inquiring his income as he can, and proceeds to drive a profitable bargain. What was a two guinea belt to a threadbare sufferer becomes a five and even an eight-guinea belt to one of luxurious habit. It is no question of value. The value is simply a few shillings; the cost of extra "discs" a few pence.

THE PRICE IS WHAT THEY CAN GET. For the Medical Battery Company (to use a synonym for Harness, his wife, and some others, mostly dummies) is established and worked on the "commission system." The assistants are paid low salaries and make what they can out of sales. I got £50 out of one customer this morning," boasted a shopman to his fellows and that is by no means an unusual sum. In fact, I can prove at least one case where the victim, an incurable, was bled to the tune of £100, and when the cure did not work another £100 was calmly demanded. There is no limit whatever.

A gentleman of some standing called to complain of general debility

and lack of vigor. He was ushered into a room with three individuals, to whom he stated his case. After much pressure he agreed to purchase a belt and a battery for £30, and sat down to write a cheque at the table. I may say that there is always something special about a well dressed man's case which requires a strong—that is, a more expensive—appliance. Before signing his name, he stopped and said that as it was a large sum he preferred to wait a day and think over it. Now, I challenge Harness to deny my story when I say that that man was unable to make his escape until he had

BOUGHT A BELT FOR THE SUM OF FIVE GUINEAS!

He was feeble and ill at the time, and incapable of resistance.

What will Harness say also, I wonder, in reply to a charge that after professing to have torn up an unwilling customer's cheque before his eyes he was found to have cashed it. The customer's name begins with L, and the money was returned in response to a lawyer's letter. These facts may refresh Mr Harness's memory, excepting that the immense amount of money he has had to refund in answer to lawyer's letters may possibly cause confusion. There is a certain young nobleman, for instance, to whom he restored the greater portion of £300, obtained under the grossest false pretence. For reasons of decency I cannot quote this case in full, but it is well known to those who are interested in Mr Harness.

There is one point in connection with this and other cases that should not be missed. As they are of a private, and often unpleasant nature, the quack can rely, as a rule, upon not being molested afterwards by his dupes. I will not call this blackmail but there is no doubt, especially as he tries when possible to get written statements from his victims, that if not blackmail it is a very powerful weapon of offence. A smart solicitor has, however, little difficulty in mak-

ing him disgorge by a threat of further proceedings.

Of this the following case is also an example. The Marquis of A—'s footman was persuaded by Harness that he was suffering from varicocele and rupture, and paid five guineas for a belt. He was recommended also three weeks' rest, which caused him to lose his place. On being afterwards examined by two well-known London doctors, who are prepared to verify this statement, he was found not to be suffering from these ailments at all. A solicitor's letter, inspired by one of the doctors, brought back the five guineas and substantial damages by return of post.

I could multiply these instances *ad libitum* from the facts in my possession, but I trust the hint I have given will be sufficient.

In the case of the poor, if the victim can be persuaded to spend as much as five guineas upon a belt, he is allowed to pay down all he can and give an IOU for the rest. He then departs, and after wearing the belt for some time finds, probably, that it does no good, but may even cause violent inflammatory sores. He writes to complain and is told to persevere, or his letter is ignored. If he continues to write he receives a reply which, so far as I have seen from the letters in my possession, is invariable. He is told that the belt will be exchanged for a stronger one, the exchange being, of course, accompanied by an additional charge, dependent on how much the poor fellow is likely to stand. Then he is dunned for the money; and here again recourse must be had to some device to suit the peculiar circumstances of the case. So he is served with a printed document, framed in official-looking language, on official blue paper, obviously designed and intended to look like

A BOGUS COUNTY COURT SUMMONS.

An uneducated, simple person receiving one of these does not know that it is merely a dunning application, but sees in the blue paper and the phraseology all the mysterious terrors of the law. Once more I ask is such a sham consistent with the

benevolent professions of this arch-hypocrite, or even with common honest practice?

