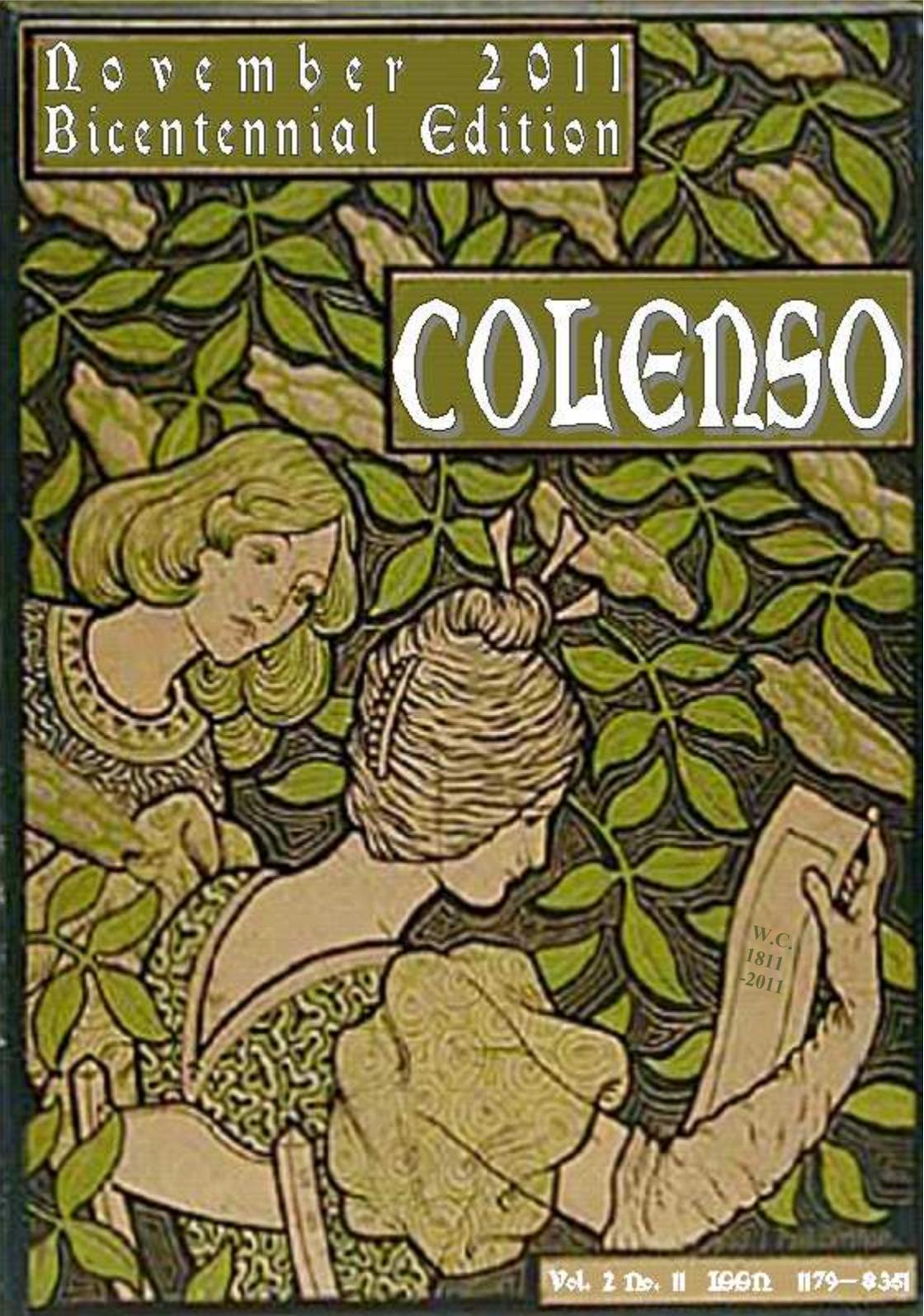


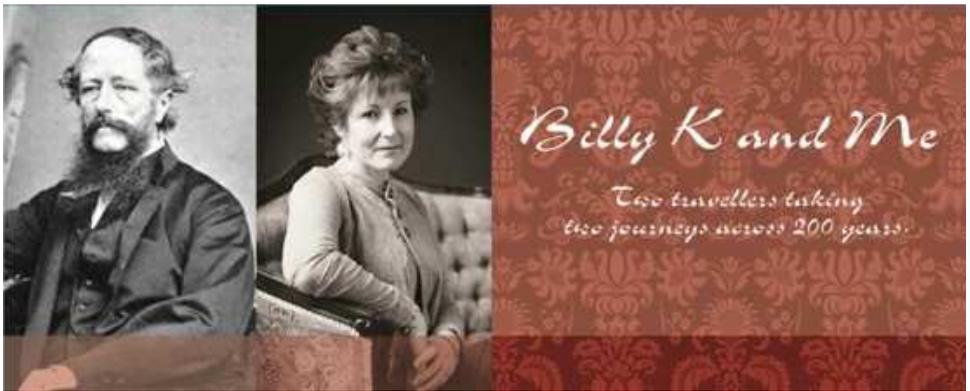
November 2011
Bicentennial Edition

COLENSO



W.C.
1811
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A Journey into History, Informed by the Present

Stumbling across an historic figure whose journey through life has parallels to your own can be unnerving. But when Havelock North botanical artist Terrie Reddish looked into the life of William (Billy K) Colenso and unearthed their many shared interests she found herself aspiring to illuminate his spiritual, scientific and political journey through her art. Using drawings, ephemera, handmade books, sculpture and installations she has captured the essence of one of Hawke's Bay's most colourful characters.

Two centuries ago a child was born in England who was to have a profound impact on his adopted country, New Zealand. William Colenso arrived during the early days of colonisation with a keen fascination for all branches of natural history. Over many years he collected and documented new natural history specimens, especially plants. His impressive contributions to botanical knowledge resulted in one genus (*Colensoa*) and many species being named after him.

Terrie is an award-winning botanical artist whose specialty is detailed, close-up depiction of native flora. She was awarded a Gold Medal at the Royal Horticultural Society December 2008 Show and her work is held by the RHS Lindley Library. One of Terrie's medal winning drawings is also part of the world's most comprehensive private collection of twentieth century contemporary botanical art, held by Dr Shirley Sherwood. Terrie is a member of the New Zealand Society of Botanical Art and teaches pencil drawing.

