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# SOUTHLAND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

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Published by Authority.

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VOL. 3.]

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1865.

[No. 23.]

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## POSTAL.

POST OFFICE AT GREENHILLS, SOUTH-  
LAND, CLOSED.

General Post Office,  
Wellington, 11th October, 1865.

**I**T is hereby notified for public infor-  
mation that the Post Office at

GREENHILLS,

in the Province of Southland, has been  
closed.

J. L. C. RICHARDSON,  
Postmaster-General.

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## POSTAL.

POST OFFICE KNOWN AS GREY RIVER  
TO BE CALLED THE GREYMOUTH.

General Post Office,  
Wellington, 20th October, 1865.

**N**OTICE is hereby given that the  
Post Office, in the Province of  
Canterbury, now known as the "Grey  
River," will be henceforth designated the

GREYMOUTH POST OFFICE,

G. ELLIOTT ELLIOTT,  
Secretary, General Post Office.

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**H**IS Excellency the Governor has been  
pleased to appoint

HENRY M'CULLOCH

in the Province of Southland, Esquire, to  
be Sheriff for the district of Southland.

HENRY SEWELL.

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Superintendent's Office,  
Southland, 22nd November, 1865.

**I**T is hereby notified that Alexander  
M'Nab, Esquire, has resigned his  
seat in the Provincial Council, for the  
district of Campbelltown.

JOHN P. TAYLOR,  
Superintendent.

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Superintendent's Office,  
Southland, 20th November, 1865.

**I**T is hereby notified that the Titipua  
Quarantine Ground for sheep, as  
described in the Southland Provincial  
Government Gazette, No. 18, 20th May,  
1864, will cease to be a Quarantine  
Ground, on and after the 25th inst.

JNO. P. TAYLOR,  
Superintendent.

**REGISTRATION OFFICERS APPOINTED.**

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Wellington, 4th November, 1865.

**H**IS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint the following gentlemen to be Registration Officers for the districts set opposite their names, as constituted by "The Representation Act, 1865:"—

\* \* \* \* \*  
JOHN HARE, Invercargill, Mataura,  
Riverton, Wallace.  
E. W. STAFFORD.

Superintendent's Office.  
Southland, 24th Nov. 1865.

**I**N pursuance of the power vested in me, in that behalf by the Vaccination Act, 1863, I hereby appoint

F. A. MONCKTON, Esq.,

to be a Vaccinator for the Invercargill district.

JOHN P. TAYLOR,  
Superintendent.

**PROCLAMATION.**

By his Honor ALFRED SAUNDERS, Esquire, Superintendent of the Province of Nelson, in the Islands of New Zealand, &c., &c., &c.

**W**HEREAS by a proclamation, bearing date the Twelfth day of December, 1861, JOHN PERRY ROBINSON, Esquire, then Superintendent of the Province of Nelson, did declare and proclaim that the Colonies of Australia, that is to say, the Colony of Victoria, of New South Wales, of Queensland, of South Australia, and of Western Australia, as well as the Colony of Tasmania, and the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and also the Provinces of Otago and Southland, in the Colony of New Zealand, should be deemed to be for the purposes of the "Diseased Cattle Act, 1861," Infected Districts.

And whereas, by a proclamation, bearing date the Eleventh day of August, 1863, the aforesaid proclamation was revoked in so far as the same related to the Colonies of South Australia and Tasmania, and the District of Twofold Bay, in the Colony of New South Wales.

And whereas by a proclamation, bearing date the Fifth day of February, 1864, the District of Twofold Bay, in the Colony of New South Wales was declared to be an Infected District within the meaning of the "Diseased Cattle Act, 1861."

And whereas it is expedient to remove the prohibition from the whole of the Australian Colonies. Now therefore I, ALFRED SAUNDERS, Superintendent of the Province of Nelson, by virtue of the powers vested in me by a warrant of the Governor of New Zealand issued under the provisions of the said Act, do hereby revoke the said several proclamations in so far as the same relate to the Colonies of Victoria, of New South Wales, of South Australia, of Western Australia, of Queensland, and Tasmania, and I do hereby declare that the said several Colonies shall not from the date hereof until further notice be deemed *Infected Districts* for the purposes of the said Act.

Given under my hand and issued under the Public Seal of the Province of Nelson, this Thirty-first day of October, One thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

ALFRED SAUNDERS,  
Superintendent.

Attested ALFRED GREENFIELD,  
Provincial Secretary.

**DISEASED CATTLE REGULATIONS.****PROCLAMATION.**

By His Honor ISAAC EARL FEATHERSTON, Esquire, Superintendent of the Province of Wellington, in the Colony of New Zealand.