It may be wondered now poor people can let themselves be gulled into paying large sums they know they cannot afford. A word on this point may be added. Like the Oriental dealer, Harness—and in that name I include Harness's men, who are indiscriminately palmed off at times as the "great specialist"—begins by demanding a sum which he cannot hope the victim to pay. If he does, so much the better but if he shows confusion and begins to cry off, he is soothed with the assurance "that that is our usual price, but as you are a poor man or a young man, or a sick man, or an old man, or some other kind of man (I have letters giving many various reasons for the magnanimity) we will let you have it at cost price," cost price being just what the cunning salesman thinks his customer is likely to pay. Sometimes, if one reduction does not succeed, a second, with some still more special reason, is tried. I have original correspondence to prove this.

This is how the poor are abused and robbed, and it is a scandalous shame to permit it. No fry are too small to be gulped at. Servant girls, city clerks, petty tradesmen, laborers, common soldiers, and country folk of every degree of poverty succumb to the insidious wiles of this greedy extortioner, and repent when it is too late and when they find they have been swindled. They are drawn by that mysterious word "electricity" as moths to a candle, and they come away singed in like manner. It is easier to save a wise man from his doom than a fool from his folly. *Populus vult decipi decipiatur*² is a very old saying and a very true one so long as there are simple country folk to prey upon, the law of supply and demand will provide a preyer. But when the preyer seeks his victims among those whom every consideration of humanity should lead us to respect, it is time to own that a natural law may be carried too far.

So long as he cheats the rich, Harness is but one contemptible atom in a contemptible system; it is the blood of his poorer victims that cries out for action. And action has been taken, not by the State Prosecutor, as it should have been, but by disinterested and philanthropic persons, whose efforts, for reasons which I will explain, have been hitherto futile. The chief of these reasons is—and we must consider it a disgrace to the Press of a civilised country—that the enormous sums spent in advertising by this quack have proved too great a temptation for the majority of newspapers to resist. In consideration for this truly “filthy” lucre, they have stifled his exposures and puffed his wares, opening their columns to what some at least must have known were lying and fraudulent representations. It is thus that quackery is kept alive. Money wrung from one unfortunate is used to gull two others and the medium for this traffic is the noble British Press. The technical Press, to its credit, has throughout taken a strong line against such frauds and too much praise, in especial, cannot be awarded to the ‘Electrical Review,’ which, in conjunction with a little paper called ‘Science Siftings,’ was the means of bringing about the most complete and thorough exposure which Harness has yet sustained.

[Similar advertising is mounted today for vitamin and other supplements—but where is today’s equivalent of the Pall Mall Gazette?—Ed.]

References

1. <http://www.wellcomecollection.org/explore/sickness--health/topics/tonics-and-curatives/images.aspx?view=electricity-based-therapy>
2. 15 December 1893, p.3.
3. “The people want to be deceived: let them be deceived.” (attr. Petronius).

**GAIETY THEATRE, NAPIER
TO-NIGHT,
AND EVERY EVENING THIS
WEEK ONLY.**

ADMISSION FREE, NO COLLECTION
Orchestra in Attendance.

Doors open 7.30 p.m., commencing at 8
Children and Boys not admitted.

Private Patients Treated until October 4
PROFESSOR “RICHARD,” M.E.,
The World-Famed Pre-Eminent Medical
Electrician.

Protected by Government Letters Patent.
**MEDICAL ELECTRIC
DEMONSTRATION.**

SENSATIONAL.—Treating the
Halt, Lame, Deaf, &c., in full
view of the audience.

SPECIALIST FOR BOTH SEXES.

Paralysis, Rheumatism, Spinal Affec-
tions, Locomotorax, Hysteria, Loss
of Speech, Eyesight, Deafness, Liver
Torpidity, Dyspepsia, Cramp, Varicose
Veins, Nervous Debility, & neuralgia.



Convulsions, St. Vitus's Dance, Epilepsy,
Hemiplegia, Stomach Dis-
tension, Local Weakness, men suffering
from the results of Indiscretions
and Follies, &c.

Sleeplessness, Impaired Vitality.

NOTICE TO PATIENTS.—Professor
RICHARD, M.E., may now be con-
sulted Free of Charge from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in
his private consulting rooms, Gaiety Theatre
during his short season here. Fees moderate
for a course of private treatment until
October 4th.

GAIETY THEATRE.

SUNDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 24,
At 8 o'clock.

LECTURE, “Battle of Life,” by Pro-
fessor Richard, M.E. Admission
FREE. No Collection.

