

splendid American hotels in Melbourne . . . The Royal [theatre] is the 'Drury Lane' of the Colony, where periodically operas are produced. I visited the Public Library two or three times, it is a splendid building . . . containing upwards of eight thousand volumes, so arranged that you can get any book you require in a minute. The books were all bound in calf and gold, and the accommodation is very superior . . ."

Despite Anderson's favourable impressions a job eluded him. John then proposed that he himself should settle permanently in New Zealand as a farmer and that Robert should accompany him. To this end he resigned from his own position as a law clerk. After purchasing farming equipment and although John was "much staggered . . . in consequence of some remarks made by Mr. Mackechnie regarding New Zealand" they embarked on the schooner *Martha* on 5 August 1857, before finally departing on the 11th. On 6 September the vessel sailed past Rangitoto to anchor off Commercial Bay. Anderson, although "highly gratified with the harbour", thought that it "bears no comparison with the bold and romantic scenery of Port Nicholson" while the pilot who answered their signal "gave us no very flattering accounts of Auckland . . ."

"... Like all other towns in the Colonies, the stranger is struck with the immense number of Public houses . . . There are numerous stores some of which are large and elegant. Bain Graham & Coy's on the beach, a large two story building constructed of scoria is the finest in Auckland. There is only one wharf or jetty of very considerable pretensions at which a great number of schooners, cutters, and small craft lay moored. We were amazed to see the number of Maories managing their own boats. Numbers of Canoes sailing about in all directions. Two or three schooners were at anchor in the bay. two ships, a barque two brigs - The shipping is not so considerable here as it is at Wellington but . . . a number of vessels and steamers are constantly arriving and departing from the Manakau harbour . . ."

"Monday 7 September 1857. After breakfast the Captain John and I with another passenger Captn McDermott of the 58th proceeded ashore with the Steward and second mate . . . and put up at the 'Allied Arms' Hotel, Albert St. . . . The Captain [who] also remained with us all day and night, was of course very elevated; he amply compensated himself for his temperance at sea in bumpers of brandy hot, and pots of beer - We passed the time very well, and in the evening went to the theatre and heard the garrison theatre amateurs, the performances were miserable."

On the 10th Anderson recorded: "John succeeded this forenoon in obtaining suitable rooms in Shortland Street to carry on Photographic Portraits two doors above the 'Southern Cross' Newspaper Office. Very bad weather . . ." Next day "Left the 'Allied Arms' . . . and took