**W**HEREAS by Section No. 9 of the "Diseased Cattle Act 1861" it is enacted that "If at any time it shall be made to appear to the Governor that any infectious or contagious disease has broken out in any district out of the Colony it shall be lawful for the Governor by Order in Council to declare that such district is infected within the meaning of this Act and from time to time to make such regulations as to him shall seem fit for prohibiting the importation of cattle into the Colony from such district and the landing or driving of such cattle and for destroying cattle imported

landed or driven contrary to such regulations" and by Section 10 of the same Act it is also enacted that "if at any time it shall be made to appear to the Governor that an infectious or contagious disease has broken out among cattle in any district of the Colony it shall be lawful for the Governor by Order in Council to declare that such district is infected within the meaning of this Act and from time to time to make such regulations for destroying diseased cattle therein and for prohibiting the removal or transportation of cattle from one part of the Colony to another and for preventing the further spread of such disease as to him shall seem fit" and it is by the same Act also enacted that the Governor in Council may by warrant under his hand from time to time delegate to the Superintendent of any Province within the Colony all or any of the powers vested in the Governor or Governor in Council by the said Act subject to such regulations as he may think fit and may from time to time rescind such delegation. And whereas the Governor hath with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of New Zealand delegated to Isaac Earl Featherston Esq. so long as he shall hold the office of Superintendent of the Province of Wellington the several powers vested in the Governor by the second fourth fifth seventh ninth and tenth Sections of the said Act subject to being rescinded as in the said Act is provided and subject to the regulations issued by the Governor in Council on the 18th day of September 1865 and to any other regulations to be from time to time duly made:

Now therefore I the said Isaac Earl Featherston by virtue of the powers vested in me in this behalf do hereby proclaim and declare—first that after the date hereof the several Colonies of Australia that is to say the Colony of Victoria the Colony of New South Wales the Colony of Queensland the Colony of South Australia and the Colony of Western Australia as well as the Colony of Tasmania and the Colony of Cape of Good Hope and the Islands of Great Britain and Ireland shall be deemed to be infected districts within the meaning and for the purposes of the above-mentioned Act and that no cattle after the date hereof until further notice shall be imported into the Province of Wellington

from such districts Provided however that the Superintendent of the Province may allow any cattle to be landed from vessels from the Islands of Great Britain and Ireland, subject to such conditions and restrictions as he may deem expedient and the circumstances of any case may require And I do also proclaim and declare that after the date hereof the Provinces of Auckland Otago and Southland in the Colony of New Zealand shall be deemed to be infected districts within the meaning of the said Act and that no cattle shall be imported into the Province of Wellington from either of the said Provinces.

Given under my hand and issued under the Public Seal of the Province of Wellington at  
P.S. Wellington this nineteenth day of September one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

I. E. FEATHERSTON,  
Superintendent.

By His Honor's command,  
A. FOLLETT HALCOMBE,  
Provincial Secretary.

#### COMMISSION.

INTERNATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITIONS TO BE HELD IN BOMBAY, PARIS, AND MELBOURNE RESPECTIVELY.

By His Excellency Sir GEORGE GREY, Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Her Majesty's Colony of New Zealand and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

TO THEIR HONORS THE SUPERINTENDENTS FOR THE TIME BEING OF THE PROVINCES IN THE COLONY OF NEW ZEALAND, GREETING:

WHEREAS it has been proposed that an International Exhibition of Works of Industry and Art should be held in Bombay, which Exhibition it is proposed should be opened on the fourth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six.

And whereas it has been proposed that a similar Exhibition should be held in Paris in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven.

And whereas it has been proposed that a similar Exhibition should be held in Melbourne in the early part of the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six.

And whereas it is expedient that a Commission should be appointed for the purpose of securing the proper representation, at such aforesaid Exhibitions respectively, of the produce, arts, and manufactures of the Colony of New Zealand.

Now know ye, that I, the Governor reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability have authorised and appointed you, and do, by these Presents authorize and appoint you the said Superintendents for the time being of the Provinces in the Colony of New Zealand, to be a Commission for the purpose of securing the proper representation at such aforesaid Exhibitions respectively, of the produce, arts, and manufactures of the said colony.

And I do hereby further authorize you respectively to appoint in the several Provinces of which you are Superintendents, local Committees of such persons as each of you may consider it expedient to appoint for the purpose of encouraging the production of articles to be exhibited.

And I do hereby further authorize you respectively to conduct communication between the Exhibitors and the Commissioners of the several aforesaid proposed Exhibitions.

And I do hereby give and grant you the said Commission, and each of you, power and authority by all lawful means and ways whatsoever to carry out all matters and things tending to the completion of the object of this Commission.

Given under my hand, at the Government House, at Wellington, and issued under the Seal of the Colony of New Zealand, this thirteenth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five.