▲ The Napier Daily Telegraph had its own shockers—this from 21 September 1893.

Stammering

Colenso wrote of his Paihia days in his "Autobiography,"

Here I may mention 4 chief heads of *unceasing agonising* prayers with me in those days, not all however at one time:—1. To know the Maori tongue that I might be able to read and speak it fluently and to preach to them in it, for I suffered much (and before I left home) from nervous stammering....*

Those who stammer in their native tongue usually also do so in newly acquired languages. Not so, luckily, for Colenso, whose stammering improved and whose preaching thus became fluent, as Bagnall and Petersen related,

He had overcome the distressing habit of stammering which previously had caused him to dread the approach of the Sabbath, and had achieved fluency of speech in the native language which, contrary to Wade's prediction, he had acquired with ease.

Indeed, in his journals of that period Colenso would write that his Sunday sermon was "blessed" or "strengthened", perhaps referring to that fluency—an answer to his unceasing agonising prayers? or was it the outcome of some assistance from the medical self-help literature?

Among the entries in a book list in Colenso's 1834 London diary is "Poett's Treatise on Nervous Impediment of Speech 32 Fleet Street, 2/6—S. Highly".

Perhaps the anxious young man had read this "review" carried repeatedly by *The London Morning Post* and decided to try some self-help,

A TREATISE ON NERVOUS IMPEDIMENTS IN SPEECH, with Cases of Cure, by Mr. POETT, sen. Surgeon.—Sold by S. Highley, No. 32, Fleet-street ; and W. Gilbert, 228, Regent-street. 2s. 6d. "We have read with extreme pleasure a work on Stammering, by Mr. Poett, sen. The certificates he publishes at once place him as the first practitioner in this branch of the profession."—Sunday Times. "Mr. Poett has scientifically considered the disease, and we willingly recommend his pamphlet to the consideration of all who are interested in the subject on which it treats."—Athenæum, 23d June. "Mr. Poett's medicinal treatment is approved of by the profession, and admitted to be the only rational means for eradicating that peculiar nervous affection pertaining to speech, which, being the proximate cause of those diseases, resists all elocutionary or other attempts at cure unavailing." Mr. P. visits patients, if requested, or receives them at 55, Bernard-street; and from Two until Five o'Clock at 32, Gloucester-place, Portman-square.

* The other three were to be able to sing and to complete printing the New Testament and the Prayer Book in te reo.

Joseph Henry Ayres Poett was very successful (after all he was a doctor who made house-calls for stammering?!!) and proceeded to write a bigger book, *A practical treatise on stammering*, which went into many editions and is still available: you can read it at <https://archive.org/details/apracticaltreat00poetgoog>.

A PRACTICAL TREATISE
ON
STAMMERING.
ITS
PATHOLOGY, PREDISPOSING, EXCITING,
AND PROXIMATE CAUSES,
AND ITS MOST
SUCCESSFUL MODE OF CURE,
Scientifically Explained.

BY
J. H. AYRES POETT, M.D.,
MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, L.A.S., ETC. ETC.

SECOND EDITION

LONDON:
JOHN CHURCHILL, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.
MDCCLXVIII.

Colenso family photo album: can you tell us anything about *this*?

There is a typescript in the Turnbull Library of a letter from GC Petersen to AG Bagnall, dated 3 February 1945.

Bagnall mentions holidaying at Turangi, when,

I had sufficient petrol to make one trip to Taupo and saw Hill. Unfortunately time was short and I did not have the opportunity of looking through all he had, other than Colenso items.

These were the days of postwar rationing, and in Taupo was the son of Colenso's friends Emily and Henry Hill, Harry Hill, who had inherited the Colenso papers his father bought at the time of Colenso's death.

Petersen continued,

So far as Billy is concerned, he has nothing more of consequence. There is a letter written to Henry Hill, of no special interest, and the original of a poem he wrote on his way out. It has no particular merit and as I have one or two other specimens of Billy's poetical efforts written aboard ship I don't think it worth while buying it. I got the album of photographs—very interesting. Two photos of W.C. aetat about 45 (we already have similar ones), photos of his father and mother and other members of the family (unidentified), a number of Willie as a young man and in later years, scenes of Penzance, photos of J.D. Hooker, von Haast, Bentham, etc. I shall be glad to show it to you first opportunity.