In recent times, a burgeoning interest in early binding techniques has seen Terrie's focus shift to book art. She is a gifted creator of unusual handmade books and is editrix of the Association of Book Crafts NZ Incorporated.

William Colenso, too, loved books, which in his day were made by hand. He came to New Zealand to work for the Church Missionary Society as its missionary-printer and over several years produced a huge body of printed and bound work. It is thought that in just one five-year period his press produced 74,100 publications, many in Maori.

Go to <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Terrie-Reddish-artist/241947652492431> for more.

Hastings City Art Gallery Exhibition closes 20 November 2011





WILLIAM COLENZO BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

9-13 NOVEMBER 2011
HAWKE'S BAY

Wm Colenso.
WILLIAM COLENZO
BICENTENARY

A CELEBRATION
OF HIS LIFE
AND IDEAS

HAWKE'S BAY
9-13 NOVEMBER 2011

PLEASE CONTACT
PAM JOYCE

MARKETING TEAM LEADER
PHONE 06 835 9245

EMAIL INFO@WILLIAMCOLENZO.CO.NZ
WWW.WILLIAMCOLENZO.CO.NZ

Printer of some of the most significant documents in New Zealand history, missionary, explorer and botanist, a free-wheeling politician and controversialist William Colenso was a maverick.

This year, on the bicentenary of Colenso's birth, Hawke's Bay Museum and Art Gallery will be hosting a celebration of his life and ideas with a programme of events, centred on a two day academic conference.

The keynote speakers for the conference are author and science historian, Dr Jim Endersby of the University of Sussex and Peter Wells, author of the new book *The Hungry Heart – A Journey with William Colenso*.

Go to www.williamcolenso.co.nz to find out more about the full programme of events taking place, and to register for the conference.

HAWKE'S BAY **MUSEUM & ART GALLERY** NAPIER

Full programme at <http://www.williamcolenso.co.nz/Programme.html>.

Sainsbury Logan & Williams: Lawyers Since 1875 a book by Stuart Webster

The year was 1899. The location was the fledging town of Napier in the Province of Hawke's Bay.

William Colenso died on a Friday, was buried on Sunday after Church and Probate of his Will and Codicil was granted by Wednesday of that week.

Colenso died owning significant landholdings ...and "2 cases of Mission wine."
The Executors named in his Will instructed Sainsbury & Logan to act on the Estate:

This book tells the history of that firm from its origins in 1875 through to the present day including some of its most valued clients.
The Executors of William Colenso's Estate were amongst them.

Available for purchase on 10 and 11 November
at The William Colenso Bicentenary Celebrations

RRP \$150

Cash, EFTPOS and Credit Card facilities available
Gold Embossed hardback with jacket, 416 pages, 650 images.
Limited print. Signed by the author

Colenso's charts

Port Jackson 1834

After a five month voyage from England Colenso arrived in Sydney on 26 October 1834 and left for New Zealand on 10 December. Neither during the voyage nor during his stay in Sydney does Colenso's diary mention drawing a chart of Port Jackson (Sydney Harbour) including soundings, but in the Alexander Turnbull Library (ATL) collections (reference 80-033-09) is such a map, signed in Colenso's hand (Fig.1).

It is tempting to think of the young Colenso out in a boat taking depth readings, but the truth seems to be that at some point he copied an existing map, perhaps Hunter's, (Fig.2). It may have proved informative, as the *Blackbird* ran aground on Shark Island (marked "II" on Colenso's map) as they tried to leave Sydney for New Zealand.

Te Urewera 1841 or 1843

Colenso sent his famous Mungo Park-like account of his journey into the interior in 1841-1842 to his mentor WJ Hooker, and Hooker published it, with complimentary accompanying notes, in the *London Journal of Botany* as "Journal of a naturalist in some little known parts of New Zealand" (*London Journal of Botany* 1844; 3: 1-62). A "more elaborate account of that Ramble (was) subsequently published in the *Tasmanian Journal* vol. ii, p.210" (Colenso to WJ Hooker 22 January 1851) as "Memoranda of an Excursion, made in the Northern Island of New Zealand in the summer of 1841-2; intended as a contribution towards the ascertaining of the Natural Productions of the New Zealand Groupe: with particular reference to their Botany." *Launceston Examiner*: 95p; 1846; and *Tasmanian Journal of Natural Science, Agriculture, Statistics, etc* 2: 210-234, 241-308.

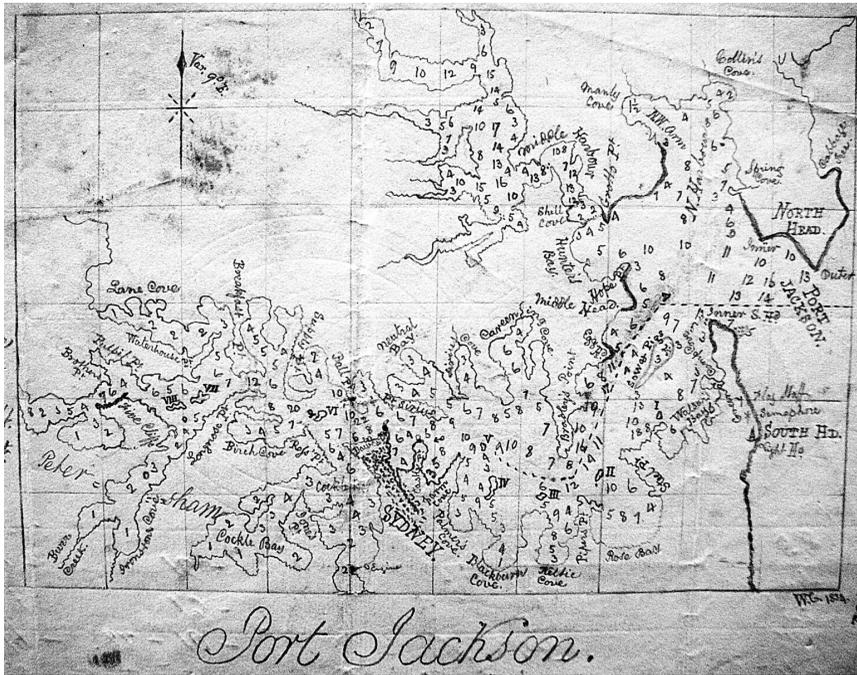
He was back there in 1843 after his first visit to his new mission site at Waitangi (see below).