G. GREY.

By His Excellency's command,  
J. C. RICHMOND.

## EXPEDITION TO THE AUCKLAND ISLANDS.

The following reports have been forwarded to the Provincial Government by J. H. Baker, Esq., Chief Surveyor, and J. B. Greig, Esq., Harbour-Master, and are published for general information.

By Order.

W. H. AYLMEY,

Clerk to Superintendent.

Chief Surveyor's Office,  
Southland, Nov. 13th, 1865.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit to you a short report on the physical geography, geological formation, and resources of the Auckland Islands. Captain Greig, in his report, will probably have given you a full description of the various steps that were taken to render our search for shipwrecked people on these islands successful, and informed you of the different traces we found of people having lived within a short date, on the eastern side of Rendezvous Harbor, which but too truly indicated that the Grafton was not the only vessel that had been wrecked on the shores of this inhospitable island.

The Auckland Islands were discovered by Capt. Bristow, in the year 1806, and formally taken possession of by him in the name of the King, when he visited them a year later. They were next visited by Admiral D'Urville's and Commodore Wilkes' expeditions, in 1839. The vessels of the Antarctic Expedition also called at them in 1840, and during their stay Drs. Lyall and Hooker made a large collection of the different plants and shrubs indigenous to the islands of which they published a full account in the first volume of the Antarctic Flora.

About this time the Auckland Isles seem to have been the favorite resort of the South Sea whalers, and in 1850 a large whaling establishment was started at Port Ross, in Rendezvous Harbor. The number of houses now fallen into decay, and the large amount of work that has been done in clearing the scrub, would indicate that at some time at least 200 people must have been located at this spot, and at that time the settlement must have been in a prosperous condition, as a surgeon of one of the whalers in giving an account of a cruise in the South Seas, mentions the settlement, and remarks that in the course of time it would probably become a settlement of considerable importance; but in 1852

the whaling establishment was broken up and the islands were totally deserted.

The Auckland group consist of two large and several smaller islands—Enderby, Rose, and Ocean Islands—forming the north-western, and Green Island, the south-eastern entrance to Rendezvous Harbor, situated at the extreme northern part of the island, in lat.  $50^{\circ} 32'$ , and long.  $166^{\circ} 13'$ . This harbor is of considerable size, and would afford shelter and secure anchorage to vessels of the largest description. It is nine miles in length from the entrance between Enderby and Green Islands, to the head of Laurie Cove, which is only separated from the West Coast by a short valley ending in a saddle of considerable height. The site of the old settlement is situated on a low peninsular, at the entrance to Laurie Cove. It is the most level spot in the whole island, and even this can hardly be called level, as it consists of irregular mounds of peat, from which the dense scrub with which it was originally covered, has been cleared away. The last vestiges of the old settlement have nearly disappeared, and in a few years it will be difficult for a stranger to find the site of Port Ross. Shoe Island is a remarkable feature in this port, as it lies in the centre of the harbor, half-way between the heads and Laurie Cove, and it is formed of basaltic rock, which takes the form of a shoe. It rises perpendicular out of the water, which is of a considerable depth all round it.

Basaltic Hump, which I see is called "Deas Head" by Sir James Ross, in the Antarctic Expedition, is another curious feature in this harbor. It is formed of a large mass of basaltic rock in perfect columns, which rise to the height of 100 feet. I should like to have explored it, but our stay in that part of the harbor was very limited. There is a narrow passage with from five to 12 fathoms of water between the eastern head of the harbor, and Green Island, through which the "Southland" passed on her way down the east coast. A sunken reef runs off this head in an easterly direction for some miles; but there is a passage for small vessels between the reef and the eastern shore of the main island. It is dangerous, except in very calm weather, as a mile from the land the sea breaks with considerable violence over the reef.

The main island is nearly 25 miles in length, and the whole group from Enderby island to South Cape on Adams' Island, in latitude  $50^{\circ} 56'$  and longitude  $166^{\circ} 7'$ , is about 32 miles.

The main island is extremely narrow at the Northern end, and gradually increases in width towards the south end, where it is 15 miles across.

Adams' Island is at the south end of the main island. It forms the south side of the entrance to Carnley's Harbor and its western arm.

