

The four pairs illustrated show how closely Gully keeps to the essential structure of the prototypes even when he tames or enhances—with sunset glow, invented vegetation or foreground rocks, sweeping clouds or cold afternoon mist.

And so to our final question: when did Gully paint these twelve watercolours? Since they were in London for exhibition by February 1864 they must have been done either in 1863 or, possibly, after April 1862 which is the latest date for any of the Haast prototype sketches. An account²⁴ of a row in the Committee of Supply of the Canterbury Provincial Council gives us the answer:

*A sell for the Government Geologist*²⁵

The Canterbury Government
(Wise that Government of course is)
Paid a certain foreign gent.
To develop our resources;
Which his name is Julius Haast.

...

He's a good geologist,
And his knowledge is extensive,
If we lost him he'd be missed,
Keeping him though, comes expensive!

...

Thatcher's rhyme voiced the prejudices of Canterbury councillors who expected a geologist to produce wealth—gold, coal seams, diamonds—men in whose view a negative finding was the equivalent of a broken contract. The Council in Committee of Supply, 29 November 1862, voiced its feelings and declared stringent opposition to paying £1125 for the expenses of the Geological Department. What had Mr. Haast done for the Province? 'He had produced a few fossils and reptiles, and had sent down a cart-load of vegetables to feast the Christchurch philosophers ... he had been to Mount Cook and looked at the Glaciers ...' Mr Davis of the Committee amplified his hostility to the foreign scholar whose learned reports showed that he had 'read some books, and sucked the brains of some better men than himself'. Haast's offences were underlined by tiresome extravagance '... he had got some gentleman to furnish him with a lot of pictures to decorate his room in the Government Buildings'. The 'gentleman' was John Gully. We are indebted to Mr. Davis's diatribe because Heinrich von Haast adds a footnote: 'These pictures were twelve water-colour paintings from his [Haast's] sketches of mountains and glaciers, and of Lake Pukaki by John Gully, drawing master at Nelson College, who was afterwards to