What appears to be Colenso's original notebook for the 1841 journey is in the ATL (reference 80-038-01); it contains a loose page showing a map of the Urewera country in Colenso's handwriting (Fig.3). It is undated.

Colenso referred to an 1843 map in a letter to Coupland Harding dated 13 February 1891:

Do you know anything of "Maps N.Z.," N. & S. Islds., Royal, 2/6 pair"? in Govt. List. I want a good clear one of N. Island, to lay down my own wanderings & figures of 8! Luff had one here in his off., on wall, contg. my tracks of '43: I drew the map & laid them down for Bp Selwyn, & he sent it Home—I believe that Map was pubd. by Arrowsmith. I wonder if L. has that map now: & do you know him suffy. to enq.? & if so, to give you the date, no., &c. of that Map.

Apparently then, Colenso made a copy of his Urewera map for Bishop George Selwyn, who sent it to Arrowsmith, who used it to fill in detail in his NZ map, a copy of which Andrew Luff had on the wall of his real estate office in Napier. Both Luff and Harding were living in Wellington in 1891, and Colenso, keen to record his journeys, wonders if



▲ 1. Colenso's 1843 chart of Port Jackson ▼ 2. Hunter's 1789 chart



Harding knows Luff well enough to ask him for the map's date and number.

In 1810 John Arrowsmith (1780–1873) joined his uncle Aaron Arrowsmith in his map-making business in London. In 1839 John took over the business, and in 1863 received the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society. His many maps were known for their neatness and finished style. His first New Zealand map was that of 1837, and eight further editions had appeared by 1860.

Arrowsmith's maps up to 1844 (Fig.4) showed the empty spaces of *terra incognita* south of Whakatane to Opotiki in the eastern Bay of Plenty. Colenso's Urewera material appears to have been used to fill in the 1851 edition (Fig.5).

Ahuriri 1843?

Early maps of Napier and Hawke's Bay are scarce. Ian Mills wrote in his *What's in a name: a history of the streets of Napier* (Thinker Publications, Napier, 1999),

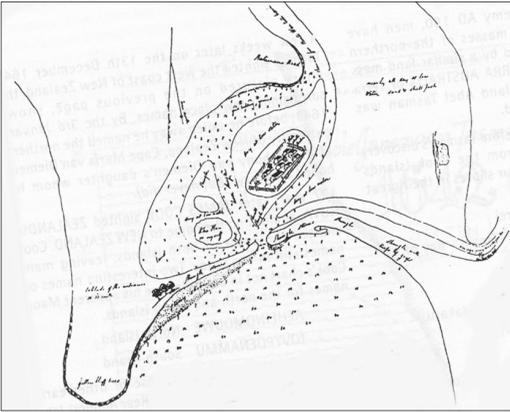
...the earliest reliable record of Port Ahuriri is the 1837 Chart of Hau Ridi by Captain Thomas Wing of the schooner "Trent". There is no earlier record of the Ahuriri roadstead than this chart of Wing's, but as the harbour was a whaling shelter and visited by itinerant traders and the occasional missionary, it is not improbable that other private maps may one day be located."

Wing's map (detail: Fig.6) has south upwards, shows Bluff hill at bottom left, the shingle spit to the right (west) of it leading to the "harbour entrance", with Gough Island inside the entrance, and the Te Pakāke pa. Later views looking west from the hill (e.g. Rhodes' watercolour Fig.7), as well as Domett's 1855 map, show only one island. With the upward movement of land in the 1931 earthquake it all changed forever of course.

"...other private maps may one day be located," wrote Ian Mills. How prophetic: among AG Bagnall's Colenso papers in the ATL (reference 80-038-01) I recently located a sketch map in Colenso's hand showing the same region, but extending further east to show Waitangi and Te Awapuni (Fig.8). The map is undated, but it shows Te Pakāke with a few whare marked, and a few more on another island ("Te Koau") and some west of the harbour mouth. The long western spit (West Shore) is called Keteketerau, a name that persists, the west side of the entrance is Te Taha, the east side Te Wataapuka, the hill (Scinde Island) is Mataruahou, the big shallow harbour Te Wanganui oroto, the spit to the east is Te Upokopouito, leading to Waitangi and Te Awapuni, where Colenso's mission site is shown as a square, and east to Te Awanga (near the mouth of the Maraetotara Stream).

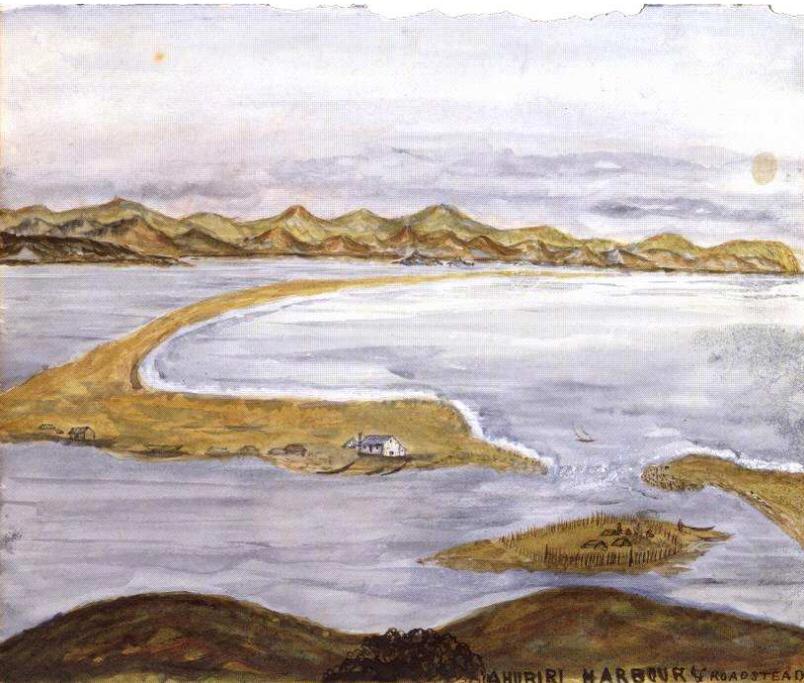
On 15 November 1843 Colenso and William Williams had scrambled ashore at Deliverance Cove (Castle Point), walked up the coast to Waimarama and struck inland to cross SW of Cape Kidnappers. Colenso recorded that on December

