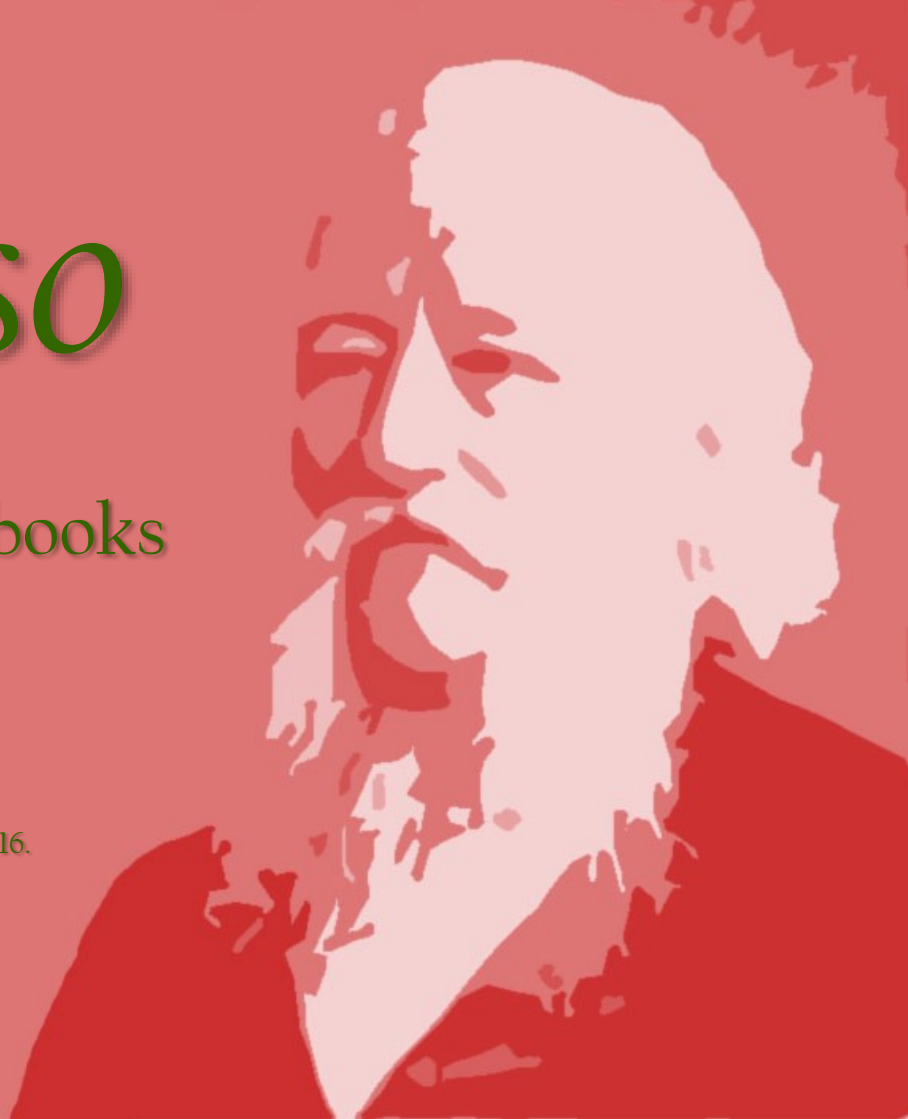


eColenso

Bush botanical notebooks
1883–1896

Supplement to Volume 7 number 10 October 2016.

ISSN 1179-8351.



Introduction

In the Te Papa collections is a set of nine “botanical notebooks” written by William Colenso. Eight of them are longhand copies of his published new plant species, neatly written hardback notebooks made for the Hawke’s Bay Philosophical Institute.

The ninth is a soft cover exercise book and is Colenso’s collecting diary for his visits to Norsewood and Matamau between December 1883 and October 1885. It is rough, personal, made for himself.

There are also diaries for the years 1889 to 1897 in the museum at Napier and these include some brief botanical jottings, mostly from Dannevirke (the railway line from Napier reached Dannevirke on 1 December 1884; his boarding house at Norsewood was destroyed in the March 1888 fire). An entry (28 May 1890) includes “Wrote up Diary!” suggesting he did make a more detailed account. Some years are of course missing.

The diaries consist of notes, largely to guide himself back to sites in the Bush District where he had found interesting plants, with plant names and a few draft descriptions. It would be good to find those sites, as some are the type localities for new plants he described. Unfortunately though, many of his names are colloquial, based on what he saw there rather than on more solid geographical features. Where were his “Loranthus (mistletoe) hill”? his “Pennantia (kaikomako) hill”? his “Bartramia (moss) creek”? his “praying-tree”? his Bridge, his Mill, his “Sunday Hill”? his “Lost-Knife Gully”? his “Antennaria-and-snail tree”?

Bruce Hamlin wrote of the packet labels of plant specimens at Te Papa that Colenso retained for himself,

A surprising number of the packets were found bearing in

addition to the “pet” locality names a reference such as “Dannevirke”, “Norsewood”, or their abbreviations “Dvk”, “Nsd”. Bundles of packets carried annotations on the outside wrapping as, for example, “Novr. /87 Hepaticae Dannevirke Nos. 891 to 915 for Kew”.... Another source of information on the “pet” locality names is the protologues of the described species. These are usually the only specimens which bear a specific epithet; in addition they frequently bear a “pet” locality name. By references to the protologues, these localities can be placed with greater accuracy.

Yet further sources are these notebooks, apparently overlooked by Hamlin: along with his letters to friends, they help place a few of Colenso’s pet localities quite nicely.

After 1893 the clearing of the bush for timber and for grazing destroyed many of Colenso’s sites, and the old naturalist was finding the going sad and difficult,

17 February 1894 (Norsewood): *grieved in seeing all the fine & romantic forests, S. of Norsewood, where I had botanized, & prayed, & rejoiced—during many years—all felled & on fire.*

24 October 1894 (Dannevirke). *Aftn. went to neighbg. forest, found all tramways blocked by trees being felled in all directions for firing! dreadful waste; over exerted myself in trying to get through & beyond them, returned worn out!*

24 May 1895 (Dannevirke). *Aftn. to my dear old spot, on high cliff on river Tapuata, looking S. over big Tahoraiti plains!—but how sadly altered!! fine forest entirely gone!!*

1 June 1896 (Dannevirke). *Aftn. walked on main S. Road, & over 2 bridges—great alterations since I was last there! all my darling Botanizing spots—new & peculiar ferns—gone!!—Trees cut down, & all burnt up.—*

Ian St George October 2016

Colenso's visits to the Bush district 1882–1898: list modified from that compiled by Bruce Hamlin *

Hamlin's list was derived from letters and specimen labels. The surviving diaries for 1883–5 and 1889–97 expand it further.

Colenso had collected, largely for Kew during his missionary years 1844–52, had resumed collecting during his School Inspector years 1872–1878 and wrote in 1882, "I am now about leaving Napier on my usual autumnal visit to the forests"—so 1882 was not his first subsequent collecting visit.

1882	
February	
November 7	Norsewood
December	Matamau
1883	
April 23	Norsewood
May 1	"tween 2 bridges"
August	Scinde Island, Napier
September 28	Matamau
October 31	Norsewood
November 6	Norsewood
December 12	Norsewood
1884	
February	Norsewood; Matamau; Whakaruatapu
March 16–31	Norsewood
April 26	Matamau
May 1	Woodville
5–6	Matamau
14	Norsewood
29	Norsewood
July 21	no locality
October 28	Norsewood
November 1–5	Norsewood;
14	Matamau
29	Norsewood

1885		
January		Norsewood & Matamau
February 1		Norsewood
March 18		Matamau
April 13, 16		Norsewood
July		Norsewood
October 24, 29		Norsewood
November 2		Norsewood
1886		
March 23		Norsewood
May		Norsewood
July 25		Dannevirke
October 26		Norsewood
1887		
January		Maraekakaho
29		Dannevirke
31		Dannevirke
February 3		Dannevirke
7		Mangatera
8–14		Dannevirke
March 3		Dannevirke
May 6, 12, 22,		
26, 30		Dannevirke
July		Napier
August 20, 21		Dannevirke
October 29–31		Dannevirke
November 7, 11		Dannevirke
1888		
February 2, 3, 7, 9,		
10, 11, 13, 24,		
25, 27		Dannevirke
March 29		Napier
March 3		"Lost Knife log"
April 19, 28; May 5,		
7–9, 12, 31; October 8, 30–31;		
November; December 2–5		
		Dannevirke
1889		
January 3, 8, 14		Dannevirke
May		Dannevirke
July 14, 16, 20, 21,		
25, 27, 28, 31		Dannevirke

August 5, 13	Dannevirke
September	Napier
October 21	Matamau?

1890	
March 21; April, May, June; August 29; September;	
October 2, 29	Dannevirke
1891	
March, April, May; September 24–28; October 21, 22	Dannevirke
1892	
January 6, 29; April 22, May 27; June 1–24, July 16; August 4; Oct.–November; December 22–24	Dannevirke
1893	
April 20; May 31; June 1	Dannevirke
1894	
February 17, May 2–24; October 24	Dannevirke
1895	
February; March 4; May 24	Dannevirke, Woodville
1896	
May; Jun 1; December 23	Dannevirke, Waipukurau
1897	
April	Wharite
May	Woodville
July	Dannevirke
1898	
April	Woodville

* St George IM. *Colenso's collections: including the unpublished work of the late Bruce Hamlin on William Colenso's New Zealand plants held at Te Papa*. NZ Native Orchid Group, Wellington, 2010.

Colenso's Bush accommodation*

Colenso stayed in hotels and boarding houses in the Seventy Mile Bush during his excursions from Napier.

Bagnall and Petersen: "He saw that the roads and villages... would give a ready approach to plant communities not studied since his last missionary tour," and that in 1882, he, "in the refound 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 or ridden through the district on his missionary duties until 1852, and as school inspector (by coach and on horseback) 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, Matamau in June 1884, Dannevirke in December 1884, Wood-

ville in 1887. It reopened the Bush villages and forests for the aging Colenso.

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

COACHES

COBB & CO'S ROYAL MAIL COACH.

MAKOTOKU 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

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 is this end of Norsewood toward Matamau that he botanised thoroughly and repeatedly.

As the flats and foothills were cleared he would take the journey to the receding bush

by gig and it was a gig smash near Woodville that nearly killed him in 1897.

Country publicans ran a risky business; many of the old country pubs soon disappeared.

Brewers and publicans had organised opposition to Seddon's 1893 Electoral Bill, which included "Womanhood Suffrage". They failed of course, and when voting by women was introduced in 1894 women, in support of a powerful teetotal movement, voted for the "local option", giving communities the ability, through licensing committees, to vote against easy access to alcohol. Many districts voted for "no-licence", though Hawke's Bay voted for "reduction". As a consequence 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 though, 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 must have accounted for the loss of many.

* Modified from St George IM (ed.). *As near conversation as possible: the collected letters of William Colenso*. Volume 2 The trader and public service years 1852–1878. The Colenso Society DVD, 2015.

MR COLENZO ON BUSH LICENSES.

Hawke's Bay Herald 10 June 1884

SIR—I am much pleased in reading your reasonable and fitting article on “Bush Licenses” in this morning's Paper; and hope what you have therein said may prove to be of timely service. Having myself had no small experience during the last 3–4 years, through boarding and lodging at various times at some of those very Licensed Houses that are now proposed to be closed, (and an ounce of fact being worth more than a pound of theory,) I cannot fairly refrain from saying a few words on the subject.