The east coast of the main island greatly resembles the West Coast of Otago, on a miniature scale; being a succession of rocky headlands, which form the entrance to the remarkable inlets, which penetrate in most cases to within a few miles of the West Coast of the island. The character and description of these inlets so much resemble each other, that it is impossible to give a detailed account of them; from the eastward there is so much sameness in their appearance, that it is difficult to distinguish one from the other, some of them having more the appearance of ravines between the mountains, than the entrances to harbors. Between Rendezvous and Carnley's Harbor there are six large bays, some of them being nearly landlocked, and five sounds or inlets. Most of these have two arms which are rarely more than half-a-mile in width and often not so much; in some of them we had only just room to swing the steamer. A small river, or rather a mountain torrent, runs into the sea at the head of each of them, but so steep and precipitous are the mountains, that some of these form waterfalls and cascades half-a-mile from the sea. One of these sounds I named Cascade Inlet, and I have seldom seen a more grand or magnificent sight than we saw here. One of the largest mountains on the island forms a semi-circular cone round the head of the Inlet, and down the side of this mountain fell innumerable waterfalls and cascades of all shapes and sizes and of considerable volume. All of them apparently spring out of the ground, and the white spray rising in clouds, when it reaches the rocks below, glistens in the sun, and gives them at a distance the appearance of masses of pure white marble. There had been a heavy fall of snow the night before, and at this time of the year it melts very quickly, which would account for the large amount of water that was pouring down when we were there.

Basin Bay was another striking and interesting feature on the east coast. So evenly do the mountains rise up all round it, that one might almost fancy it had been scooped out of a tremendous hill, and that the Bay was a little water at the bottom. Here, as at Cascade Inlet, the drainage of the hills falls in numerous little waterfalls which have not as yet, as far as we could see, made any impression on the side of the hill which might be called a water-course or gully.

The entrance to Carnley Harbor in lat.  $50^{\circ} 50'$  is extremely narrow, being little more than a mile in width, the cliffs on each side being nearly perpendicular. The harbour is divided into three main arms, the northern, middle, and western. The northern arm is most exposed. It is here the "Grafton" was wrecked.

It runs in a north-westerly direction to within a few miles of the coast, being only separated by a low saddle which I overlooked from a high hill on the north side of the harbor. The middle arm is separated from the Northern by a peninsula, the hill on it rising up in the shape of a beautiful cone. It is covered with scrub at the base, and grass at the top; the neck of this peninsula being only a few chains wide.

The Middle arm has two round bays at its western extremity, and the large quantity of *debris* that has been brought down, by the mountain torrents, at the head of them has formed two large flats extending across the bays nearly a mile from the shore, which are uncovered at low water. They are composed of angular fragments of rock and mud. Between the south head of this arm and Masked Island there is a deep bay, which, from the peculiar appearance of the mountain above it, we called "Amphitheatre Cove." The view of this bay from the harbor is strikingly beautiful. From about half way up the hill, which is nearly 2,000 feet in altitude, basaltic columns rise in regular order (with a small intervening space) one over the other, to the top of the hill, which is one colossal mass of basaltic rock. These columns extend with few breaks entirely round the bay, in regular order, and the lowest columns are at least 100 feet in height. They decrease in size towards the top of the mountain, or the elevation gives them the appearance of doing so.

Camp Cove and Masked Island form the north head of the western arm. The former is perfectly landlocked and forms a miniature harbor in Carnley's Harbor. It affords safe anchorage for vessels of any size, the depth of water ranging from 20 to 4 fathoms. It was here the "Southland" was moored whilst we remained in Carnley's Harbor.

Masked Island is just off the head of Camp Cove. It is very small, and seems to have been a favorite resort for seals, before they were disturbed by Captain Musgrave's party.

The western arm is extremely narrow, not exceeding  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles in its broadest part. It is connected with the west coast of the island by a very narrow passage which has a small island in the centre named by Capt. Musgrave "Monumental Island." The tide rushes through this passage with great velocity, rendering it unsafe for any vessel to pass through; and with a strong westerly wind the breakers rushing through such a narrow gap, makes the whole passage one sheet of foam, which in a strong gale must be a really magnificent sight.

The south coast of Adam's Island presents an almost unbroken line of perpendicular cliffs, which extend in a south-westerly direc-

tion to the South Cape. On the west side of this cape a narrow inlet running in a northerly direction ends in an abrupt ravine. The entrance to this inlet is between two immense cliffs, which tower like walls to a height of several hundred feet. I was sorry that the weather prevented us exploring this inlet; not that we should have found any one there, as it would be impossible for anybody to live, or even to gain a footing, so abruptly do the cliffs rise out of the sea; but the trouble would have been amply repaid by the insight we should have gained into the geological formation of the south of Adams' Island.

From the South Cape, the coast line runs in a north-westerly direction to West Cape. A little to the east of this cape the entrance to the narrow passage running into the western arm commences; on the east side of the entrance are two curious rocks, jet black in colour. They rise like two immense pillars, and mark the entrance of this dangerous passage.

From the West Cape the coast trends to the North-east, almost in a straight line to the north point of the main island, a distance of about twenty-six miles. This coast may well be called precipitous and iron-bound, as the cliffs form a continuous wall, almost without a break, some of them overhanging one another, and attaining an elevation of at least six or seven hundred feet.