9th. Resumed our journey this morning at 20m. past 4, and at 20 m. past 7 descended into Hawke's Bay, 3 or 4 miles within the Southern Headland.... At 9, we breakfasted and held prayers on the beach,—at noon passed a small village (Te Awanga) the inhabitants of which are heathen,—and at 2, p.m., reached Te



◀ 6. Wing's Ahuriri map (detail); South is upwards, Napier hill at lower left. Two islands, as in Colenso's map, are shown inside the harbour entrance.

▼ 7. Joseph Rhodes' watercolour of Port Ahuriri, looking west from Napier hill, over the old harbour entrance, Pakāke pa and Keteketerau.



Awapuni, the principal village of these parts; where I found the Archdeacon, and where the natives loudly welcomed us. ...

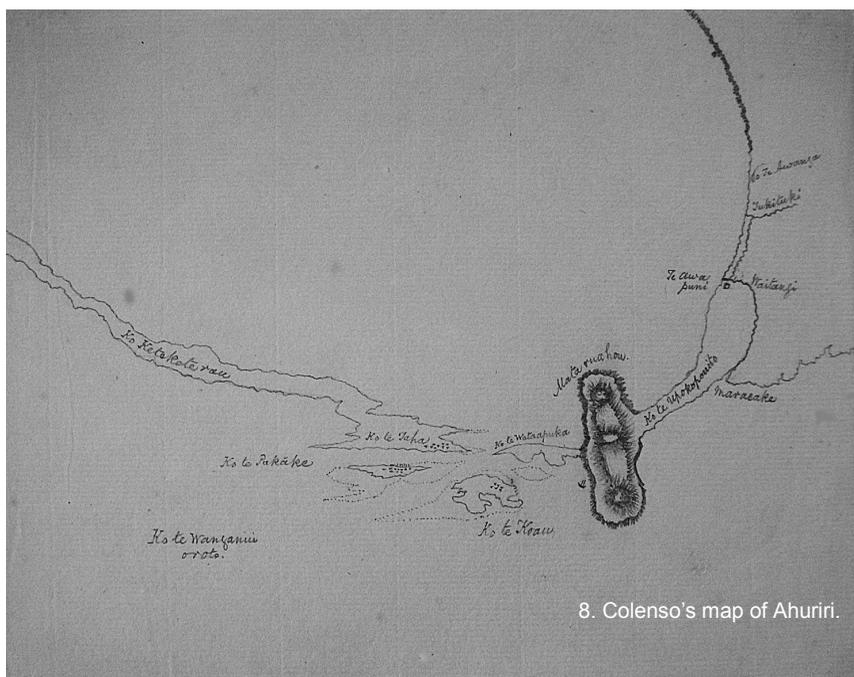
11th. Engaged this morning in Schools; after which a piece of land (ten acres) was given by the Chiefs for a Mission Station; occupied in marking it out, in making out deeds of transfer & in giving directions about a house to be built. In the evening I distributed a few Books, and got nearly pulled to pieces, such was the desire of the people to get possession of them. The Archdeacon married 32 couples this morning. The Native Chiefs spent a good part of the night in making orations in front of our Tents. The principal subject of their display of oratory,

was, the prospective coming of a Missionary there to reside, and, also, the arranging matters in order that some Natives might return with me to the Bay of Islands. I had requested 3, (or I could not have prosecuted my long journey into the interior, in fulfilling the Bishop's Instructions,) but I was obliged to take 5, being one from each Tribe, in order that there might not be any jealousy among them.

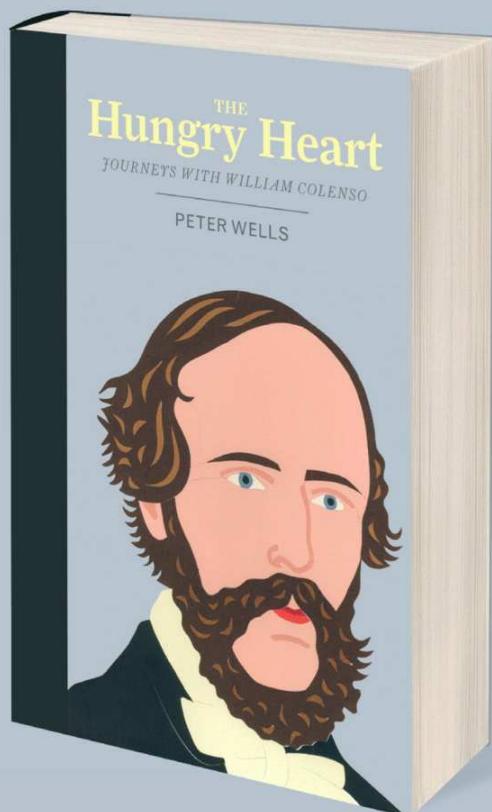
12th. Early this morning the Archdeacon left, I being unwell from my exertions yesterday in the heat of the sun, packed up slowly to follow. Left directly after breakfast, taking the 5 natives with me. Arriving at Mataruahou, the headland, (of the inner harbour,) we crossed to Te Taha, on the opposite shore, in a Canoe, where I overtook the Archdeacon, who had breakfasted here, at a village on an islet (Te Pakake) between the 2 headlands. My Natives with the baggage, &c., not having arrived, I lay down on the beach and slept awhile, for I was very unwell; on their arriving, we proceeded slowly along over the long stony beach which projects out for several miles in length from the opposite shore forming a perfectly natural breakwater....

But there is no mention of his drawing a map.

I wonder if he sketched this map to take back to Paihia to show Elizabeth where they were to live? Māori was her first language, and the expression "ko" (= "here is") suggests such a purpose. Original material in Bagnall's possession had been obtained from her family.



