

hands full of private jobs . . . among my adopted designs in Wellington is the store of Messrs Stewart Kinross & Co., the largest in the Province, Mr. Barraud's shop front and several other shops, and villas in the country – In addition to these jobs I had regular indoor pupils . . .”

“On the thirteenth of January 1857 I was solemnly initiated and made a member of the Manchester Unity Independent Order of Odd Fellows. We held a meeting every Monday at the Nelson Hotel . . . Before my appointment a few of our musical friends got up an instrumental and vocal company in connexion with the Wellington Philharmonic Society & I was requested to join the Company . . . Our branch was chiefly confined to choruses and serenading pieces. Eight of us used to meet twice a week on the stage of one of the theatres for rehearsal with our banjos, tambourines, violins guitars, bones, concertina, and the flutina which was my instrument. I was always fond of music and many a night I have passed very agreeably at the rehearsals and meetings . . . The first concert was not intended to be given for several months and was advertised about the time I left Wellington – . . . I was very comfortable with Mr. Sutherland. But I had no very great opinion of his wife who proved to be one of the most unruly, nasty, vulgar, offensive, repulsive, insulting and ill bred females I ever came in contact with – She never could keep the same female servants in her house more than a fortnight being constantly in a grumble. Mr Sutherland I found most excessively kind and good natured, poor man he has had many a ‘shindy’ with his wife . . . Mr. Sutherland conducts one of the most extensive grocery concerns¹⁸ in New Zealand and keeps a number of hands employed in his premises. He is well educated but woefully credulous; his system of credit surpasses everything I ever heard tell of. The good natured man never sends his bills out unless he requires money at the time. The store is never empty of customers and filled nightly . . .”

“About the month of April 1857 I received letters from my brother in Melbourne, advising me to return to Australia, John telling me my prospects were much better there and that he had sufficient influence to obtain a situation for me – I was extremely sorry to leave N.Z. I really loved the settlement and my prospects were most flattering here, but in an evil hour, and to my infinite sorrow and regret ever afterwards I was mad enough and fool hardy to resign my appointment. I wrote a letter to Mr. Park telling him my reasons for resignation, and thanked him for all the kind services I had received at his hands . . .”

“Gold has been discovered in several parts of New Zealand, and especially near Nelson where numbers are daily preparing to proceed. I have seen large quantities of Nelson gold, where hundreds of people are at work and all doing very well – When I left Peter Christison he got a man in my place the baker of the Oliver Lang ship who deserted