It is well-known that I occasionally visit the distant woods (70-mile-Bush), and spend some considerable time there. My sole objects in doing so, are—good health, to please myself, and (perhaps I may be allowed to say) to aid Science,—in seeking after new plants and animals, and in obtaining specimens of them and of others for the Royal Botanical Gardens and Museum, Kew, London. Now this pleasure and duty I should not be able to have were it not for those Licensed Houses.—

And here I would particularly mention the Central Hotel at Matamau,—in the very midst of 70-mile-Bush. At this Hotel I have often staid,—on some occasions a month at a time (owing to wet weather), on others a fortnight, or a week; and that, too, under both Landlords,—the first one Mr Towers, and the present one Mr Baddeley; I am a temperance man myself (not a sham one—under the Blue Ribbon or any other such like flag!) and a great disliker of drunkenness and of drunken habits; I have dwelt there as quietly and respectfully as I could have done in my own house at Napier, (insomuch that I hope

to go thither again,) and I have never seen anything to find fault with; on the contrary I have had ample proof, and that repeatedly,—that such houses, well-conducted, are real blessings, and that to all classes of the travelling community.

Indeed, it would be very unreasonable,—aye, an unjust and injurious, thing, to think of closing the new Hotel at Matamau, or of refusing a renewal of its license; seeing it was erected for the convenience of travellers and to meet a crying want, and that nothing has ever been alleged against it; and, on the other hand, its proved great and real service to the many passing travellers,—whether by coach or on horseback, with loaded drays or on foot. Such a high handed proceeding as that of a refusal to renew the License to this Hotel, would have to be met or counteracted somehow, and that immediately, by the Government, otherwise business and travelling that way would suffer materially.

To give an instance: the through Mail train leaves Napier at a very early hour, and I, in travelling, have known of several cases where passengers have been obliged to leave Napier without breakfast; on arriving at Makatoku (11.30), the popular Driver of the Mail Coach, Jones, is ready, waiting for Mails and passengers to start, and off they go! Now were it not for those two Licensed Houses on the way,—the one near the Railway Station, and the one at Matamau, where a glass of good beer and a biscuit can be always had (as well a other good drinks),—who can say what evil might not too often follow, if those half-famished passengers were obliged to travel as far as Tahoraite, where the Coach halts to change horses and to dine—say, 2.30, or 3 p.m.,—and then swallowing their breakfast-dinners hastily, being goaded on by

excess of hunger and “Coach-ready-Sir”? And then, mark, what might reasonably be expected to follow—dyspepsia, illness, death,—as in the recent case, 2 months ago, of the unfortunate Engine-cleaner at Makatoku;—through men going too long without refreshment, then eating quickly (and it may be ravenously and too much) for the weakened state of the stomach, which unhealthy state is further increased by the jolting that follows.

Thinking over this, reminds me strongly of the old Arabian proverb,—“For want of a nail the shoe was lost,” &c.; and, as it is said, the Railway line is soon to be open as far as Matamau,—and the Coach to run through to Wellington thence daily on the arrival of the train from Napier,—and then the Matamau Hotel would be the only place of refreshment on the road for early call; it seems to me both unjust and injurious to the public to think of closing the Matamau Hotel.

What is really required everywhere is the following:—

1. Good Licensed Houses with proper accommodation;
2. Good Masters and Mistresses;
3. Good unadulterated liquors.

All this I have often endeavoured to impress on several Good Templars and Teetotalers, with whom I have from time to time conversed. And these obtained true Temperance would be advanced; and other good and reasonable things would surely follow.

I could say a good deal more on this subject, but my letter being already long I forbear.—I am, &c.,

William Colenso.

Napier, June 9th.

Norsewood

Hans Peter Mortensen 1862–1846 was born in Norway; his family emigrated to New Zealand aboard the *Høvding* in 1872, and settled in Norsewood. His father Johann Fredrik opened the Mortensen Accommodation House, where the Napier to



Fernhills in Colenso's day (above)
and today (below)



Woodville coach changed horses, and where Colenso would stay when in Norsewood. The house, known as "Fernhills", burned in 1888. Colenso corresponded with Hans until the 1890s [letters in MTG Hawke's Bay], and sent presents to the Mortensen children Axel and Emmelina.*

The present house (driving north it's the first on the right after Garfield Rd) dates from 1907, and has the same shape as the original: the owner says there is an unusually high stud, and he believes the framework of the old house survived the fire and was re-used.

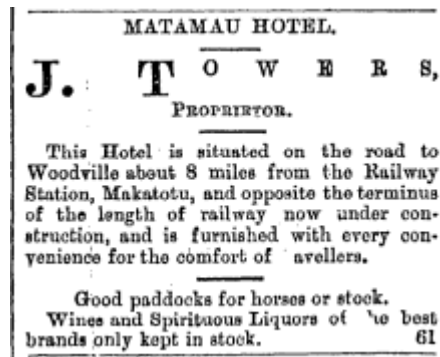
Among the neighbours was Andreas Olsen, who had bought adjoining land along Garfield road: he later collected many Ruahine specimens for Colenso.

* Ball OE. *The families of "Fernhills" and their Garfield neighbours, pioneers of Norsewood.* Feilding, 1997.

Matamau

Bagnall and Petersen wrote that Colenso "... hastened off for three weeks in the bush to be reached from Towers's Roadside Hotel, Matamau."

Colenso wrote in 1884, "And here I would particularly mention the Central Hotel at Matamau,—in the very midst of 70-mile-Bush. At this Hotel I have often staid,—On some occasions a month at a time (owing to wet weather), on others a fortnight, or a week; and that, too, under both Landlords,—the first one Mr Towers, and the present one Mr Baddeley."



Towers started the Matamau Hotel in 1881. When Matamau's importance waned as the rail extended further, Samuel Baddeley carefully pulled it down and reassembled it in Dannevirke as the Railway Hotel, in 1885. He died soon afterwards.

Dannevirke

Colenso wrote, "It so happens that I have been residing here nearly a month in the oldest hotel in the township...." And again, "I remain *here*, partly on account of its *altitude* (always enjoying better health here), partly kind motherly care & treatment from the widow-mistress of this hotel." The widow was Frances Baddeley.

A correspondent to the *Bush Advocate* wrote, "Many of your readers will regret to hear that our worthy scientist, the Rev. William Colenso, is about leaving our district

for the winter, he having pressing duties to attend to in Napier. He has been residing at Mr Baddeley's Railway Hotel for some time past, not only as a matter of choice for the unsurpassing salubrity of the locality and its bracing climate, but for its proximity to a splendid fern bush, and other notable novelties in the wild shrubbery line, amongst which in good weather he invariably took his eager walks in the interest of science."

From 1885 Charles Baddeley owned (and his brother Samuel's widow Frances managed) the Railway Hotel in Dannevirke for about ten or twelve years, when he sold out to Alexander Scrimgeour.

From the Railway Hotel Colenso walked to his favourite collecting sites, east to the Mangatawhaiti, south to the Mangatera and the Manawatu river, west to the Tapuata stream and the Tahoraiti plain.

The Railway Hotel has gone. A single-storey hotel occupies a site near the station.



NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF LICENSE.

I, CHARLES BADDELEY, of Dannevirke, being the authorised holder for the time being of a Publicans License in respect of the house and premises situate at Dannevirke, known as "The Railway Hotel," do hereby give notice that I desire to obtain, and will, at the next licensing meeting to be holden at Woodville, on the tenth day of September next, apply for a Transfer of the said License from myself to Frances Baddeley, the widow of Samuel Baddeley, the late holder of the license of the said hotel but now deceased.

Dated the 20th day of August, 1885.

CHARLES BADDELEY.

R. S. FLORENCE,

Solicitor for application, Woodville. 181au28



Detail from McDonald R. *Dannevirke: the early years*.
Self-published, Hastings c. 2003.

The Te Papa notebook

Norsewood, Decr. 12/83.

Too early for *Thelymitra*—say, 2 wks. hence.

Caladenia, sp. nov., log tops, Loranthus hill.

Small *Thelymitra*, same locality, slender, blackish-sepalled.

Gymnanthe, *Aneura*, *Hymen. demiss.*—just below the Gris-elina.

Curious *Sphaerophoron* (?) on log, scarce, green above, flattened, small size: sp. nov.?

Norsewood, Feby./84.

—Too early for *Panax microphylla*, also for *Myrtus*.—

—A tall *Panax m.* in wood below road S. of bridge (Hym. Flexm.), w. *Myrtus obcord.*, & a soft orbic. leaved *Coprosma*.

—A small *Hookeria*: large *Aneura* (sp. nov.), & *Symphoga*. 2,—one large (described), one small thin (sp. n.), & large dendroid moss *Hypopt: fil.*—"Bartramia Creek."

—Fine climbing *Gnaphalium*: cliff below Bridge.

Colenso wrote to Andrew Luff (13 December 1883) that he had left Napier on 6 December 1883 and "stayed a day or two at Gow's" (the Tavistock Hotel in Waipukurau) before going on to Norsewood, where he would stay at Mortensen's guest house.

Back in Napier he wrote to David Balfour (Christmas Day 1883), "I had my usual luck (!) of rain & high winds, only 1 really fine day!! that was Saturday 15th,—still, I did my best—fighting for it, & getting wet, &c, &c. I got 2–3

additional Orchids, which I hope are new,—one in particular, greatly pleases me, from the fact of my not having seen one for more than 40 years. It is a *Caladenia*, & a rare beauty, though, apparently, closely allied to N.S.W. species. I came upon it unawares in a thick wood; many were growing erect (8–10in) from a rotting Moss covered log—*Fagus*. *C. minor* is pretty common in the Bay of Islands, on the open clayey fern hills, & is much smaller than this spn. Then I have also, a *Microtis*, & a *Thelymitra* (or 2?)—but I was too early for them—as, owing to the wetness & coldness of the season, everything was late!"

He would describe the orchids in 1884 as *Caladenia variegata* Col., *Microtis longifolia* Col., *Thelymitra nemoralis* Col. and *T. purpureofusca* Col.

The February 84 "bridge" is probably the nearby road bridge across the Mangatawhainui (or, as Colenso insisted, more properly the Mangatawhainui), a little upstream from the present SH2 bridge. The cliffs are on the true left, below the bridge. Bartramia creek probably joins from the N (see 13 April 1885).



Loranthus Hill is probably to the right (east) of the cliffs (see 14 May 1884).

Norsewood, March 16, 1884. Top Loranthus Hill, nr. praying-tree a high dead stump, wh. Lichen at base, in front and near a stone a fine *Gastrodia* (brought stem away); a little beyond, close to Dendrobium among dead logs, another *Gastrodia*; also Dianella in fruit.

—*Carex flagellifera*, measures 7ft.2in.

" **March 25th.**—

A fine *Coprosma*, nr. wh. Fungus log, summit Sunday Hill, in ft., (nr. to *C. grandifolia*, or pt. sp.) leaves 3–6in long broadly oblong-lanceol., & obovate, very acute, pet. 1in. pedn. ft. trichot. or more as upper perl. 5-fs.,—either in a head or 3 & 2 below & lateral, ft. ellipt. oblg. or –red.—leaves finely reticulate (N.B. this) & finely crenulated margined white & slightly recurved.—

—a curious erect Fungus (*Xylarian*-like) on log near by.