8. Colenso's map of Ahuriri.



THE Hungry Heart

JOURNEYS WITH WILLIAM COLENZO

PETER WELLS

In bookstores 11 November



Hawaikí: the whence of the Māori

At the First 1883 Meeting of the Hawke's Bay Philosophical Institute on 14 May (the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Waiapu, President, in the chair) the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer the Rev. William Colenso read his paper, "Contributions towards a better Knowledge of the Maori Race. Part V. On the Hawaiki of the Maoris and the Greenstone Legends. Division I."

The *Hawke's Bay Herald* was in a cynically anti-Colenso phase, and reported the meeting with deep sarcasm (THE KNIFE GRINDERS' SOCIETY. *Hawke's Bay Herald*, 17 May 1883, page 3). The *Daily Telegraph* printed the rather brief report shown here. That "Division 1" first Hawaiki paper was never published, and the further Hawaiki papers never written.

HAWKE'S BAY PHILOSOPHICAL INSTITUTE.

Last night this Society held their first Ordinary meeting for this year. We were pleased to see most of the officers present, from the President (the Bishop of Waiapu) downwards, also several ladies;—but we thought there should have been more of the Members, especially of those of the town: as usual, however, Mr Sturm had ridden in from Clive, and Mr Hamilton from Petane valley; all praise to them as *supporting* members!

Mr Colenso read an interesting paper on the *Hawaiki* of the Maoris, containing many curious and recondite matters, which he further illustrated by apposite remarks on things that had come under his own personal notice in former years. This paper, we understood, is only the *first* of a series on that subject. The President proposed, in a neat short address, a vote of thanks to Mr Colenso for his highly interesting paper; this was seconded by Dr. Spencer and carried unanimously.

One thing we may also notice in connection with this paper: Mr. Colenso told us, that we were mainly indebted to the heavy and continuous rains of last month (while he was confined to his lodgings at Matamau in the 70-mile Bush) for the paper: we observed that it was written on note paper!

What were Colenso's views on Hawaiki?

19 August 1889: to Harding: "I have recd. a very good letter from a 'Wm. Berry' ('N.Z. Herald' office) in which he (they?) wished me to write a paper to be illustrated for their Xmas number—re the emigration of the Maoris from Hawaiki. I have replied, saying, I utterly disbelieve that myth (or bundle of myths)—have already written against it & hoped to do more."

1 November 1895 : to Harding: "In my long letter to Buller, last week... I took him (*again*) to task, for adopting the Maori *myth* of Hawaiki (in his paper)—telling him, *he ought* to have *abandoned* that long ago." Buller had written "Illustrations of Darwinism" in which he pondered the reason for grey kiwi in both North and South islands, quoted the Māori belief that the pukeko had been brought from Hawaiki, and surmised that the grey kiwi may have been carried in similar fashion by canoe between the islands.

Others appeared to hold similar beliefs: 22 October 1896, Colenso to Harding: "Shall send you 'D.T.' of this evg.—2–3 matters in it: notably a *new* move (?) *re* Maoris from Hawaiki! of which, no doubt, *lots* in years to come!! to *suit* Hector, Tregear, Buller, Travers, & Co *or* the contrary!"

It is difficult to understand his objections to what these four had written, for none of them appears to have stated Hawaiki as a certain fact.

In his *Handbook of New Zealand* Hector wrote, "Tradition runs that generations ago a large migration took place from a distant island, to which the Maoris give the name of Hawaiki. Quarrels among the Natives drove from Hawaiki a chief, whose canoe arrived upon the shore of the North Island of New Zealand. Returning to his home with a flattering description of the country he had discovered, this chief, it is said, set on foot a scheme of emigration, whereupon a fleet of large double canoes started for the new land. The names of most of the canoes are still remembered, and each tribe agrees in its account of the doings of the people of the principal 'canoes' after their arrival in New Zealand; and from these traditional accounts the descent of the numerous tribes has been traced. Calculations, based on the genealogical staves kept by the tohungas, or priests, indicate that about twenty-seven generations have passed since the migration, which would give for its date about the beginning of the fourteenth century. The position of Hawaiki is not known, but there are several islands of this or a somewhat similar name."

"Tregear is perhaps best remembered for the infamous *Aryan Maori* (1885), which Gibbons calls 'the most spectacular example of how writers could indulge their theoretical fancies about Māori'. Viewed with hindsight, *The Aryan Maori* is little more than an ingenious historical curiosity, though its argument was perhaps more plausible in the bullring of Victorian comparative linguistics than it is today.... Tregear argues that Māori are descended from the original Aryans of North Asia and, moreover, that the Māori language preserves the Aryan language 'in an almost inconceivable purity'. Full of speculative Victorian enthusiasm, Tregear insists that anyone who works through his book's argument carefully, 'will share my convictions before he reaches the end'." (Tim McKenzie. Edward Robert Tregear, 1846–1931. Kōtare 2008, Special Issue — Essays in New Zealand Literary Biography Series Three: 'The Early Poets').

In Travers' "Notes upon the Historical Value of the 'Traditions of the New Zealanders,'

as collected by Sir George Grey, K.C.B., late Governor-in-Chief of New Zealand,” he wrote, “... the ancestors of the present race of New Zealanders are invariably represented as having migrated, at a comparatively recent period, from a place called ‘Hawaiki,’ the locality of which, however, is utterly unknown to the present people, and has, certainly, been equally unknown to their ancestors for very many generations. Now, if the migrations mentioned in the “Traditions” had taken place at periods so recent as those which are assigned to them, the loss of all knowledge of the actual position of Hawaiki by so enterprising a race as the New Zealanders, would be extremely singular, it appearing, if we are to credit the narratives in this respect, not only that the voyage from Hawaiki to these Islands and back again, had more than once been undertaken without hesitation, and performed without difficulty, but that on one occasion, at least, it had been successfully performed by persons who had not made it before, guided solely by instructions from a previous explorer. Still the fact of migration is insisted upon in all the narratives, and although, in our present state of geographical and nautical knowledge, the possibility of any such migrations as those which are narrated, is scarcely admissible, we should not, for reasons which will appear in the sequel, be justified on this ground alone in rejecting the ‘Traditions.’”

