

NEW ZEALAND CHRISTMAS CARDS.

NOW READY FOR SENDING HOME BY MAIL.

BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED, AND PRINTED IN COLORS BY
MEANS OF CHROMO-LITHOGRAPHY.TO BE OBTAINED FROM THE PRINCIPAL BOOK-
SELLERS THROUGHOUT THE COLONY, OR FROM
THE PUBLISHER, WANGANUI.*Price: 6d., 9d., and 1s. each, including postage.*

MR. A. D. WILLIS has much pleasure in submitting to the public of New Zealand his series of CHRISTMAS CARDS, executed at his Caxton Printing Works, Wanganui. In order to secure fidelity of design and taste in execution, the services of one of the most skilful and experienced artists from the Home country have been secured, and the result of his labors is a collection of scenes which Mr. Willis has the utmost confidence and satisfaction in placing before the public. These scenes embrace views of special interest, showing out to advantage those glimpses of mountain, lake, and glen, which, from the hands of a capable artist, are so well worth preservation; and other views reproduce the flora of New Zealand, in all the peculiar grandeur and charm of foliage and flower. Every scene has been executed from sketches actually taken by the artist in the bush, and the aspect of the snow-clad mountains and the effect of sun and shade are the results of his own personal observation. That the work has been ably and conscientiously carried out in every department of chromo-lithography, and every process of coloring, will be obvious from an examination of the cards; and the publisher can confidently point to them as proofs that artistic work of this kind can be produced in New Zealand equal to the very best of the imported cards. The main object of the publisher in issuing a series involving such an expenditure of skill, labor, and time, has been to supply the special want long felt by residents of the Colony who may wish to send to their friends on the other side of the world pictorial illustrations which shall convey an adequate idea and a tasteful realisation of the land we live in. Both in the strict fidelity to nature of the designs, and in the rich and suitable coloring, it is believed that this object has been fully attained. Several of the views have been submitted to skilled judges and experts, as well as to persons familiar with the scenes represented. They have excited the warmest admiration, and called forth expressions of surprise that work of such a kind can be produced in New Zealand on such a scale of finish and completeness. From the list of views which will be found below it will be seen how wonderfully varied they are in their sources and designs.

TREES, FERNS, ETC.

POROPORO—With its tapering leaf and striking flower.

TUTU—The tints of the drooping flowers being reproduced in all their beautiful shades.

NIKAU PALM—Most celebrated of the New Zealand flora, the majesty and grace of the spreading leaves being beautifully depicted.

KARAKA—In this the transition tints of the berries, from olive green to a bright orange, are well shown.

TAWA—Shewing the pretty purple berries on which the New Zealand pigeon generally feeds.

TITOKI—The New Zealand raspberry, whose handsome clusters of berries make this tree remarkable.

HOULI—The white open petals, with a faint yellow centre, are worthy of note.

PONGA FERN.—One of the finest of New Zealand tree ferns, the canopy of arching fronds constituting an effective picture.

KAREAO—The peculiar shape of the leaf and the bright scarlet berries of the Supplejack are here represented.

MOCK ORANGE—Shewing the contrast of the tiny white flowers and the rich orange berries.

KARAMU—With the clusters of bright berries on vividly green foliage.

BLACK MAIRIE—The spear-like leaves and variously-tinted berries of this well-known timber tree are shown to advantage.

WHEREO-WHEREO—The drooping leaves and berries of this parasitic plant are well represented.

POHUTUKAWA—The gorgeous appearance of these flowers has been well caught by the artist, who has here reproduced one of the most brilliant glimpses of scarlet in the N.Z. bush.

VIEWS.

RUAPEHU—From the Wanganui side. The view is surrounded by a cluster of ti-tree flowers and foliage.

MITRE PEAK—Milford Sound.

RANGITOTO ISLAND—At entrance to Auckland harbor.

MOUNT EGMONT—A belt of cloud surrounding the snow-clad cone.

MOUNT COOK—From the Canterbury side, with mountain torrent issuing from its base.

LAKE MANAPOURI—With snow-clad mountains in the back-ground.

LAKE ROTORUA—At evening, with the shadows lengthening in the placid lake.

AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF THE FREETHOUGHT
REVIEW.

Foxton ...	J. H. Conn	Wellington ...	W. Mackay
Palmerston North ...	H. Graff	Masterion ...	T. E. Price
Feilding ...	W. Carthow	Napier... ..	R. T. Smytho
Kennedy's ...	M. T. Blackburn	New Plymouth ...	J. Gilmour
Maxwell ...	J. Brown	Greymouth ...	W. H. Perkins
Waverley ...	H. F. Mason	Reefton ...	S. Schulhof
Patea ...	Jas. Kenworthy	Auckland ...	A. Campbell
Dunedin ...	Jos. Braithwaite		

Those willing to undertake the agency for places not named are requested to communicate at once with the publisher.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

We have been requested by the Secretary of the Wanganui Freethought Association to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a case of Freethought literature; also, a small parcel by Post, from "Blue Pencil."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Mr. Tregear's valuable paper is too late for our present number, but will appear in our next.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J.R.—The literal meaning of the word Atheist is "without God." Agnostic means "without knowledge" (of God.)

S.—The chronology of Archbishop Assher was accepted by most Christian authorities until Geology disturbed the reckoning. The theories of the Apologists since started are legion.

The Freethought Review.

WANGANUI, N.Z., OCTOBER 1, 1883.

OUR FIRST NUMBER.

IN introducing to the circle of its future readers the first number of THE FREETHOUGHT REVIEW, we desire to state in terms distinct and explanatory the ends and principles it is intended to serve. In the first place, it is believed there is room for a periodical without encroaching on the ground taken up by other publications devoted to the spread of Freethought principles, which shall openly and without reserve discuss questions affecting society, as well as the problems in religion and politics on the solution of which the social conditions themselves depend. Our aim, first and foremost, is the happiness of mankind in this life. Whatever, in our opinion, may tend to hinder the advance toward this ideal, it will be our duty to assail. For superstition and prejudices, as we feel no reverence, we shall show no regard. Antiquity has its interest and its lessons, but implants no desire that history should repeat itself. Man has long enough preyed on man, making this earth a pandemonium. Moral sanctions have been conveyed in rewards and punishments, the interpreters of the supernatural declaring that society would fall to pieces the moment the future state was withdrawn from the thoughts of men. We reject the doctrine, and it will be our duty to discuss and examine the foundations on which it rests. If the evidence is weak, inconsequent, inconsistent, opposed to reason, and the result of ignorance and faith, enquiry will undermine the superstructure, and it will fall. It will therefore be one of the aims of the REVIEW to contribute its quota towards the critical investigation being carried on by Freethinkers into the testimony on which the religious, moral, and political systems of the ancient times have been handed down and enforced in laws. It is no less meritorious and right to pull down error than to build up moral systems founded on truth. And it is not for anyone to object on the ground of consequences. The disintegrating forces of Nature are as essential to progress as are the forces which combine in new forms adapted to human interests. Think for a moment what the result would be if in the physical world Nature ceased to resolve organic bodies into their original elements! There could then be no place for improvement amid universal stagnation. And it