—a little further on, base of Fern-tree, an elegant satiny ?*Hep.*, or *Moss*, pendulous on Mosses.

" —*Cyathophorum*—on log, nr. Elæodendron-like-shrub "Bartramia Creek,"—appy. diffg.—leaves larger, nerveless, finely serrate, &c; dorsal ones very acum., &c., perichætal leaves appy. long, slender.

—Small *Echinopogon* close by track.

—a long, filiform *Carex*, near it; rt. side old Symphogyna bank.

Norsewood, March 27/84.

Alseuosmia,—8–10in high, in wood nr. Mill, nearly opp. to, & little beyond 3 fine Rimu trees in a line & about 1 fathom apart,—in fine large fruit.

—*Hoheria*, sp. nov., edge same wood,—also, descent to Bridge: also, edge of wood, open hill, S. of Matamau several trees, abt. 20ft. high, ea. composed of sevl. (4–7) from one stock.

Colenso to Balfour 15 April 1884, "I returned from Bush on the 1st, & I hope to go thither again early next week, &, if the weather keeps fine, I shall not return to Napier for some time. The forest is my home—there I have pleasant company."

Hamlin wrote, "Loranthus Hill; Lors. Hill; Lor. Hill; Lor. Wood. Mosses 409 and 3388 are from bundles labelled 'Norsewood'." Colenso was on the top of Loranthus Hill "near praying-tree" on Sunday 16 March: could "Sunday Hill" be the same as Loranthus Hill?

—(31st.) Found 2 fine *Gastrodia* to day up in "Burdock" Wood: to the left of first open oasis beyond Antennaria-and-snail tree, (where I emerged! crawling, having entered at Parsonsia macro. & wandered.) a little way in, & growing nearly together.

—a fine *Carex*, nr. Symphogyna watercourse, just across it, to left of track: comp. w. sp. found last yr. just above bridge, nr. affluent stream.

—*Olearia*, 2 fine trees, above near Pool, ea. 20–25 feet high, & 1ft. diamr.—also, others in woods nr. Matamau.

"Burdock hill" and "Burdock Wd." are on other plant labels. Hamlin wrote, "Burdock Wood; Burd. wood; Burd. wd.; Burdock Hill. *Plagiochila suborbiculata* Col. (a. 1357) so marked is from 'dry hilly forests near Norsewood'; *Arctium lappa* Linn. is recorded (*Trans. N.Z. Inst.* 18:289. 1886) from 'a dense and unfrequented part of the Seventy-mile Bush'. *Metrosideros scandens* is labelled "W. side of top Burdock Hill Dec 24/79". Some specimen packets are labelled "Parsonsia wood" and "Parsonsia hill", which may be the same place as "Parsonsia macro" above. A specimen of *Gastrodia leucopetala* is labelled "Burdock Wd. nr. Parsonsia macrocarpa Mar 31/84", so the two sites were close to each other.

The "Mill" was probably Mortensen, Jensen & Co.'s sawmill, started in 1883, on the main road between the Garfield road corner and the Mangatawhainui stream.*

* Kitt D&T. *Norsewood, a "special settlement"*. Waipukurau, 2014).

Matamau, Apl. 26/84

A *Symphogyna*, narrow procumbent, low cliffy place, under Goat's house.

- Hydrocotyle*,—sm. glab. circ. leaf, (no fl. no ft.) on little hillocks, matting ground, heathy-plain, road up to Hoheria trees.
 - a *Panax embracing a Cyathea call.*, nr. above, P.—20ft. high: 3ft. of base of Cy. compy. surrounded partly by trunk, partly stout (1–3in.) descend. limbs, tog. abt. 10ft., both very healthy.
 - Metrosideros* nr. ditto, w. large pendant leaves (smaller leaves on other branches).
 - Ditto (like Baker's, & M. scandens) on tree, w preceding, over brook below hotel,—where beard hooked by *Uncinia*!
- " —**May 1–2.** To Woodville & bk. Great no. of *Hoheria* trees sp. nov.) in blossom by roadside mostly single trees, 12–15ft. high, fastigated.
- also, several sm-leaved shrubs (*Myrtus bullata*, &c.)—good Botanl. country.

Colenso described and drew the "*Panax embracing a Cyathea*" in 1886 (*Trans. N.Z. I.* 19: 252-259). He described the site as "high and dry woods near Matamau.... on two of those visits, having taken my portfolio with me, I attempted to take a drawing of it... such as it is, and unfinished, I bring it before you, as by it you may be the better able to know somewhat of the relative sizes and appearances of the two curiously-entwined and coalesced plants."

The story and drawing were republished in *Gardeners' Chronicle* Vol. 1, 3rd series, 28 May 1887, p.713, fig. 138. Colenso preferred this engraving to the one in the *Transactions*.

His "low cliffy place under Goat's house" cannot now be identified, but the Matamau hotel was on the main road so the "brook" below it must have been the Matamau stream. John Gilbert Baker 1834–1920 was keeper of the Herbarium at Kew.

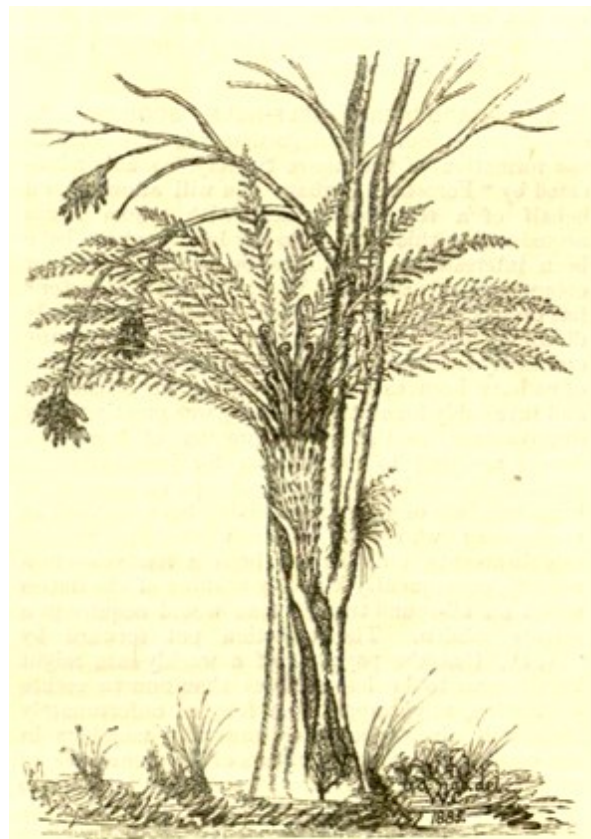


FIG. 138.—CYATHEA DEALBATA EMBRACED BY PANAX ARBOREUM.

Matamau, (May 5–6)

Galium, growing thickly, cliffy descent W. of plain, in fl. only: appy. diffg. from *G. coloratum*.

—*Leptospermum*, on hill (Sunday's rest), w. tetragl. glab. branchlets, sm. recurved leaves w red margins, and a leaf, larger, at base of branchlets; fruit (only) small: (see).

" — "Lost-Knife Creek:" —

2 *Hookeria* (sp. nov.) 1, branched, leaves entire, round at apices nerved nearly to margin, margins delicate, peduncles black flexuous shining, 2–6 on a plant (?branch): capsule ?elliptic, striate, finely papillose, calyptra very small, laciniate, apex pointed acute black

—1, H., leaves finely serrulate, ?apiculate, broadly elliptic, ? nerveless or w. a short nerve.

—2 *Symphogyna* (sp. nov.)—1, stipitate, largely flabellate, sevl. invol. on frond upper side, scale rather large, lacin. at top, stipe short; segments broad, serrulate.

—1, erect, but simple & very irregular in shape, serrulate, 2–3 invol. on midrib of frond upper surf., sometimes rooting centrally not at apex, growing in dense beds.—

Bruce Hamlin wrote, "Lost Knife Gulley; Lost Kn. Gully; Lost Knife log; Lt. Kn. Gulley. Confused. *Hookeria sciadophila* Col. (Colenso 3395, marked "Lt. Kn. Gulley" and bearing descriptive notes) is from "dark forests near Norsewood". *Symphogyna* a. 2058 reads "Lost Knife Gulley! Matamau". *Gottschea guttata* Col. (a. 1392 marked "Lost-Knife log") is from "... low woods, south of Dannevirke". Here Colenso clearly reached Lost-Knife gully from Matamau, but one does wonder just where it was he lost that knife.

Matamau, "Lost-Knife Gulley."—

—Handsome small ?*Cyathoporum*-like Moss; a sm. Fern like *Nephrodium*; & a small-size *Nephrodium*.—

— " —On Layton's Spur.

a small moss like *Entodon* (Barren)

a curious H. (?) in moss-like tufts; compact, erect, bright emerald green (barren)

—*Gahnia*, sm., lower down (ex.)

Norsewood, May 14/84.

—*Nertera*, and *Hydrocotyle*, together, side cutting, opp. Pennantia wood.

—*Aneura*, sp. nov., on logs, wood, opp. Nettle.

—*Symphogyna*, from Cliff, river side, below Bridge

—*Panax*, fruit, immature, 1 tree on top of Loranthus hill: (climbed by Axel). *P. longissimum* (vera), or sp. nov.

Hamlin wrote, "*Layton's spur; Leyton's spur*. Moss 605 is from a bundle labelled "Norsewood May/84". Layton's fence; Leighton's fence. Matamau (b. 112)" *The Bush Advocate* (Dannevirke) reported a meeting of the Hawke's Bay Rabbit Board on 13 May 1904. Inspector C. Tickner reported traces of rabbits "on A. Olsen's, Mrs Thompson's, Layton's and France's". A Mr Leighton was chair of the Matamau School Board in 1891. A JP Leighton sought tenders for "falling (*sic*) 100 acres of bush" in 1892.

The 14 May notes suggest "Pennantia Wood" was near the cutting in Garfield road; and again that "Loranthus Hill" was close to the cliffs of the true left bank of the Mangatawhainui stream below the road bridge. Axel Mortensen, Hans's 19 year old son, climbed the *Panax* tree.

Norsewood, Octr. 28th/84. In “Alseuosmia wood”
Marchantia.

Patches, 4–6 in. oblong, lobed, imbricate, papillose, monacious; lobes broad orbicular largely crenate, margins finely denticulate, & upturned; densely scaly and hairy below hairs long red-brown & radiating falcately from centre; closely adhering to mosses, &c.

1. Recept. male. circular $\frac{1}{2}$ in diamr. flat on top & tuberculate 6–8 rayed, lobes rounded broad, margins entire transparent, scaly & hairy below, ped. $\frac{1}{2}$ in high, very stout, & angular, rising from below bases deep sinuses of frond.

2. Recept. fem. smaller, convex-conical, smooth 9–11 rayed, rays long, narrow drooping sub-spathulate margins incurved densely woolly below, peduncles arising from short sinuses edge of frond, numerous broad purple-brown scales at bases.

Cups sessile, suburceolate, w. bell-mouth, largely brownish toothed; gemmæ orbicular lenticular green smooth.

Hab. woods, Norsewood.—

Hymenophyllum ?Tunbridgense (w. above)

Whole frond red-haired below on veins & nerves. Involuc. large broadly ovate, 2–3 on a pinna deeply lacinate lips, cut down to base, recept. thick exerted in age. Rhachis slightly winged above.