In a letter on “The moa” to the editor of *The Press* 14 November 1896, Colenso wrote, “...SIR,—I have received a copy of your paper of 2nd inst, containing a long and very interesting paper by Captain Hutton on the ‘Moa.’... There are, however, two prominent errors (as I view them):—1. (The minor one.) In which Captain Hutton mentions Polack as being ‘the first to publish anything about the moa.’ 2. (The other.) The adhering so pertinaciously to the old threadbare legendary story of ‘Hawaiki,’ and of the Maoris’ emigration therefrom to New Zealand—as if such were physical facts.”

21 December 1898: Colenso’s last letter to Harding: “Kirk, at p.173, writing on a plant,—says, the Maoris say, they brought it with them from Hawaiki, but it is *strictly indig. to N.Z.*, & not in the Islands;—but Heaphy (*that* Vict. Cross man!) states, re their Hawaiki, that the island has been subsequently submerged through volcanic action!! *Worse* than a Prohibitionist—to support his (or their) fad *re* Hawaiki.”

Current views on the whence of the Māori are best expressed by an expert:

“The human colonization of the Pacific is an enduring problem in historical anthropology. Recent advances in archaeology, historical linguistics, and bioanthropology have coalesced to form a set of models for population movements and interactions in Oceania, which have been tested on independent data sets. Earliest human movements into Near Oceania began about 40,000 years ago, resulting in great cultural, linguistic, and genetic diversity in this region. About 4000 years ago, the expansion of Austronesian speakers out of Southeast Asia led to the emergence of the Lapita cultural complex in Near Oceania. The Lapita expansion into Remote Oceania, commencing about 1200 BC, led ultimately to the settlement of the vast eastern Pacific, ending with the colonization of New Zealand about AD 1250. Polynesians probably reached the coast of South America, returning with the sweet potato and possibly the bottle gourd. Polynesian influences on New World cultures remain a topic of debate.” (Patrick V. Kirch. *Peopling of the Pacific: a holistic anthropological Perspective*. *Annu. Rev. Anthropol.* 2010. 39:131–48.)

Why was Colenso's work on Hawaiki never published?

Colenso had written his earlier "Contributions towards a better knowledge of the Maori race" for the *Transactions*, where they were duly published, but his long paper describing his Ruahine crossings was turned down in 1882 by Hector and the editorial board, and Colenso had them published privately in Napier, saying at the same time that he would never again write for the *Trans*. In a letter to Buller of 18 November 1883 he wrote, "I ceased writing any papers, (although I had begun, and even read at our first meeting in May, the first part of one on 'Hawaiki,') and now that our session for '83 is just ended, I have no papers to send in!...Your Board of Governors have dealt us an ugly blow."

31 March 1885: Colenso to von Haast: "I feel—at times—not a little vexed with the Powers that be! when I reflect how much, how greatly I have been hindered and thwarted by them in my 2 principal Works,—the Mao. Lexicon, and my Papers on old Mao. Lore & other matters: they (or their successors) will be also vexed hereafter—but that is no solace to me. They ought to have given every encouragement, but — — —

"I was pleased to find that you also had been interested, &c., in my little Ruahine Book. In your saying that it reminded you of 'olden times,'—Sir G. Grey made exactly the same remark. I shall post with this a copy of its fellow & predecessor,—from which (should you not already have seen it, as some copies went early to Xt.Ch.) you may possibly gain a little more re the old Maoris.—Of course you will be aware that these— together with 'Ruahine'—are the Papers that were rejected by the Board.—

"I had long been desirous of writing my promised paper on 'Hawaiki,' &c., (see, vol. xiv. p.49, 'Trans. N.Z. Instit.,') and had indeed begun it, and read the 1st. part here in 1883, (see, vol. xvi., p.568,)—but when I found how my papers of '82 were treated by the Board, I dropped tools at once, & would write no more—to be submitted to such Judges! that Paper, I may say, would have occupied 3 parts:—and, as things have been since, I almost fear I may never again take it up: all my Maori writings (of their ancient lore, &c., &c.,) on which my heart was fixed, have been too deeply frost-bitten ever to recover!—Indeed, I do not like to write or talk about them—not even to you—because I cannot now do it *con amore*."

In 1886 he wrote, still hurt, to Balfour, "You are right re your remark on Dr H & Co & the rejected papers.... I am sorry that the Dr has never made any advance to meet me, since I wrote to him from the Bush, saying if he were not too busy I should like to write him a letter (wishing not only to renew correspondence, but to go on with my Hawaiki papers)...."

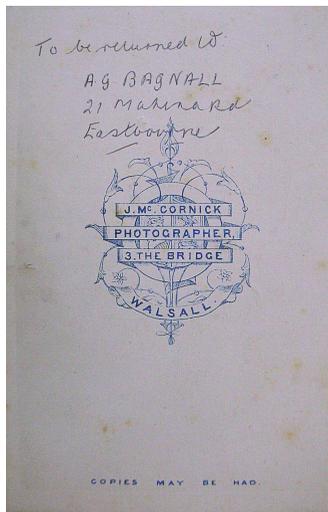
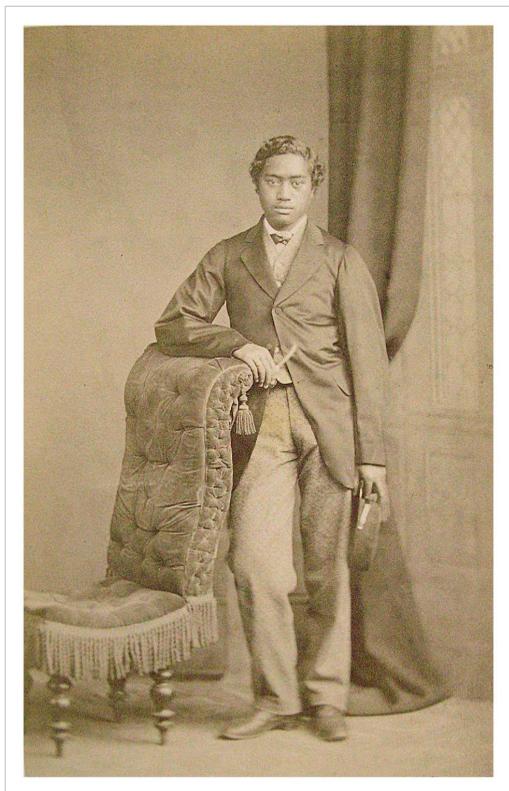
13 February 1891: to Harding: "I am thinking of again taking up my discarded paper & subject of Hawaiki".