Disappointment island, in lat.  $50^{\circ} 36'$  and long.  $166^{\circ}$  is situated from three to four miles from the Western shore of the main island. It is not much larger than Enderby Island, but far more abrupt and steep. The lower part of the hill is covered with scrub, the top of it appearing to be grass country. We did not pass near enough to examine it closely, but I think that the hill is covered with the same description of peat as we found on the main land.

The whole of the Auckland Group is mountainous in the extreme. Nowhere did I see a flat of any considerable size, and "the level plains covered with beautiful grass and refreshing verdure" (as quoted by F. F. Shillinglaw, F. R. G. S., the editor of Captain Musgrave's journal) is all a myth. I ascended to the top of the range on the west side of Rendezvous Harbor, and obtained a good view of the whole of the backbone range of the main island as far as Giant's Tomb, (so named by Captain Musgrave) the most elevated hill on the island, situated on the north side of Carnley's Harbor.

The main range commences at Mount Eden, (1325 feet.) This is the most remarkable feature at the north end of the island. The top of the hill is composed of an immense rock which can be seen all the way up the east coast. It was ascended by Mr. Richardson, who describes it as

being 60 feet in height and of a considerable circumference at the base. From here the main range runs down the west coast, forming on the one side the immense cliffs and precipices observed there, and on the other throwing out spurs which form the dividing ridges, and headlands between the numerous inlets on the East Coast. I only observed two breaks in the whole range; one about half way down the east coast, at a place we named Saddle Hill Inlet, because a saddle at the head of the inlet led directly across to the west coast. The other is nearly at the end of the range, being the saddle at the head of the northern arm of Carnley's Harbor.

The range on Adam's Island runs nearly at right angles to the main range, and probably at an early period formed part of it.

The shores of the whole of the Auckland Isles, with the exception of the west and part of the south coast, are covered with scrub for a considerable distance up the side of the hills. In some places it is rather thick and difficult to penetrate; but in others it is very open and not at all bad travelling, for such hilly country. The largest scrub is found round Carnley's Harbor. It consists chiefly of iron wood, and a tree called the black oak. Neither of these grow to any height. The iron wood grows to a considerable thickness, but is very knotty and irregular. It might be used for the knees of ships, but I did not see any fit for sawing purposes, the open land on the tops of the hills is all peat of a very spongy and wet description; in fact the whole of the surface of the island, with the exception of the rocks, is pure peat; and I can safely say that during the time I was there, I never saw an acre of ground that was not perfectly saturated with water; and it can only be in very dry seasons that the surface gets thoroughly dry.

The open country is chiefly covered with large tussocks of snow grass, cotton plant, moss and other plants indigenous to the island. I did not pay much attention to the flora of these Islands. Most of them have been fully described by Dr. Hooker in the *New Zealand Flora*. I brought specimens of several of the most beautiful of them, amongst which I noticed the *Arabia Polaris*, p. 100, N.Z.F.; *Pleurophyllum Criniferum*, p. 129, N.Z.F.; and *Authericum Rossii*, p. 285, N.Z.F., which I hope will live and thrive in Southland. The average temperature whilst we were at the islands was about 50° I see that Sir James Ross, in the Antarctic expedition, gives the average temperature for the same month at 45.27

The geology of the islands is exceedingly meagre, but not uninteresting. The rocks of which

they are formed belong to the Trappean group, and are mostly composed of the following, viz. —

#### GREENSTONE.

- 1st.—Granular.
- 2nd.—Porphyretic, containing crystals of hornblende, and opalescent felspar.
- 3rd.—Laminated, possessing a distinct cleavage in one direction.

#### TRAPTUFF.

- 1st.—Amygdaloidal.
  - 2nd.—Versicular.
- Silicious felstones.  
Crystalline hornblendic rock, and crystalline hypersthene.  
Syenitic gneiss, and granitic syenitic gneiss.  
Columnar basalt, similar in appearance to the Giant's Causeway, and islands of Staffa.

In addition to the above rocks, there are bands of some thickness having the appearance of stratification; and one bed in particular is a conglomerate of considerable thickness, the nodules in it being rounded, and well water-worn, consisting, for the most part of agate and jasper, some of them of a large size; the whole forming a hard and well cemented mass. The thickness of this bed, if properly obtained, would be some foundation of relative date.

The whole surface of the islands, even to the top of the highest hills, (Mr Richardson and myself having ascended five of the highest) is covered with a deposit to a considerable depth of genuine peat, (not lignite), similar in appearance and physical character to the peat of the Irish bogs. This when cut, (as we found in one place at the old settlement in Rendezvous Harbour) from some distance from the surface and dried, becomes quite hard and firm, like the Irish turf, and produces the same cheerful and pleasant fire, altogether free from the usual suffocating smell of lignite. This deposit, as it rests directly on all the different rocks alike, might also form some clue as to the age of the formation of these islands.