Hamlin wrote, “Alseuosmia wood; Alseuosm. Wd. E.g. b. 244. Not located. *Alseuosmia pusilla* Col. came from ‘... forests near Norsewood’.”

“Alseuosmia wood” must have been near the Mill and wooden tramway, for Colenso wrote to Hooker (31 December 1884), “Another great vexation was the loss of my marked new Alseuosmia in the forest! (it was well I had brought away a few living plants last season, which have done well here and are flourishing.) But those in that forest, well: when I got back, in Oct., I found the Scandinavian foresters had actually cut a tramway over and through that very bed of Alseuosmias, – not one had escaped on either side! You can guess my feelings, – I could have sat down and cried – but I’ll have another desperate search, yet.”

Colenso wrote again (21 May 1885), “The little Alseuosmia has charmed me when in fruit; such a very small shrub & bearing its large bright-red berries so conspicuously. I now find them (the berries) to contain many more seeds than I had supposed and described; so many as 16 in one, 14 in another, & so on. – Those little plants, however, are rather difficult to detect in the dark shaded woods hidden among the thick growing green ferns and wood debris (*Asplenm. bulbiferum*, *Lomaria fluviat.*, *Hymenophyllum demissum*, &c.). For a long time & after trotting many weary miles, in several days, I sought almost in vain! (in the wet, too! not over congenial for my Rheumatism.) at last I enlisted some children of the neighbouring Scandinavian settlers and through them I got a few.”

Alseuosmia is toropapa. Marchantia is a liverwort.

Hymenophyllum tunbridgense ►



Norsewood, Novr. 1/84.

a *Hymenophyllum*—in Tramwood, S. of road, (and at “Gottsche” Creek) much like my newly descrd. one,—but more flaccid, pinnae & lobes more distant, less hairy, smaller & ?plain involucres, & no scent; & does not stain on drying:—few found in ft.

a *Hydrocotyle*—green, shining, nr. to H.N.Z., (but see full descriptn) in large patches same wood.

a *Symphogyna*. stipitate, margins entire, &c. ex.

Symphogyna subsynflex (?) on F. tree (Dicks. squarr.) just above Hookeria-log, Pennantia wood, on hill side: near log. **Nov.5.**

Jany. 21/85: *Symphogyna* w. unexpanded calyptra,—

“ Dug up *Hymenophm.* for H.S. Tiffen, & sent by post.

Hookeria sp.nov., entrance of this wood.

2. Aneura, base of Cliffs, nr. *Gnaph. adherens* (see descript.)

Stellaria ?parviflora, on log ab. Gottsch. Creek—single small plant:—leaves broader than long (oblate), w. marginal veins & shorter than petioles: seeds white & plain (immature) Calyx. lobes ovate-acum.—an sp. distincta?

Jany./85. Found plentifully in wood just below tramway, &c., nr. Mill. & is likely a sp. nov.

Tramwood, Tramway, Mill—here probably refer to Mortensen’s sawmill between Garfield road and the Mangatawhainui stream and its wooden tramway across the main road and past the mill.

Hamlin wrote, “Mill. It is not always possible to distinguish which Mill is intended. ‘New Mill’ (b. 296) and other references in the lower numbers of the ‘b’ series probably refer to Norsewood as most of numbers occur amongst others from this locality. ‘Henderson’s Mill’ was at Dannevirke, but there are many specimens of cryptogams in which the single word ‘Mill’ could mean either of the above.” Or any of a number of other mills....

In fact Colenso did not revisit Dannevirke until July 1886, so references to a mill before that date probably all mean the Mortensen mill.

Henry Tiffen, Wairarapa sheep farmer in Colenso’s missionary days, became a public servant in Napier and remained a lifelong friend of Colenso’s. He grew ferns.

Hamlin wrote, “Gottschea Creek; Gottsch. Ck.; Gottsch. wood; Gottschea log. *Gottschea chlorophylla* Col. (a.1389 marked ‘Gottsch. Creek’) and *Mastigobryum polyodon* Col. (a.1405 marked ‘Gottsch. Wood’) both came from ‘... forests near Norsewood’.”

Feilding Star, 16 February 1884 ►

The Daily Telegraph, of Napier, remarks that the timber trade of this provincial district is rapidly developing itself. There are now, to the south of Napier, twelve sawmills, eleven of which are in full work, and the twelfth is nearly completed. They are situated as follows:—1 at Hampden, 1 at Waipukurau, 1 at Takapau, 1 at Papatu, 1 at Ormondville, 2 at Norsewood, 1 at Makatoku, 1 at junction of Makatoku road, 2 at Dannevirke, and 1 at Woodville. There is more genuine work done towards developing the resources of new country by the timber industry than almost any other, and it is a pleasure to note that the forest land in the Napier districts are being utilised so extensively.

Matamau, Novr. 14/84.

Marsupidium—under Redclyffe, w. big Hookeria, very vg. fruit.

Hookeria (big) in fruit, scarce.

Rubus (nr. Houheria), petals broadly oblong, stigma penicillate, calyx lobes, puberulous within, &c.

Taraxicum, below on slope, involucre leaves truncate & 3dentate

Geranium, small, calyx lobes bright red margins.

Bartramia Readeriana, from low ridge in ft., but no calypt. nor operculum.

14 November 1884: Hamlin wrote, Redclyffe; Radcliffe; Redcly. Riv. *Isotachis Mitteniana* Col. (a.1300 marked 'Ourisia slip, Redclyffe River') came from 'wet forests near Norsewood'." Colenso labelled a specimen of *Hydrocotyle elongata* A. Cunn. with "side of River under Redclyffe". He labelled a pack of liverworts "Norsewood Redclyffe 9/5/84"—when he was at Matamau ("Lost-Knife Gulley" and "Layton's Spur"). There is a Redclyffe near Taradale, but clearly that is not it. The 14 January 1885 entry suggests the banks of the Mangatawhaiiti.

1885

9 January, near Mortensen's sawmill on the main road between Garfield road and the Mangatawhainui bridge.

10th Pennantia wood, Garfield road.

12th. Loranthus hill, downstream from the Mangatawhainui stream bridge.

13th. The sawmill, main road.

14th. Redclyffe is here identified as on the banks of the Mangatawhaiiti stream, the "second river" on the road from Norsewood to Matamau.

David Balfour collected for Colenso at Glenross.

1885

Jan. 9. Norsewood:—

In wood, nr. Mill, found 4 *Gastrodia* growing near each other, 3 past flowering the 4th. nearly so—with 2–3 fair flowers on top.

10th. Visited spot in wood (above big Nettle), where I saw the fine *Gastrodias* last year, and found 3 there scarcely half grown—brought them away

12th. Visited hill top, nr. *Panax* tree & Loranthus polychroa, no *Gastrodia* there: found some fine *Astelia* beyond, & on edge of cliff: Thelymitra past flg. & very scarce; found 1, small 1-fl'd., with only 4 segments to perianth, & a ditto w 3 staminodia, the 3rd. rising in front of column, connate w. other two.

13th. In wood nr. Mill, some fine *Hepaticae*, appy. new, a *Chiloscyphus*, a *Gottschea*,* a dark green _____, & a soft woolly one,—ea. only in 1 place! & some elegant minute ones.

" also, a *Stellaria*, *sp. nov.*,—

14th. Found *Gottschea** plentifully on ground shaded low woods banks R. Mangatawhaiiti (under Redclyffe, opp. side) with Balfour's big-leaved *Mnium*; & *Astelias* on prostrate *Fagus*.

*Subsequently, Oct. 29th, went to that spot & diligently sought, but could find neither!

1885. Jany. 16. Found 1 plant, small, ?*Daucus*, down base of cliffs 1st River, nr. to spot of little Aneura, but below, cut off half of it.

—
Astelias, several on little peninsula above Bridge, & a Fern (Hymn.) that seems new in ft. Also, same wood, a *Cyathea* surrounded below by a Weinmannia: & another, w. a Weinmannia adhering to one side, & on opp. side a *Panax*—this latter largely & closely; also, 1 *Gastrodia*.

17th. A fine *Ranunculus*, erect, &c., in watercourse below Rye plot, opp. side Mortensen's Hill: 5-petal: pets. large, obovate, scale below near end of claw large jagged, calyx rough outside largely ciliate w. long hairs, reflexed,—comp. w. Eng. *auricomus*, &c.

Jany. 18th. Planted a few rootstocks of *Mentha*, at root of *Pinus* (near ft. fence.

" **19th.** N.B. This evening saw New Moon,—very fine crescent.

20th. Down "Friberg's Road,"—some nice *Hep.* from big cutting—a very sm. *Anthoceros*. &c.: from "Axel's Road"—a fine *Gottschea* in Creek—½ m. on—from W. side "F's Rd.," a ? *Groundsel*.

22. A large leaf water *Ranunculus*, in creek, road side above Mill—this differs from *R. macropus*, &c., see memo w. plant

22nd. Lizard cast skin—in fragments.

Matamau, Jany–26th.

In Whakaruatapu R., above bridge—

a linear H. (?*Symphogyna*), sp. nov. sides of stream left-hand under *Lomaria procera*—& with it other *Hepaticæ*.—Also, a fern t. (*Hemitelia*) which I think is new.

on hill, edge wood top of plain, nr. *Gaultheria* bushes,—2 *Panax* trees—(*P. longifolia*?)—look out for flrs. & ft.

16 January, "First river" (on the Norsewood/Matamau road) is the Manganui stream.

The "little peninsula above bridge" may have been the triangle formed by the junction with a creek flowing north-south.



17th. Mortensen's hill must be the rise on which Fernhills is sited.

20th. Friberg's road is Garfield road (was Makotuku road).

26th. Hamlin wrote, "Wakaruatapu (Wh. -tapu River; Wh—u Bridge; Whk—u Bridge). Whakaruatapu Stream flows west of Matamau to join the Matamau Stream to the south of the township in southern Hawke's Bay Province."

also, at Brow, looking down on bridge, a Bramble in full flower—
(Blackberries)

Girth of *Panax*, including *Cyathia*, 44in.

29th. Very near to F. tree, but above, on edge of thicket side river, 4–5 trees (!), 6–8in., *Alseuosmia*—one bearg. fruit.

29th. Again visited stream for spns. *Hemitelia*:—

Tree—height, 3.9: girth, base 2ft: at top 1.10. fronds 26–30, spreading, drooping pinnules rumped not flat (nor incurved), length 5 feet, —stipe very short —scales long, red-brown —fruit conical, large, few on segment. hairs (under scales) many, trifid, star-like, &c.

In Fagus wood, & near Fagus,—
fine spns. of *Sphaerophoron*:—2, 3, vars. (?)

Feb. 1. Saw a *Sarcochilus* on fallen Rimu, nr. Carl's.

Mem. Axel has seen *Alseuosmia* in patches.
To write to him about *Panax* flowers, if I don't come.

N.B.—2 Germ. sentences in Tyndall's address:—

“Wir müssen siegen”—“We must conquer.”

“Wir müssen unsere Pflicht thun—we must do our duty.”

—Oxford V.C. Jowett, in Lat. sp.,—referred to adm. of women to U. exn. “*quæ ad felicem exitum ducta est*.” & to the “Horton” nom. (ref'd. by Convocation)—at wh. he not surprised “*quod non miror clericis dispimisse viris*”:—(“Standard”, Oct. 10/84.)

Feb. 26th. Hans' Birth-day.