19 March 1891: to Harding: "I may tell you—that I have often thought of reprinting, w. additions, all those papers of mine (excluding Botanical) in *Trans*. including Essay on Maoris in Vol. I.—& perhaps would do so, if you were still here in business,—adding thereto, my unfinished one on Hawaiki."

31 May 1892: to Harding: "I note what you say re 'Hawaiki' & 'Green Stone' Papers! Aue! when?—I much fear, I can not even re-commence them while in Bush."

5 February 1894: to Harding: “I must mention one of these letters, now to hand—from Mr. Tregear, and dated ‘January 3rd. 1894’ begging me to go on w. Hawaiki Ms.!!—taking up your brief, as a 2nd Daniel: it is a nicely written letter—which I must ansr. by & by.”

Rejection of one’s work by a publisher is always painful, and self-publication the frequent resort of the offended. But this on Hawaiki Colenso never finished. And unless his notes for part 1, written on notepaper during the rain of April 1883 at Towers’ Roadside Hotel, Matamau, have survived somewhere, we will never know his “highly interesting” conclusions about Hawaiki.



Carte de visite of Wiremu Colenso; photographer Samuel Carnell of Napier, reprints by J. McCormick of Walsall, England. This copy among AG Bagnall’s papers in the Alexander Turnbull Library, Ref. 88-103-1/17.



The
Annual General Meeting
of
The Colenso Society

will be held at 1 p.m.
on Thursday 10 November at Napier War
Memorial Conference Centre

Agenda

Present
Apologies
Convenor's report
Secretary's report
Treasurer's report and setting 2012 sub.
Election of officers
General business

NOTICE is hereby given to the several Masters and Mistresses of the various Public Schools receiving Government aid, both Common and Denominational, in the Town of Napier, and also to all of those within 50 miles of the same, that the Summer Inspection of the said Schools will take place as follows, viz. :—

1. The Public Schools at Meanee, Taradale, Puketapu, E. and W. Olive, and Havelock, in the last week in November.
2. The Schools at Kaikora, Waipawa, Waipukurau, and Hampden, in the first week in December.

3. The Public Schools in the Town of Napier in the second week in December.

4. The School at Petane in the third week in December.

And, as some of the scholars of some of the Country Schools have to come a considerable distance, it is further notified,—that should heavy rain, or a severe flood after rain, happen during any of the times above specified, then in that case the inspection of such School, or Schools, so prevented, will take place during the third week in December.

WILLIAM COLENZO,
Inspector of Schools.

Napier, November 1, 1872.

Colenso's collections

A book including the unpublished work on William Colenso's New Zealand plants by the late Bruce Hamlin held at Te Papa

compiled by Ian St George—412 pages + searchable CD
\$25 includes postage in NZ (enquire about cost of overseas postage)

Buy from the NZ Native Orchid Group, c/- Brian Tyler, 4 Byrd St, Levin. BandJ.Tyler@xtra.co.nz
or at the William Colenso Bicentenary Conference in Napier in November.

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

Please forward to anyone. Back issues are at <http://www.colensostudy.id.au/>.

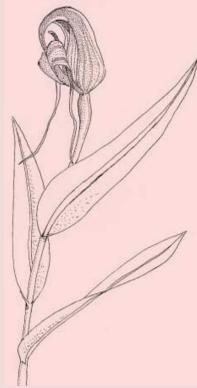
The editor invites contributions on any matter relating to the life and work of the Rev. William Colenso FLS FRS, emailed to Ian St George (istge@yahoo.co.nz).

The cover of this issue is based on an 1896 "L'Affiche" cover.



KORONEHO

Joyful News Out Of The
New Found World



by

LEICESTER KYLE

The Rev. Leicester Kyle, botanist, preacher, writer, wrote this long collage poem in the modernist style in the 1990s. It has 14 cantos, each devoted to one of the Rev. William Colenso's orchids, described 100 years earlier. It has been published online, but this is the first time it has been published in book form—by the Colenso Society and the Leicester Kyle Literary Estate. This is an astonishing work: a poem of art and science, in which we feel the truth as much as know it.

Copies will be available at the Colenso Bicentenary Conference,
or at \$12 from Ian St George (istge@yahoo.co.nz).

Colenso's adze

Among the treasures in the Alexander Turnbull Library is a series of ethnological notebooks by George Leslie Adkin 1888-1964 (MS-Papers-6061). In Notebook 25 (1950-53) is the following entry, accompanied by the beautiful drawing of Colenso's adze.

Oblique-tanged Adze from Colenso Collection – in possession Simcox Family

Length, 7 in.

Cutting edge, $2\frac{1}{4}$ in (clean, sharp, and in perfect condition)

Breadth at half length, 2 in

Max. thickness (at half length), $1\frac{1}{4}$ in

Thickness at bevel "shoulder", $1\frac{1}{8}$ in

Thickness at poll, $\frac{5}{8}$ in.

Weight, 1lb $3\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

Ground on all surfaces adjacent to cutting edge; grinding extends to about half-length on anterior surface.

Remainder chipped to shape, with projections reduced by bruising.

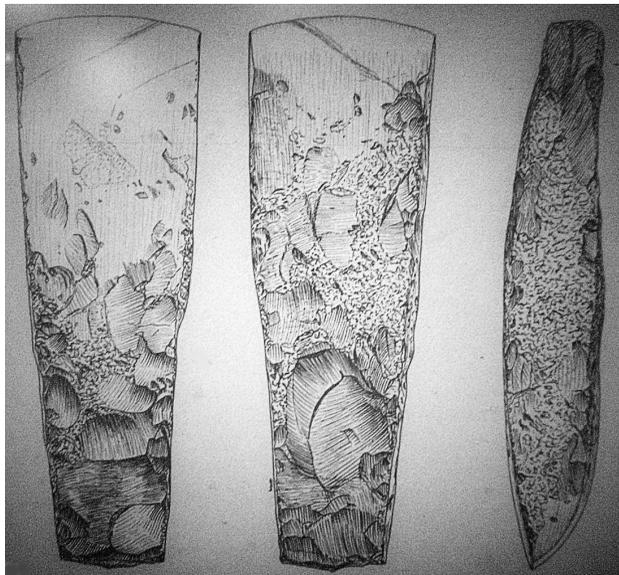
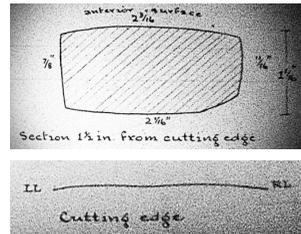
Poll neat and symmetrical, but not ground.