What became of that treasure?

Hobson's speech at Waitangi

THE
AUTHENTIC AND GENUINE HISTORY
OF THE
SIGNING OF THE TREATY OF WAITANGI,
NEW ZEALAND, FEBRUARY 5 AND 6, 1840:

BEING A FAITHFUL AND CIRCUMSTANTIAL, THOUGH BRIEF,
NARRATION OF EVENTS WHICH HAPPENED ON THAT
MEMORABLE OCCASION; WITH COPIES OF THE TREATY
IN ENGLISH AND MAORI, AND OF THE THREE EARLY
PROCLAMATIONS RESPECTING THE FOUNDING OF THE
COLONY.

BY
W. COLENZO, F.R.S., F.L.S. (LOND.), ETC.

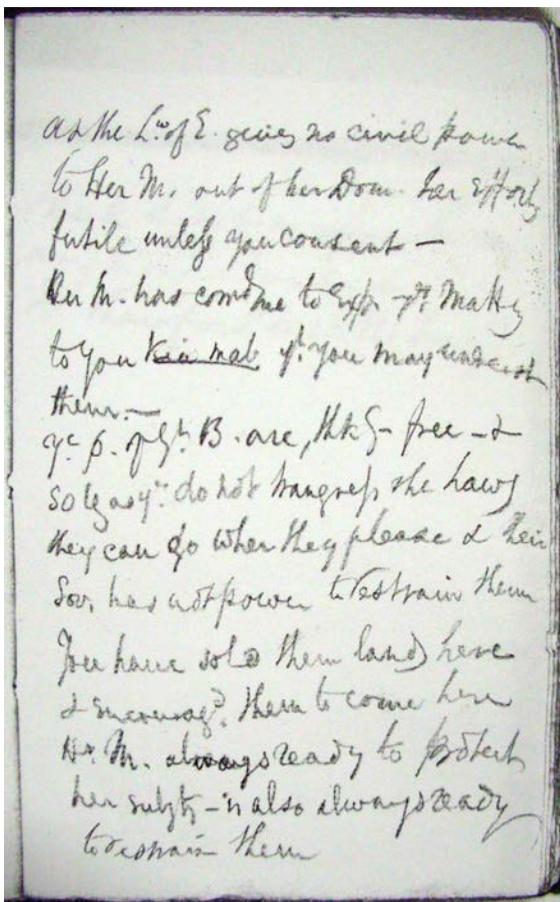
"Quisquam ipse vidi, et quorum ful."—Virg.
White Silence is truly golden, Facts speak loudly and significantly.

WELLINGTON.
BY AUTHORITY: GEORGE DIBSBURY, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.
1850.
[All rights reserved.]

Colenso was at Waitangi on 5 February 1840 when Hobson spoke to the assembly of Chiefs, missionaries, settlers, sailors and others.

Colenso must have been carrying his 1839 rough diary with him, for it is in that notebook that his pencilled record of Hobson's speech appears. The original is in the MTG Hawke's Bay collections (5970, m67/23 c, 66224. "A label affixed to the front cover of the journal reads: Sundry rough sketches of Journey to Cape Reinga & back in this Book also what Capt. Hobson said to the Natives at the Signing the Treaty at Waitangi. The booklet includes: lists of Māori words and phrases, some with English translations; sketches of landscapes and villages, some with annotations, including a sketch of Waitangi; lists of food and sundries and their costs; and diary entries dated between Wednesday 20 March - April 16.")

Fifty years later he wrote his account of those days, in his 1890 *The authentic and genuine history of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, New Zealand, February 5 and 6, 1840: being a faithful and circumstantial, though brief, narration of events which happened on that memorable occasion; with copies of the Treaty in English and Maori, and of the three early proclamations respecting the founding of the Colony.* Government Printing Office, Wellington. 42p.



◀ At left is the first page of Colenso's rough notes.

Overleaf are my transcription on the left, and Colenso's 1890 account on the right. ▶

1840

As the Lw. of E. gives no civil power to Her M. out of her Dom. her efforts futile unless you consent—

Her M. has comd. me to exp þs. matters to you þt. you may underst. them.—

Þe p. of Gt. B. are, thk G—free—& so lg. as þy do not transgress the Laws they can go when they please & their gov. has not power to restrain them.