April 10/85. Emmalina's birth-d., 10 yrs. old; gave her 2/6

“ 18/85. Axel's birth-day., 19 yrs. old; gave him, 10/-

Colenso introduced blackberry from Cornwall to New Zealand, so was rather proud to find this.

29th. He is still referring to the Whakaruatapu stream. “Fagus wood” was presumably nearby.

1 February. “Corner wood opp. Carl's” is given as a location label. “Carl” is probably a reference to Karl Mortensen (b.1857, married 1878), son of Johann Fredrik Mortensen of “Fernhills”. In 1885 Karl had a store on Section 14, over the main road and north of Fernhills.

The German quotations are from Prof. John Tyndall's speech “My Schools and Schoolmasters” published in *Popular Science Monthly* Volume 26 January 1885.

Benjamin Jowett was Vice-chancellor at Oxford; residential halls for women were established in 1878 and women permitted to attend lectures; Jowett wrote, *quæ ad felicem exitum ducta est* = “which led to a successful end”. He nominated RF Horton, an unrepentant non-conformist, to be a Divinity examiner, but the nomination was voted out by the Convocation; Jowett had expected that.



*Drymoanthus
adversus:*
Colenso's
Sarcochilus of
1 February.

Emmalina and Axel were the children of Hans Mortensen (b.1862), son of Johann Fredrik Mortensen of Fernhills.

Norsewood, April, 13th., 1885.

A fine patch of *Goschea*, on log—
Bartramia wood, a little below Cyatho-
porum—? same log.—

2–3 Hookerias up in Creek—above.

a ?Dumontiera, & large Aneura, dit-
to, a little below the big tree across creek
(my terminus) showing for fruit.

Alseuosmia, in wood near to *Gastro-*
dia—

a long narrow-leaved prickly *Olearia*,
pathway top of descent to Creek W. side.

16th. Peninsular wood. *Gahnias*, a
short way up: further on a diffuse bend-
ing *Coprosma* w. purple fruit (sp. nov.) 4
–5ft. high: Hookeria's several,—one in
particular, on upper branches large fallen
tree, in a mossy swamp, was soft pros-
trate & pale yellow, not in ft.! and one—
a single sm. sp.! a little crested fellow!
like that one last yr. from “Riu” wood.

In same wood—just above *Gahnias*,
on the inland side of a large fallen tree
(extend. down to little river) & close to
it, a fine *Perei*, on large com. moss, just
above first *Perei*, on hill side & near to
Lycopodium volubile,—a new *Aneura*.

13 April. Hamlin wrote, “Bartramia
glen; Bartramia Knoll; Bartramia
peak; Bartramia Knoll; Bartramia
Creek; Barta. Creek; Bartram. Ck.;
Bart. Ck.; Ba. Ck. *Mastigobryum ele-*
gans Col. (a. 1398) is marked
‘Bartramia Knoll with Bartramia
Readeriana...’. Protologue reads ‘...
banks of River Mangatawhainui, near
Norsewood’.

The February 1884 note also suggests
proximity to the Mangatawhainui
road bridge: Bartramia creek is prob-
ably therefore the creek running
almost due south to meet the Man-
gatawhainui just above the bridge.

16th. “Peninsular wood” (variably
called “Peninsula; Peninsula wood;
Penins. wd.; Peninsular wood; pen-
inr. wood; Penr. wd.; Pen Wood.”)
probably refers to the “peninsula”
formed by the creek joining the Man-
gatawhainui upstream from the
bridge (see 16 January 1885).

Perei = *Gastrodia*.

“Riu wood”: Hamlin wrote, “Riu
wood; Riu wd. *Aneura marginata* (a.
1411 marked ‘Riu wood’) is from
‘forests near Norsewood’. The word
‘riu’ has several meanings according
to Williams, the most likely being a
basin or valley.” (see 30 October
1885)



Colenso called his new *Gastrodia G. leucopetala*, but it has
since been identified with *G. cunninghamii*.

1885, October 24th.

Remarkably fine *Gottschea* (also 2 others) in Fern-tree swamp, down side cutting of hill (Shingle-splitters' swamp), also, *Padometrium* ?sp. nov. in fruit; *Zoopsis*, ditto (my new sp.) & several *Hepaticae*; Hymenophm. ?ærginosum plentiful on fern-trees.

Further on—*Alseuosmia pusilla* in flr.; when bowed down (by fallen branch &c) it takes root (as if layered): saw 1 nearly 3ft high but long & weakly w. just same no. of leaves.

26. A pretty little moss (new to me) in only 2 sm. tufts on ground, growing among *Funaria*,—? an *Eremodon*: “leaves obov. acum., nerve largely excurrent & filif., margins entire; nerve stout, red; cells large: teeth few (?) broad, obtuse, w. line in mid, but not contd. to base, margins entire: capsule smooth oblong barrow; operculum conic, obtuse”: sm. erect, under 1in., few leaves.

29. *Ourisia*, cliffy sides of Redclyffe River: some nice *Hepaticae*: *Geniostoma*, petals villous on inside &, w. calycine lobes, ciliate. Small prost. *Gottschea*, in woods beyond—down Riv.

30. A large bushy dark green *soft* rush (*Juncus*) at swamp farther end of Riu wood (note this rush, if I come again): also, *Gymnanthe* in ft.

—in descent to Bartramia—fern tree, a small (not big bushy) plant, m. *Astelia* in fl., brot. spn., suppd. to be *A. fragrans*: fg. in ft. close to *Microg. Cunninghamii*

Novr. 2nd. In Sh. spl. wood—to left, at swamp, *Hymenophyllum Tunbridgenese*, fine, on 1 tree fern—*Gymnanthe*, * *Symphogyna*,† &c., on ground.

Ditto—to right, farther on, a low swamp very fine *Hookeria* on its edge between it & road (track) *Trichocolea* in ft., anor. *Hookeria* (like *sciadophila*) a *Hypopterygium*, & ? *Isoetecium*—a fine *Aneura* (?) imbricate, and a small curly one*—? *prehensilis*.—

* larger, w. long puberulent bag; smooth, old.

† curious w. large scales

‡ note this—in fruit, & pilose! only detected after getting back

Colenso wrote to David Balfour from Norsewood on 1 November stating he had arrived there on 23 October.

24 October. Colenso referred to “Fern-tree swamp” aka “Shingle-splitters’ swamp” “down side cutting of hill”. Elsewhere (14 May 1884, 20 January 1885) he referred to the cutting on Garfield road, probably that below Mortensen’s hill. If so, Pennantia wood was also nearby.

Hamlin wrote, “Shingle splitter’s swamp; Sh. splitter’s swamp; Sh. Spl. Swp.; S. s. swamp; Sh. Splitt. Gulley. Named specimens of *Chiloscyphus epiphyta* Col., *Lepidozia leucocarpa* Col., *Plagiochila obscura* Col., and *Tylimanthus Novae-zealandiae* Col., all marked as above; the protologues all refer to ‘wet woods near Norsewood....’

29th. “Redclyffe river”; on 14 January 1885 (q.v.) Colenso referred to Redclyffe as being on the banks of the Mangatawhaiti stream, the “second river” on the road from Norsewood to Matamau. Perhaps Redclyffe was an alternative name for the Mangatawhaiti.

30th “Riu wood”: see 16 April 1885—but here Colenso immediately descends “to Bartramia” suggesting Riu wood (swamp at further end where he found a new rush) is above Bartramia Creek/bush (see 13 April 1885).

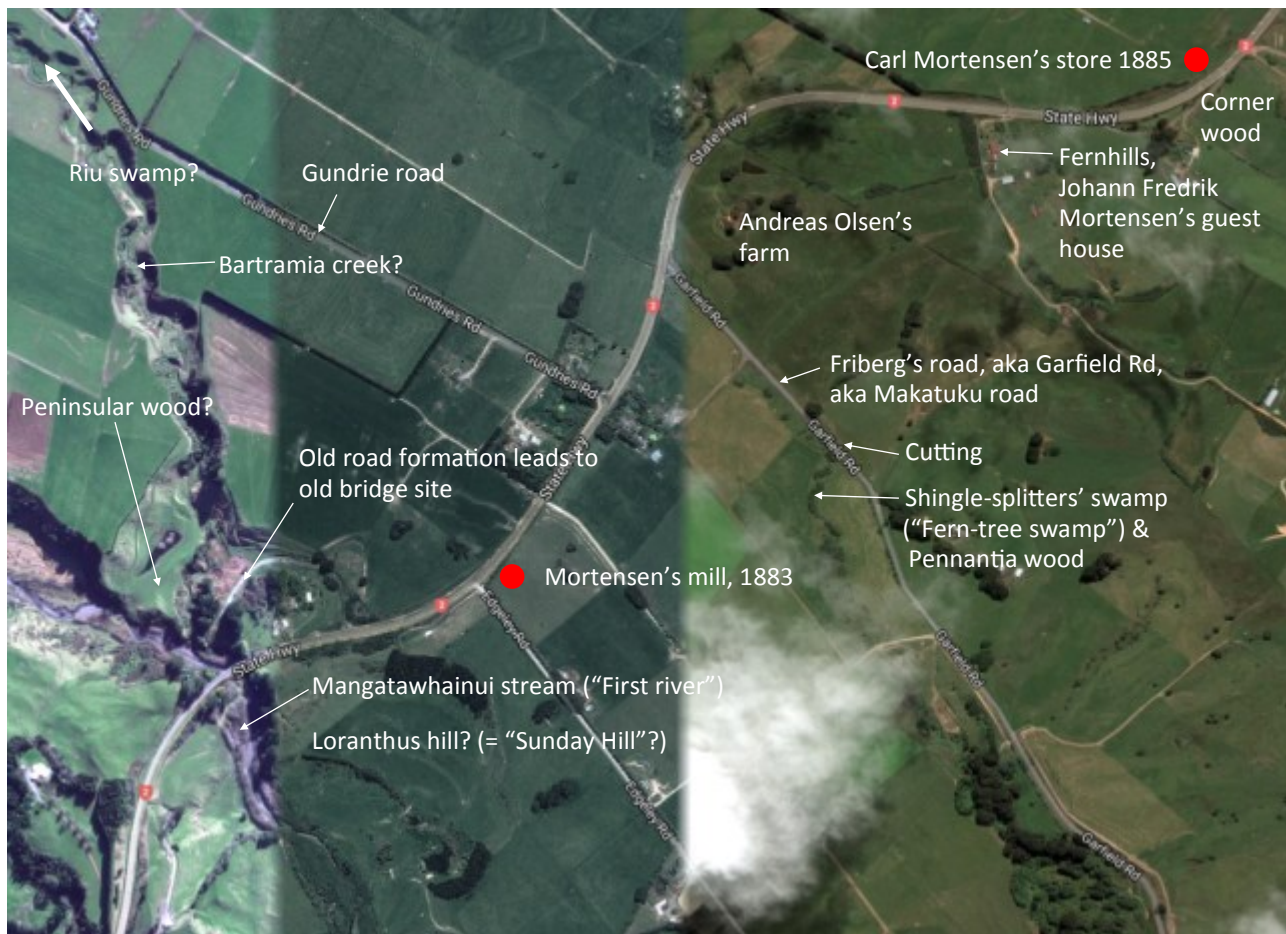
2 November. “Sh. Spl. Wood” = Shingle Splitters’ wood.