Main bevel (on posterior side) makes an *uma* with no definite bevel shoulder; the bevel curves into the posterior surface.

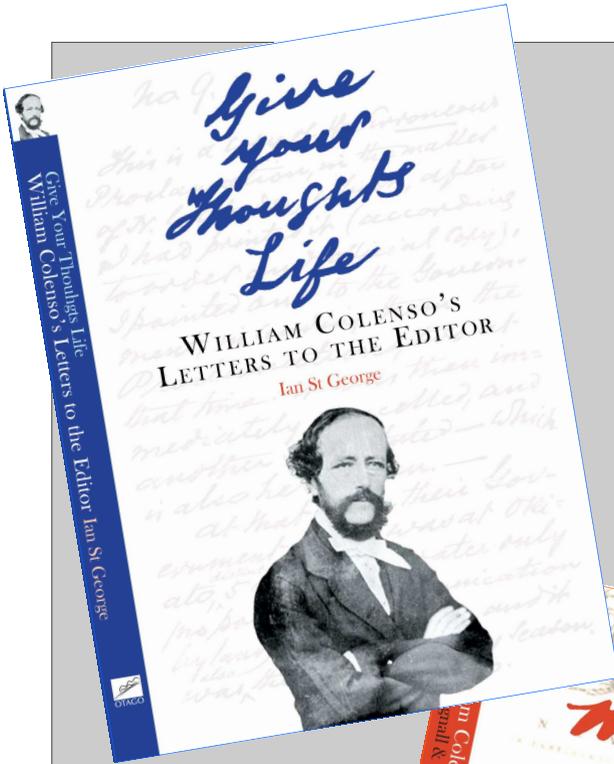
Material: best quality blackstone – black with some lighter mottling; "bundle" of dark lines (parting) near cutting edge.

Cross-section quadrilateral with all surfaces slightly convex.

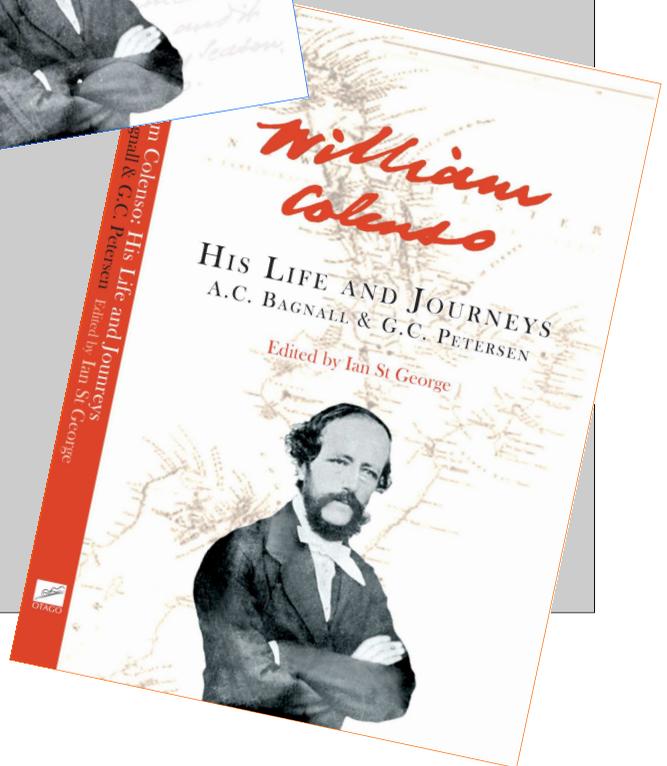
Angle of obliquity of butt to main plane of adze, c. 8° .



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later
this
year...





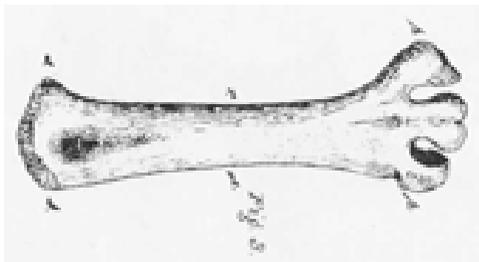
Colenso's mere and moa tarsus

Photograph supplied by Gillian Bell, who wrote that the note was written to Edith Swabey by her brother, Martin Simcox. The inscription reads, "Enana (*Inanga?*) Greenstone. Grandfather's green stone mere, & moa shin bone."

This mere was sold at Dunbar Sloane's auction in 1987 for \$3000.

(Another mere was sold at the same auction for the same sum: it was not Colenso's, but a "Contact period stone mere discovered Dublin late 1960's". That mere was later resold at Webb's auction in 2008 for \$13,000, when its provenance was given as "...previously sold Dunbar Sloane Wellington, 'The William Colenso Collection' sale (1987) Lot 443. L.380mm. D.95mm. Y4794.")

The moa tarsus appears similar to the specimen Colenso described and drew for the *Tasmanian Journal* in 1843, though the drawing appears to be of a bone that lacked the proximal epiphysis





Yours very truly
W. Colenso

Those were the days. When going home from school we saw a lot of William Colenso. To us he was a lovely old man, who, in the fruit season, would be waiting for us at his gate, opening onto Milton road, & handing out whatever fruit was ~~ripe~~^{left}, apples, plums, pears, peaches, apricots, walnuts; my favourites were the figs, big, luscious & sweet. During summer, bathing parades for the school

Extract from the diary of Ralph Smith 1887-1976: "Retrospection" - childhood in Napier:
Alexander Turnbull Library qMS-1829.