From the foregoing short description, the geologist will at once perceive that *no stratified rocks*, properly so called, are to be found on the island; and that "the old formation of granite, schist, and limestone," &c.; "and in another place, new red sandstone," said to have been found, cannot really be the case. One of the specimens obtained on the north side of Carnley's Harbour, about two miles to the west of Musgrave's house, is of interest. It consists of three distinct layers of greenstone, all possessing a well-defined cleavage in one direction; but at each side of the centre layer, there is a very thin band of fossil substance, probably moss or fuchoid, the organic substance being replaced by hornblende, or siliceous of a black color.

Besides the above specimens, there is a piece of genuine limestone of a light grey color, and crystalline texture; but as it was found in a heap near the old settlement in Rendezvous Harbour, it is probably a stranger, and must have been brought by one of the vessels for building purposes.

These observations are made from a hurried inspection of such parts of the island as I landed at. Of course a more minute examination would have been far more satisfactory.

In concluding my report, I must beg to acknowledge the kindness and courtesy of Captain Greig in command, and the valuable assistance of Mr. G. F. Richardson, in obtaining much data concerning these islands.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN H. BAKER,

Chief Surveyor.

His Honor the Superintendent of Southland.

Invercargill, 11th Nov., 1865.

SIR,—I have the honor to report the safe arrival in New River, of the Steamer *Southland*, after having made search in the Auckland Islands for shipwrecked persons, and found none. An outfit of the incidents of the voyage, I shall endeavour to give, as follows:—

The *Southland*, under my command, left New River on the 14th ultimo, having on board seventeen souls, including Dr. Monckton, Mr. Baker (chief surveyor), and Mr. G. F. Richardson, reporter for the Press.

After getting into Foveaux Straits, a fresh gale sprung up from South West, bringing with it a considerable swell, which caused the vessel to roll her sponsons under water, and threaten to wash away the wing houses placed on them, which had not been very securely fastened. As the gale appeared to be increasing I put into Port Adventure, partly to obtain shelter, and partly to get the wing houses and paddle-boxes better secured.

This last having been accomplished as far as was practicable, and the gale having eased, we left Port Adventure at 6 p.m. on the 18th, passed the South Cape of Stewart's Island at 10.30 a.m., and on the morning of the 19th passed within three miles of the Snares.

The weather being clear at the time, we could have seen any ordinary signal made on these

islands by shipwrecked persons, had any been there. Next day (20th Oct.) the wind freshened, from W. N. W., with a high sea, thick haze and rain. The density of the fog prevented our seeing the land until 4 p.m., and before we got inshore, the weather thickened again; and as night was coming on, I preferred to keep clear of the land, and keep under canvass till morning.

At daybreak on the 21st we steamed closely round Enderby Island, and into Lawrie Cove, at the head of Port Ross, closely scanning the shore all the way with our glasses. This anchorage is easy of access, and perfectly safe, being entirely landlocked; but with westerly winds it is subject to violent gusts of wind, which come through a deep gully at the head of it. We remained in this place until the morning of the 26th and during the time visited all the shores and bays in the neighborhood, without meeting in with any traces of persons who had been recently there. The weather very much prevented our explorations, for it blew hard the whole time, with snow and hail squalls. We disintered the body found by the crew of the *Flying Scud*, and putting it in a box, buried it in a place near four mounds of graves, and placed a head board to it, with an inscription painted thereon, stating who had found the body and by whom it had been buried there. The opinion of Dr. Monckton, on examining the skeleton was that it must have been dead at least twelve months.

The only traces left of cast-away persons were on Ocean Point, and these must have been some twelve months old. These were the remains of a hut, 10 x 12 originally built of small branches and grass, and near to the hut was a large heap of limpet shells, which evidently showed the nature of the food the unfortunates must have principally subsisted upon.

On an eminence a little to the westward, which commanded an extensive view of the ocean to the northward, lay prostrate a resemblance to a cross, probably put up originally for a signal staff.

On the beach, a little distance from the point, was the wreck of a small boat, made of small sticks interlacing each other like wicker work, and fastened with strips of seal hide. This last-mentioned material had probably been used for a covering to the outside of it.

From Ocean Point all along the shore to the place which had been the head quarters of the settlement, there were evidences of former occupation, such as remnants of whares and patches of ground which had been cleared and cultivated, but now were all overgrown with luxuriant vegetation.

About two miles down the bay, on the south side, we found an old ship's boat, square sterned, about eighteen feet long, entirely weather bleached, and overgrown with moss inside. No name on it.