The Lutheran church at Norsewood, built in 1882, burned in 1888 ►

Some of Colenso's Norsewood sites

SH2 to Norsewood



SH2 to Matamau

19

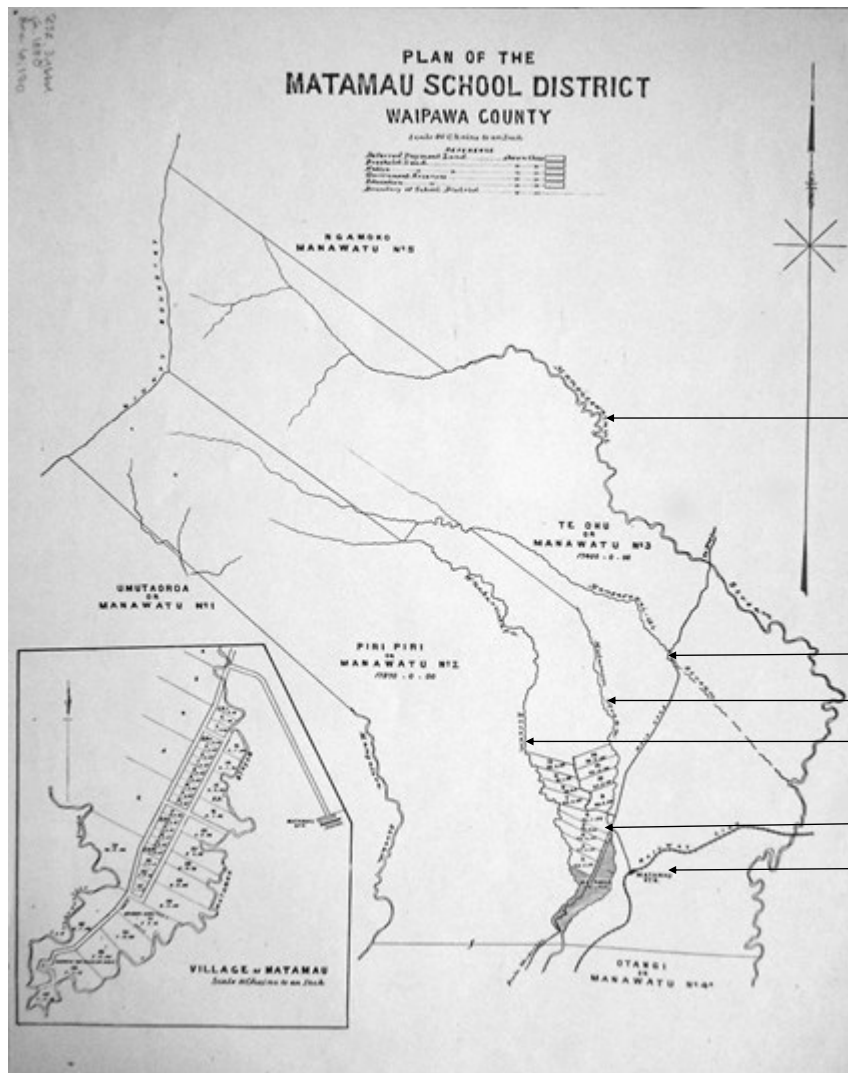
To Makotuku station

The Norsewood 1872 land ballot



Andreas Olsen bought property next to Mortensens', along Garfield road.





Matamau

Plan of the Matamau School district, Waipawa County, c. 1880. Alexander Turnbull Library. Photocopy of map loaned by Dannevirke Public Library.

Mangatawhainui stream

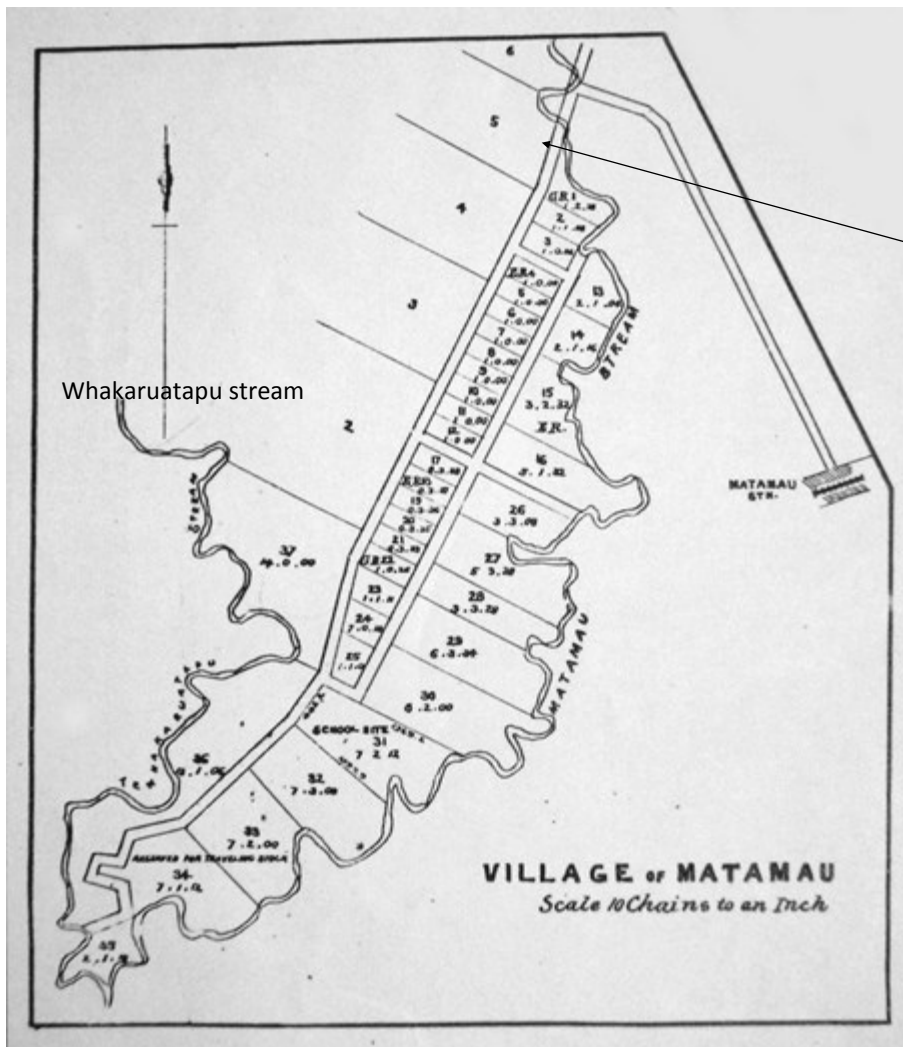
Mangatawhaiiti stream
(was "Redclyffe" about here?)

Matamau stream

Whakaruatapu stream

Towers' Central Hotel

Railway station. The line reached Matamau from Napier in June 1884 and the station building, a simple shelter shed, was finished earlier that year.



Detail from a plan of the Matamau School district, Wai-pawa County, c. 1880 (Alexander Turnbull Library. Photocopy of map loaned by Dannevirke Public Library), showing the Whakaruatapu stream to the NW and the Matamau stream to the SE of the planned town, meeting in the lower left corner.

Towers' Central Hotel was on the main road. Colenso collected a *Metrosideros* (rata) "... over brook below hotel, —where beard hooked by *Uncinia* (hook grass)!" The "brook" must have been the Matamau stream.

The Goat's house, Redclyffe, Layton's Spur, Lost-Knife Gully and other sites cannot yet be determined.



Matamau Railway Station. Auckland Weekly News 21 July 1904. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries.

Botanical extracts from the MTG Hawke's Bay diaries

1890

- 13 March.** Left by early train—travelled to Dannevirke. Cloudy, threat. rain. Rain evg. & nt.
- 21st.** Fine mg.—Went to new bridge Mangatera—waded below house—on plain Rain began—a patch of small *Arthropodium*—in dry plain! also small *Gnaphalium*, &c.
- 22 April.** Afternoon went to Bush—& down edge of stream near lower fence, gathd. berries of *Coprosma aurantiaca* for Adams' sons; also, spns. *Myrtus obcord.* (var.?) in fruit. Retd. by mill village.
- 24th.** Engd. on spns. plants—gathered 22nd. Aft. to Henderson's Bush (behind Ho.) for spns. *Adiantum*, *Trich. humile*, *Polyp. sylm.* &c.
- 2 May** (at Woodville). Afternoon, went to *Adiantum* polyphylum bank found nearly all destroyed! buried in heaps of earth, &c &c from road making: obt'd. few for Lund.
- 4 June.** Aftn. in big totara Bush got a few Fungi
- 13 June** (Dannevirke). Aftn. visited old *Clematis* Bush—thence down by plain to thicket under Mill, *Viscum*, *Hymenophm.* &c.
- 17 June.** Afternoon—into “big totara” wood; some new Fungi
- 18 June.** To “Pozoa” wood, & beyond 1st. time—across Knight's plain.
- 19 September** (Dannevirke). Strolled to plain, *Leptinella*: fungi in forest.

21 March: “new bridge Mangatera”. Hamlin: Mangatera; Manga-te-ra; Mangatera mill near Dannevirke. The *Bush Advocate* of 26 October 1889 reported that “the new bridge over the Mangatera creek on the Danevirke Wainui Road... is now well in hand.... Its length is 82 feet.... Its site is alongside the Timber Company's bridge over the same creek, on their tramway line to their fine totara bush.” References to the Mangatera bridge probably all refer to this bridge, not that on the main road toward Matamau.

22 April: Adams' sons: probably refers to CE Adams, Napier, elected Honorary Secretary of the Hawke's Bay Philosophical Institute in 1898, later to become Government Astronomer.

24 April: Henderson's Bush (“Behind Ho.” = House?). Hamlin wrote, “Henderson's Mill; Hends' Mill; Hendsns. Mill; beyond H. Mill; Henderson's wood behind Chinese; Hends Wd.; Hndsn. wd.; river behind Henderson's. Dannevirke.” Colenso found *Epilobium insulare* in “Watercourses little Bush below Henderson's mill”. The Henderson brothers and George Wratt built their sawmill in 1883 near the Tapuata creek, at the bottom of Miller's street, Dannevirke (on the town side of the Mangatera bridge).

4 June: Big Totara Bush. See 16 July 1892: “In the afternoon I went into Hendersons wood....” 4 August: “Aftn. in neighbg. (big totara) wood....” 5th: “Aftn. in Henderson's (big. t.) wood.”

Probably these all refer to the same area, down Miller's St to where the Wainui (Weber) road crosses the Mangatera stream. Henderson's Mill is what the *Bush Advocate* called the Timber Company and Henderson's Bush (Wood), the Chinese gardens, Tramway Bush, Myrsine wood and Big Totara Bush were all nearby. The “river behind Henderson's” is the Manawatu.

18 June: Pozoa Wood appears to be the same place as *Drosera* wood, *Drosera* glen: Colenso's clifftop “old haunt”—see next page.

18 June: **Knight's plain.** The Knights were the wealthiest family, owning or leasing vast areas around Dannevirke, including the lease of the Tahoraiti block. Colenso would have to cross their land to reach his “spot”. His friend, Rev. Robertshawe, had married a Knight.