You have sold them lands here and encouragd. them to come here

Hr. M. always ready to protect her subjts—is also always ready to restrain them.

Hr. My the Q. asks you to sign þs. Try. and so give her þt. power wch. shall enable her to restrain them.

I ask you for þs. publickly I don't go to one c. to anor—

I'll give you time to consr. the proposal I'll offer you

What I wish them to do is expressly for their own good as they will soon see by the Ty.

You yourselves have often asked the Kg. to extend his protectn.

Her My now offers them that protectn. in þs. Treaty.

I think it not necessary to say any more about it. I'll therefore rd. the Treaty.

One thing I'd ask—Do you think it better for þs country to be ruled by the Q. who has no other Int. but þrs. or those persons who come here with no other desire but to purchase lands for þmselves?

1890

Her Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, wishing to do good to the chiefs and people of New Zealand, and for the welfare of her subjects living among you, has sent me to this place as Governor.

But, as the law of England gives no civil powers to Her Majesty out of her dominions, her efforts to do you good will be futile unless you consent.

Her Majesty has commanded me to explain these matters to you, that you may understand them.

The people of Great Britain are, thank God! free; and, so long as they do not transgress the laws, they can go where they please, and their sovereign has not power to restrain them. You have sold them lands here and encouraged them to come here. Her Majesty, always ready to protect her subjects, is also always ready to restrain them.

Her Majesty the Queen asks you to sign this treaty, and so give her that power which shall enable her to restrain them.

I ask you for this publicly: I do not go from one chief to another.

I will give you time to consider of the proposal I shall now offer you. What I wish you to do is expressly for your own good, as you will soon see by the treaty.

You yourselves have often asked the King of England to extend his protection unto you. Her Majesty now offers you that protection in this treaty.

I think it not necessary to say any more about it. I will therefore read the treaty.

Letter to the editor

Stuart Park (Kerikeri) writes,

Sadly, William Colenso's note on early introductions of bees to NZ fails to identify she (yes she) who was first, before 'Bee' Cotton or James Busby. Mary Ann Bumby was the sister of Wesleyan Superintendent of Missions John Bumby and subsequently wife of Wesleyan missionary Gideon Smales. Mary Ann brought two hives of bees to Māngungu mission in the Hokianga when she arrived in March 1839. In the absence on circuit of her brother in February 1840 she was hostess to William Hobson and party when they came to Māngungu for the largest signing of the Treaty of Waitangi on 12 February 1840.

Was there honey on toast for tea?

[Thanks Stuart; reviewing our transcription of that letter I now note another error on p.14 (4); the date of Selwyn's arrival is shown as 1813: Colenso wrote 1843: Selwyn actually landed at Auckland on 30 May 1842—Ed].

The *Erebus* has been found

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-10/canada-locates-british-explorer-ship-lost-in-1846/5732292>

"I am delighted to announce that this year's Victoria Strait Expedition has solved one of Canada's greatest mysteries, with the discovery of one of the two ships belonging to the Franklin Expedition lost in 1846."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, September 9, 2014

"The remains of one of two ships used by a former governor of Tasmania on a doomed Arctic mission in 1846 have been found, Canada says.

"HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror*, led by Sir John Franklin, a former governor of Van Diemen's Land, disappeared on an expedition to find the Northwest Passage, a sea route connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans through the Arctic."

The *Erebus* and *Terror* had earlier carried the British Antarctic Expedition under James Clarke Ross, and aboard the *Erebus* was the young Dr JD Hooker. They called at the Bay of Islands in 1841, shortly after the visit of Lady Jane Franklin, the wife of Sir John Franklin, who in 1845 took the two ships and 128 men to look for the Northwest Passage. Their fate has been one of the great mysteries.

The discovery of the *Erebus* is an important event for New Zealand too.



Sonar image of the *Erebus* shipwreck. The *Terror* has not been found yet.

EMBARRASSED BY THE UNFAMILIAR ATTENTION, COLENZO DECIDES...

HMM. I THINK I'LL GO TO THE NOVEMBER 2016 COLENZO CONFERENCE & SEE FOR MYSELF!!