I should have mentioned that on our first landing we saw a large trunk of a tree, which had been smoothed to admit the following inscription being cut out on it:—

“H.M.C.S. *Victoria*,  
 “Norman,  
 “in search for  
 “shipwrecked  
 “people,  
 “Oct. 13th,  
 “1865.”

And placed in a hollow of the tree was a bottle, enclosing a letter, of which the following is a copy:—

“H.M.C.S. *Victoria*,  
 “October 17th, 1865.

“The above ship arrived in this harbor on the 13th October, 1865, having searched every bay from Adam’s Island to the Sandy Bay in Enderby’s Island, for shipwrecked people. She will leave here to-morrow, to continue the search round the western shores of the island to Carnley’s Harbor, and from thence to Campbell’s Island, Antipodes Island, and Bounty Island.

“On Enderby’s Island have been landed some goats and rabbits, for the purpose of increasing their numbers, to relieve shipwrecked people. Some goats have also been landed here, and vegetables and trees planted near the marked tree, for the same purposes; and this humane service has been performed by order of the Governments of Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland. It is requested any visitors to these shores will give every aid in their power to secure this benevolent object, and not allow the animals and plants to be exterminated or destroyed.

(Signed) “W. H. NORMAN,  
 “Commander.

Before leaving the place, we planted about a cwt. of potatoes, and sowed some carrot and turnip seed, in ground which we dug up for that purpose, and at another place landed a dozen of domestic fowls. We left a memorandum of our visit cut out on a board, which we nailed to a tree near the *Victoria*’s, and deposited a bottle enclosing a letter stating the object of our visit, by whom it had been ordered, and the manner we intended to prosecute further our search. Wherever any of our party went fires were made, and the smoke of them might occasionally be seen rising from the tops of the adjacent hills; and on one occasion from the top of Mount Eden, 1365 feet above the sea level, so that before leaving we dispelled any remaining doubts we had that living persons might still be existing there.

Feeling that nothing of service could be effected by remaining longer at that place, we got under way on the morning of the 26th. The wind had just shifted round to N.W.—hazy and raining; barometer, 29.40—falling.

We passed between Rose Island and the main examining the shore as we went along, and the whaleboat keeping a quarter of a mile ahead with the mate sounding. In this way we passed inside of Briscoe Reef, or rather through a passage about a mile and a-half from the shore, and about a quarter of a mile wide. A long ground swell from S.E. breaking high on the reef on each side of us, I was obliged to keep considerable way on the vessel, and could only use ten fathoms of line in sounding, but at that depth found no bottom. We went into the first bay we came to, which lies about six miles south of Briscoe Reef. It forms three bays, which induced us to name it Treple Bay.

Seeing nothing in it, we went into the next inlet, three miles farther on. The entrance to it is about three-quarters of a mile wide, and the inlet runs up about three miles.

Seeing it was a safe anchoring place, I chose to remain there all night, as I apprehended a gale coming from S.E. After anchoring, the barometer fell to 28.90; and at 8 p.m. the wind blew a hurricane right up the inlet from S.E., but the vessel was moored with two anchors out in deep water, and two hawsers from the bow to the shore, so that she rode safely in smooth water.

The following day (27th) we examined all the shores of the bay, without meeting with what we looked for, the sea still running high outside. Wind, south; barometer, 49.30. This place we named Long Inlet. On Saturday, 28th, at daylight, got under way, blowing at the time a fresh gale from W.S.W., barometer, 29.40. This day we did not land with the boat, but stood into all the bays on the east coast till we came to Carnley’s Harbor. Each bay we came to we steamed up to the head of, and so near to the land that we could have easily discerned so small an object as an oar lying on the beach. These bays or inlets we named as we entered them, in the order as follows, beginning from Long Inlet, namely—Saddle Hill Bay, Seal Inlet, Cascade Inlet, Open Inlet, Basin Bay, and Smoke Bay.

At the head of Saddle Hill Bay and Cascade Inlet, a vessel could safely anchor in from 13 to 8 fathoms, and be entirely landlocked.

The place we named Smoke Bay was close to that on which the crew of the *Flying Scud* supposed they saw smoke. I was therefore more particular in examining its shores; and this I did with such minuteness that I could discern by the aid of my glass the individual pebbles on the beach, but saw not a broken branch, nor

any trace giving evidence that human life had ever existed there. On reaching Carnley's Harbor, we anchored in the place named by Capt. Musgrave "Camp Cove."

We remained in this snug spot, safely moored head and stern, until the morning of the 6th instant, and during the time visited with the whale-boat all the shores we could reach on either side of us but our operations were very much prevented by the state of the weather; which was one continued gale from the westward, with snow, rain, and hail squalls.