1891

- 7 March** (Dannevirke). After breakfast went to my old haunt, *Drosera* Creek,—found my little *Plantago* in flower, &c (had marked it, in Decr.) also a neat *Gentian*, on hillside, and a small *Gnaphalium*, in patches on plain: very tired.
- 12th.** Fine. Mg. strolled in Henderson's wood, a few fungi appy. new, but *very hot*—returned knocked up
- 14th.** Fine. Mg. to Henderson's Mill & Wood below—thence across to big plain by Mangatera looking for *Arthropodium*: failed! found 1 plant *Euphrasia*, &c—nothing new.
- 17th.** Fine. Mg. went to Little Adiantum wood, got some spns. of that Fern....
- 30th.** *Very fine!*—Went to Drosera glen—got *Myosotis*, edge of stream nr. *Plantago*—*Coprosma* fine bushy shrub 10 ft, on *opp.* side of sm. stream edge of wood, in *ft.*
Went to Parsonsia wood—*no ft.*! returned very tired & in pain (back). Myriads of flowers on plain!
- 21 April** (Dannevirke). Afternoon went to the deep fen below fence & *Pterostylis* under prostrate Titree, found my little *Adiantum polymorphum* also there! & higher up, *same* creek, in a chilly place under burnt logs, my *Litobrachia* in plenty!
- 22nd.** Afternoon in Henderson Wood
- 23rd.** Aftn. to “Lost Knife Wood”—enjoyed it!—fruits of *Pozoa*, small *Melicytus*, *Coprosma*, *n. sp.*, in Knight's Glen—side stream Returned at Sun-down, V.
- 24th.** Aftn. Henderson's Mill—thicket, thence to *Myrsine* Wood, Mangatera; &c—& back over big plain: gained *nothing!*—

7 & 30 March: there are specimens labelled Drosera Creek, Drosera Glen, Pozoa Wood and “altar”; Knight's glen and McCallum's wood seem to refer to the same site. Colenso walked often to what was clearly a favourite spot for peaceful contemplation...

Aftn. walked to “Stop!” on Hill: there sat, a while, on dear old log!

Afternoon walked a mile or more to my old loved spot (once secluded and surrounded by trees &c) on the high banks of the streamlet—looking S.—

Afternoon visited my dear old mound for contemplation on edge of cliff overhanging streamlet—formerly forest on three sides—but now all that is gone!!!

Aftn. went to Knight's plain, & down into the first gulley (my old resort!)

To old cliff **McCallum's wood** to say “Goodbye”

Afternoon, went for an hour to my dear old haunt, on the cliff overhanging stream.

Aftn. to my old haunt—the extreme plain on cliff overlooking river.

Aftn. to my dear old spot, on high cliff on river Tapuata, looking S. over big Tahoraiti plains!—but how sadly altered!! fine forest entirely gone!!

There are a number of high banks on the true left of the Tapuata stream at the west of Dannevirke, looking south over the aerodrome to the Tahoraiti plain. One of them is surely Colenso's “old haunt”. See March and May 1885.

30 March: Hamlin wrote, “Parsonsia wood: on packets in a bundle (a. 1598-1617) labelled ‘Dannevirke’.... Parsonsia ochracea Col. is from ‘edges of woods, south of Dannevirke’.” See 9 May overleaf.

21 April: Deep fen below fence: probably near the Mangatera bridge on Weber road.

24 April: *Myrsine* Wood, Mangatera: see previous page.

25 April 1891 (Dannevirke). Aftn. walked to the new bridge over the R. Manawatu, 55 min, & *once more* drank from that river!! *fine* Coprosma, & small Veronica on bank below Bridge: returned *tired*.—

27th. Aftn.—in Henderson's wood. Some new Fungi

28th. Aftn. across plain & in Parsonsia wood: Lady Hooker's Fern-tree with epiphytal Gaultheria full of her fruit pretty object; gained a new Fungus.

6 May. Afternoon in Henderson's Wood, got a few spns.

7th. Afternoon went to Mill wood, got a few spns.—returned by long route over big plain.

8th. Aftn. to Henderson's wood—more spns. Fungi

9th. Aftn. to Myrsine wood over plain, got spns.—& fruits of Parsonsia ochracea for Lat. ret'd. by long route—at V p.m. (walked several miles)

19th. Aftn. to wood on Mangatera for spns. *big* Polypodium saw number *Viscum* on *end* trees (Melicope)

24 September (Dannevirke). Visited my old haunts—in Knight's glen found Coprosma ♂ (I was in quest of) full flg. but not a single ♀

26th. Aftn. Mr Robertshawe kindly drove me in his buggy to Manawatu Bridge—I wanted flowers of my new Coprosma, & forty. found both ♂ & ♀.

28th. ...crawled across big plain to the wood, seeking Polypodium amplum, *got it*, & got back w. great difficulty.

21 October (Dannevirke). Went across big plain to the lower glen, dug up yg. *Drosera* plants, just appearing above wet soil...

25 April & 26 May: in 1891 Colenso described *Coprosma alba* from "the eastern banks of the River Manawatu, near the new bridge, road from Dannevirke to Wainui, County of Waipawa, forming thickets; 1891." "Wainui" was reached by what is now Weber road. In the same paper Colenso described *Veronica microcalyx* from "Open grounds, in grassy spots, forming large patches, banks of River Manawatu, near Te Hautotara (Maori) village, four miles south of Dannevirke, County of Waipawa; late autumn, 1891." Te Hautotara was at the junction of the Mangatera stream and Manawatu river.

28 April: Lady Hooker's Fern-tree. Perhaps it was Colenso specimen 6428 sent to Kew, "Believed to be a new fern: Cyathea Hookeri, W.C. a very elegant sp. — from Mid. Island."

9 May: "fruits of Parsonsia ochracea for Lat." He sent seeds home to sons Latimer and Willie in England.



22 October 1891 (Dannevirke). Mg. went to Myrsine Wood, on R. Mangatera, & got some spns. Ferns, also of small Veronica & other plants

1892

29 January (Dannevirke). ...at X visited neighbg. N.W. wood; my *first* sylvan stroll for '92

22 April (Dannevirke). Afternoon walked to Mangatera bridge Wainui road (my *longest* walk for this year '92!) to get spns. of *Adiantum polymorphum* for Dr L. got several good ones, also of *Dicksonia* ?*Sparmannia* (or *D. fibrosa*) in fruit from hollow under main road; & also *Pallae rotundifolia*, *Panax* ?*anomalum* in ft

27 May (Dannevirke). Afternoon visited my dear old mound for contemplation on edge of cliff overhanging streamlet—formerly forest on three sides—but now all that is gone!!!—found some fungi, and 1 fine specimen of *Helicodictyon*

1 June. afternoon walked to Mangatera bridge & also into the woods on both sides (my longest walk for this year). Returned tired but had also stood ½ hour or more at the saw mill to see a big totara tree cut up; which gave me a chill

2nd. Aftn. went to the wood—very wet & cold there, got a few fungi.

9th. Aft. went to my favourite wood, (Pterostylis w.) & gained a few spns. of fungi.

21st. Afternoon to McCallum's wood, & gathered sundry spns. of fungi—some probably sps. nov.

23rd. Aftn. went to Knight's plain, & down into the first gully (my old resort!) Not there before for this year; collected some nice fungi,—& spn. of a Lomaria, slenderer & different.

22 October: Myrsine wood, near Mangatera bridge Wainui (Weber) road.

29 January: N(orth) W(est) wood: "neighbouring" implies close to Railway hotel.

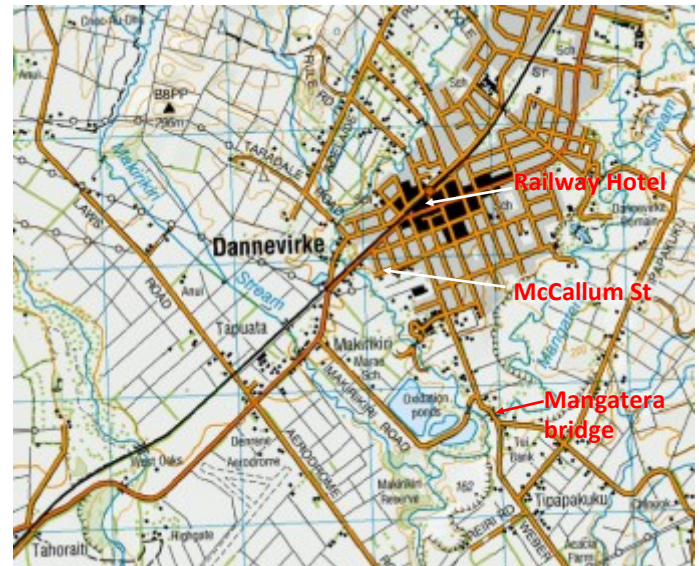
27 May: "my dear old mound for contemplation on edge of cliff overhanging streamlet"—see 7 & 30 March 1891.

1 June: Returned from Mangatera bridge via sawmill. Henderson's Mill was on the town side of the bridge.

9 June: Pterostylis wood: no clues as to its whereabouts.

21 June: **McCallum's wood**: D McCallum was "Land, stock and general commissions agent" at Dannevirke. McCallum St is at the SW end of Dannevirke.

23 June: **Knight's plain**: see 18 June 1890.



24 June 1892 (Dannevirke). Aftn. took short stroll w. Robertshawe to see a fine lot of fungus growing togr. on butt of tree.

16 July. In the afternoon I went into Hendersons wood a little way & collected a few fungi. Found *Gastrodias* safe.

4 August. Aftn. in neighbg. (big totara) wood, found a few new fungi

5th. Aftn. in Henderson's (big. t.) wood fungi—& a remarkable large amorphous black one (*obliged to get a saw*) & 2 small ones same log on ground. (In big T. wd. near the back wire fence saw *Polypm. pennigerum* sub-arborescent, 1 w. stem 6–8 in., and 6 branch stems (1 being again behd.) ea. abt. 1 ft. long—unforty. fronds cut off, or eaten by cattle, leaving dead stipites 6–8 in. lg.—All upright plant springing afresh from base).

10th. Aftn. to wood by new tramway. Obtd. sevl. spns. fungi; obtd. a *Coprosma* (?sp. nov.) in wood immy. beyond second bridge;

5 October (Dannevirke). Afternoon strolled in Henderson's tramway wood, found it very wet. (6th. putting up plants [small crypts] specimens collected yesterday)

27th. Aftn. to neighbouring forest for nearly 3 hours the longest stay for this year. Got sevl. intg. spns. fungi, &c.

16 November. Afternoon walk to *Pterostylis* plateau; *Thelymitra* small.

17th. Afternoon I walked to *Pimelia* glen—say 2½ miles or so, following sinuosities—saw my *mysotis*—*pimelia*—*drosera*, &c.—& noticed young immature flowers on tall bushy *Carmichaelia*—? sp. nov. Returned at IV.30 *very tired*. (*Myosotis* & *drosera* *young* only).

16 July & 4 August: Henderson's wood and neighbouring big totara wood (near the back wire fence). See March/April 1890.

10 August: Wood by new tramway.... Wood beyond second bridge.... Henderson's tramway wood. See March/April 1890.

16 November: *Pterostylis* plateau, not located—see 9 June 1892.

17 November: *Pimelia* glen. (Colenso referred elsewhere to "Pimelea corner, Knight's run). *Pimelia* Glen was 2½ miles from Colenso's lodgings at the Railway hotel. See next page.



Pterostylis patens, the
greenhood orchid Colenso
found in the Seventy Mile
Bush.

