

hanging alongside the barrow. [Unfortunately the sketch was omitted] Sometimes I had to take a journey to Kai Ware, a good distance from town, the work I found very hard but Peter C. coaxed me up, and invariably produced the gin bottle when I spoke of too much work – In the afternoon we made all sorts of small wares and confectionery . . . On Monday mornings I made out all the accounts, posted up his Books. Every evening after six o.c. I used to enjoy myself the best way I could, I could find no peace at home . . . for the squabbling of such a herd of female tigers . . .”

Conditions improved a little when he received a rise in wages to fifteen shillings a week but he appeared to be as susceptible to his employer's weaknesses as the boarder whom he had earlier criticised. A lengthy story centres round an alcoholic afternoon at Calder's Hotel Kaiwharawhara, which culminated in Anderson's being carried back some two miles in a bread basket on Christison's back. However this incident and new friends from 'better society' encouraged him to collect something of his self respect and to make some effort to improve his prospects. "About this time the Government advertised premiums for the best Designs for the House of Assembly and Provincial Government Offices. I determined to make one bold effort to better my condition and competed . . . The amount voted for the works was £5000. My plans were estimated at £3500 by my friend John Maclaggan. For a long time many of the best judges in Wellington considered I should have received one of the prizes, but I was disappointed. My plans were, however, blazed about through the town; they were made honorable mention of in the Government Gazette,¹⁶ and also in the public Newspapers. The Superintendent sent for me and the person who estimated my plans, and informed me he had no power to accept my designs not being one of the judges, but . . . told me he liked my designs better than any of the rest, and requested me to make out two more complete sets . . . in two styles he named as he would not adopt any of the designs sent in by the Competitors . . . I completed them, got them estimated at about £6000 each, & the Superintendent was highly pleased . . . Some alteration of the proposed site became necessary, which greatly affected my last designs. The Superintendent at last got the Colonial Architect to make a plan, taking ideas from my designs as well as several others. The design adopted is a miserable specimen of architecture, and the details are outrageous¹⁷ – The Superintendent in consideration of my services could only give me an appointment in the Provincial Service, and asked me which Department I should like to be employed in. I told Him the Survey Office . . . I was appointed as Draughtsman . . . The hours are ten to three, and ten to twelve on Saturdays – I spent all my spare time nearly in study – Architecture, etc. I had now made a large circle of friends in the Colony and had my