On one occasion we were two days absent from the vessel, the gale having increased so as to render impracticable our return. On our visit to the hut constructed by the crew of the *Grafton*, we again discovered a bottle, containing a letter left by the *Victoria*. I wrote on the back of the letter a notice of our visit to that part, and also that we (which we did) had planted potatoes there, and likewise on Musgrave's Peninsula sowed carrot and turnip seed, and landed goats, and also at Camp Cove domestic fowls. I then placed the letter in the bottle, and left it as I found it.

In this place we adopted our former practice of making fires wherever any of our party went, and on some occasions these could be seen like bush-fires from a distance of many miles.

On Monday, the 6th instant, we got under way at daylight, and during the day steamed to the head of all the arms of the harbor, and, as formerly, fired guns to attract attention, but without result.

Being satisfied now that nothing further could be done there, we anchored for the night in

Camp Cove. Got under way again the following morning (5th inst.), and proceeded to sea through the eastern passage, and went closely round the south side of Adam's Island, and along the west side of the Auckland Group.

In going alongshore, I was unable to keep so close to the land as I would have wished. There was a heavy swell rolling in upon the shore, accompanied by a fresh breeze, and I therefore kept at between three and four miles, distance, all the way along the west side.

The tops of the hills were obscured by the haze, but the lower part of the shore was distinctly visible, unless during an occasional squall, which would only last from five to ten minutes.

At 4 p.m. we got to the north end, and passed Enderby Island shortly afterwards. The wind then moderated, but the swell considerably retarded our progress, so that it was 4 p.m. on the following day before we passed the Snares. I may here remark, that I saw no evidence of the easterly current spoken of by Captain Musgrave on his first arrival here, for the *Southland* came in upon the spot steered for both going and coming.

At daylight on the 9th, we made Stewart's Island, and came up to the wharf here this afternoon.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. GRAIG.

To His Honor the Superintendent.

Superintendent's Office, Southland, 20th November, 1865.

IN accordance with Clause 73 of the Town Board Ordinance, 1863, the following statement of the ACCOUNTS of the INVERCARGILL TOWN BOARD is Published for general information.

By order,

W. H. AYLMER,  
Clerk to Superintendent.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.—TRANSFER.

| DR.                            |                                 | CR.          |                        |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| 1865.                          |                                 | 1865.        |                        |
| July 13.                       | To printing and advertising ... | July 13.     | By assessment account  |
|                                | £193 1 5                        |              | £2831 16 2             |
|                                | „ Law expenses ...              |              | „ Special rates ...    |
|                                | 215 2 0                         |              | 185 9 6                |
|                                | „ Labour account ...            |              | „ Cemetery account ... |
|                                | 1043 7 11                       |              | 9 10 0                 |
|                                | „ Contracts ditto ...           |              | „ Deposit account ...  |
|                                | 17,961 2 11                     |              | 509 0 0                |
|                                | „ Extra work ...                |              | „ Burgoyne and Son     |
|                                | 1062 10 1                       |              | 0 10 0                 |
|                                | „ Town Board Office             |              |                        |
|                                | 266 7 4                         | Balance down | 20,910 2 10            |
|                                | „ Contingencies ...             |              |                        |
|                                | 515 13 1                        |              |                        |
|                                | „ Lamplighting account          |              |                        |
|                                | 342 0 6                         |              |                        |
|                                | „ Salaries account ...          |              |                        |
|                                | 1491 18 6                       |              |                        |
|                                | „ Interest account ...          |              |                        |
|                                | 1358 4 9                        |              |                        |
|                                | <u>£24,449 8 6</u>              |              | <u>£24,449 8 6</u>     |
| To balance brought down        | £20,910 2 10                    |              |                        |
| Invercargill, 14th July, 1865. |                                 |              |                        |

BALANCE SHEET OF THE INVERCARGILL TOWN BOARD TO  
14TH JULY, 1865.

| DR.                                    |                     | CR.                        |                     |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| G. F. Richardson ...                   | £10 0 0             | Bank of New Zealand...     | £10,925 8 8         |
| Bank of New Zealand, special rates ... | 38 5 1              | Provincial Government ...  | 9000 9 8            |
| General account ...                    | 20,910 2 10         | Campbell and Robertson ... | 814 15 0            |
| Cash balance ...                       | 14 2 1              | Hall and Macdonald ...     | 211 16 0            |
|  | <u>£20,972 10 0</u> | Discrepancy...             | 20 0 8              |
|  |                     |                            | <u>£20,972 10 0</u> |

Invercargill, 28th July, 1865.

We have examined the Books of the Invercargill Town Board, and find them correct. The balance outstanding against the Board on 31st March, 1865, is £20,910 2s. 10d. (twenty thousand nine hundred and ten pounds two shillings and tenpence sterling).

ARCH. BONAR, } Auditors appointed by  
FREDK. NUTTER, } the Town Board.