22 December 1892 (Dannevirke). The day being fine I went to the wood to seek my orchids (*Gastrodia*), where I had found them long past flg. on 29th Jany. last; had *very great difficulty* in finding the spot, that wood having been enclosed since & many trees felled, and thistles and high grasses hiding everything—fallen branches, &c. &c. However, at last I found the spot, & ½ doz. orchids (some *Past!*) in full flower! I rejoiced & gave thanks, also a *Pterostylis*, fine plant, but long past flg.

23rd. At IX left for “The Glen”—arriving there, on height above, I first descended w. *very great diffy.* into the wood beyond, to see my gaultheria growing out of a fern tree—now it is 5 ft. high & healthy—but past flg., fruit forming; got a neat little fern (*Hymenophyllum*) w. a filiform stipe; *Convolvulus* on bushes looking lovely!—in glen, *myosotis* (plenty in full flr.); *Drosera*, and just 2–3 sm. flg. spns. of *Carmichaelia*! Somehow all gone!! Also 2–3 grasses, &c. &c. ret'd. at XII.30 worn out!—a fine wood oxalis, large fld.

24th. This mg. went to hilly plain, banks R. Mangatera to seek my little arthropodium; could not find it, & became nearly wild w. High wind, obliged to return through wretched wood—emerging at last into road just above cutting to Bridge. But got a few *wee* things—plain lovely w. Myriads of small flowers.

1893

20 April (Dannevirke). As I wished to get a spn. of a curious tree I had marked last year, growing in a glen about 2½ miles distant, I walked thither (a round about way of say, 3 miles) over long level plains;—found grass & herbage very wet, so soon got wet feet, while it was burning hot above, sultry close. I took a saw w. me & obtained my spns. & now the rain came on! Heavy too, at last, & no shelter—nor cloak nor umbrella! Got in a sad plight to hotel, & no change of clothes there!!

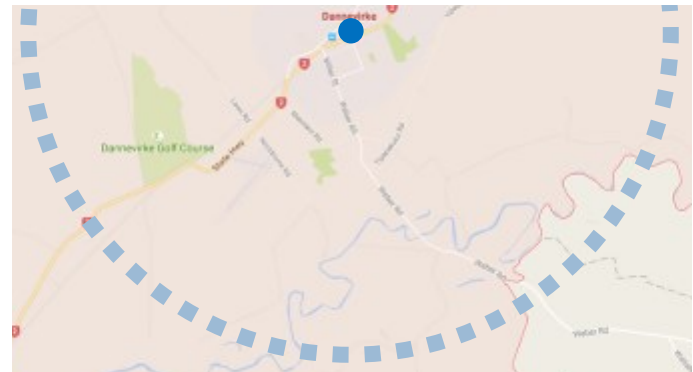
22 December: the wood where “I had found them (*Gastrodia*) long past flowering on 29th January last”. On 29 January he had visited “N.W. wood; my first sylvan stroll for '92”. q.v.

23rd. “The Glen”—Colenso’s “old haunt”.

24th. Hilly plain, banks Mangatera stream.

20 April 1893: a glen about 2½ miles distant (from the hotel presumably), reached by a 3 mile roundabout way over long level plains. This matches his account of Pimelia Glen (17 November 1892). Colenso described his new *Carmichaelia* as *C. multicaule*, writing that he found it on “Open grassy flats in gullies south of Dannevirke, County of Waipawa.... I have long known the plant, and have often visited them seeking flowers or fruit, but have always been disappointed until this year, 1892, when, in November, I was gladdened on seeing many healthy young flowering buds showing themselves; fortunately I secured some specimens, though very young....”

The plain may have been Knight’s run (Colenso referred elsewhere to “Pimelea corner, Knight’s run).



“Pimelia Glen” was 2½ miles south of Baddeley’s Railway Hotel at Dannevirke, across “Knight’s plain”.

31 May 1893 (Dannevirke). Visited Tramway Bush.

1 June. Afternoon spent 2 hours in Hendersons wood very warm ... Brought away a few ferns for planting

1894

17 February. Arrd. at Dvk. (from Norsewood) by XII.20: *grieved* in seeing all the fine & romantic forests, S. of Nd., where I had botanized, & prayed, & rejoiced—during *many* years—all felled & on fire.

2 May (Dannevirke). This morning visited Forest in search of my *new* Fern tree—hoping to find it, this time, in fruit—failed: 2 hours there, much walking, but pleasant on tram-ways returned tired

11th. This mg. from X to XII, in woods, seeking the *new* (?) Fern -tree; got jammed rather unpleasantly among fallen trees extricated myself w. difficulty—*must be more wary*, as I find my remaining strength *at such times* to be *small!!* Found, at last! the Fern I was in search of.—

17th. Afternoon—in tramway wood, securing spns. of my (new?) Fern—some *fine* Lichens.

18th. Aftn. went by Tapuata bridge to Knight's lower gulley & waterfall in search of a plant in ft., failed: then up the hill & over the edge of Mangatera, & found it—thence back to Hotel (some 5–6 miles in all) *quite tired*:

23rd. Aftn. to woods: got a few Lichens, &c.

24th. Aftn. to forest—spent 2 hours there, got several spns.—Lichens, Fungi, &c.—

31 May: In these Dannevirke years Tramway Bush usually refers to the tramway of Henderson's Mill, near the Mangatera bridge on Weber road.

18 May 1894: "Tapuata bridge to Knight's lower gully & waterfall, then up the hill & over the edge of Mangatera." The Tapuata stream now passes under two bridges on its way south of Dannevirke to meet the Mangatera stream near the Mangatera bridge in Weber road. This makes sense only if Colenso was referring to the bridge in Makirikiri road across the Tapuata stream. **Where was the waterfall???**



24 October 1894 (Dannevirke). Aftn. went to neighbg. forest, found all tramways blocked by trees being felled in all directions for firing! dreadful waste; over exerted myself in trying to get through & beyond them, returned worn out!

1895

4 March (Dannevirke). Aftn. to my old haunt—the extreme plain on cliff overlooking river—& brought away 3–4 spns., (none, perhaps, new).

24 May. Aftn. to my *dear* old spot, on high cliff on river Tapuata, looking S. over big Tahoraiti plains!—but how sadly altered!! fine forest entirely gone!!

1896

1 June (Dannevirke). Aftn. walked on main S. Road, & over 2 bridges—*great* alterations since I was last there! all my darling Botanizing spots—new & peculiar ferns—gone!!—Trees cut down, & all burnt up.—

23 December (Dannevirke). This mg. IX.30, left in buggy for hill, 2 miles beyond Matahiwi (having in passing in train noticed a diff. in vegetation there) Mr. Baddeley driving, reached (*near*) spot by X.45, & I commenced my arduous task, saw several plants new to me, & brought away spns.—but toil & labour great for me now, at my age—at XII. extricated myself & came away—worn out!—

Colenso made a list of the plants collected at this new Matahiwi site—see next page.

4 March 1895: “my old haunt—the extreme plain on cliff overlooking river....” 24 May: “my dear old spot, on high cliff on river Tapuata, looking S. over big Tahoraiti plains” both appear to refer to Colenso’s “old haunt”.

1 June: “on main S. Road, & over 2 bridges” probably refers to the bridges on SH2 over the Mangatawhaiti and Mangatawhainui streams between Dannevirke and Norsewood.

23 December: Matahiwi is the old name for Waiaruhe, about 14km SW of Dannevirke, on SH2 and the railway line. Charles Baddeley was his landlord at the Railway Hotel.

March & May 1895:
The Tapuata stream still winds its way SE at the western extreme of Dannevirke—through what would have been empty plains in Colenso’s time.

Which “dear old spot”, on a high bank above the stream and looking south over the Tahoraiti plain, was Colenso’s favourite “old haunt”—his Drosera Creek, Drosera Glen, Pozoa Wood, Knight’s glen—his “altar”?



Memo. Botl.

Wedy. Decr. 23/96

From hill beyond Matahiwi among *Manuka*

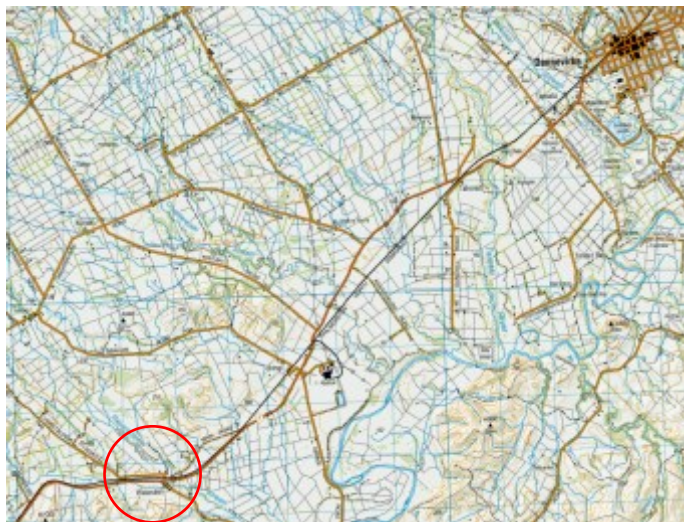
1. *Cordyline* (see descr.)
2. (see *Seboea exacum*) Erect herb 8–10 in high. Stem 6-angled; rosulate; stem leaves opp. few, dist, sessile, flowers small corymbs terminal, *pink* spreading calyx tube long, sepals long very acum. Cor. tube long: petals 5, subovate obtuse regular spreading Anthers 5 exserted versatile yellow Style 2-fid at top stigmas large
3. *smaller* ones—*var. or* sp.—(not examd.)
4. yellow fld. herb.—
 Scrophularinæ—near *Ourisia?* &c *Cor.* bilab., *upper* arched, ½ hooded, entire w. *small* notch: lower 3-fid, w. 2 on pagina Didynamous: 4 anthers, large, bilobed, diverging, base acum., roughly hairy
 Stigma large orbicular, style arched hairy long, oblong many seeded *Calyx* tube long, 4-fid, lobes long narrow acum.
5. (2 sps. or vars) herb. plant, at base of hill, *sm.* pinkish-lilac flowers, curious calyx, double set of teeth, 6 acute & 6 intervening ones. Corolla involute
6. A *sm.* spn. *Lobelia alata?* upper pet. 2 narrow split to base
7. a *Gahnia* (*small*)
8. a *Dianella* (see descr.) just *past flg.*
9. a *Microtis*
10. a *Thelymitra* *ditto*

These plants were collected on 23 December 1896.

Colenso did describe some ferns in the 1896 volume of the *Transactions*, but on 1 April 1897 was seriously injured in a buggy smash returning from the Ruahine foothills along Woodlands road, Woodville. The protracted recovery prevented his botanical writing for the rest of the year.

He described more ferns in the 1898 volume, as well as a number of *Phae-nogams*, mostly collected by Henry Hill and Andreas Olsen, in what would be his last substantial botanical paper.

He had suffered a head injury in the smash and often remarked in subsequent letters that his memory was failing. He may simply have forgotten this collection from under manuka at Matahiwi.



Waiaruru = Matahiwi

Some of Colenso's Dannevirke sites



Dannevirke

Miller's road leads into Weber (Wainui) road

Mangatera stream

Mangatera bridge: Henderson's Mill was on Miller's road just on the town side of the bridge, near the Tapuata stream; Henderson's Bush (Wood), the Chinese gardens, Tramway Bush, Myrsine wood, back wire fence and Big Totara Bush were all nearby.



Manawatu R.

Te Hautotara site

