

early July he was in Wellington. On her way north the *Otago* on which he was a passenger had called at Lyttelton. Haast pleaded his wife's illness as the reason for not going to the port to see him – 'I can't say how much I regret that you are not going to spend a couple of hours in Christchurch'.<sup>19</sup> But there were more influential friends in the capital to help in a financial dilemma.

By now it was clear that his available grant of £200 would be insufficient and Hector made representations to Government on his behalf.

In a formal letter to the Colonial Secretary he outlined Berggren's credentials and the importance of the botanical work on which he was engaged. 'The fund placed at Dr Berggren's disposal by the Royal Academy of Sweden, has however proved insufficient to enable him to examine the whole of the Islands, as the great expense of travelling in New Zealand was not anticipated *owing to the social advancement of the country not being understood.*' [editor's italics] Berggren had not perhaps expected to camp out in the environs of Christchurch and Dunedin but he was clearly hurt by the tavern charges on the golden coast; nevertheless Hector's delightful euphemism on the New Zealand capacity for fleecing visitors has seldom been better put. In his memorandum he outlined Berggren's field work since his arrival, stressing that the botanist had already collected some 15,000 specimens of the cryptogamic flora 'which has hitherto never been sufficiently studied'. To date he had spent about £200 and expected that a further £200 would enable him to complete his survey. If assistance were given Berggren undertook to furnish:

1. A complete named set of all his new plants.
2. An account of his discoveries for publication in the Colony by the New Zealand Institute.
3. A complete set for the General Assembly Library, of the large illustrated works relating to his researches which will be published in Europe.' In its field his work would be supplementary to the appropriate sections of Hooker's Flora.

Hector stressed the place of such studies in order to identify and treat diseases in forest trees and the country's pastures. 'I have no . . . hesitation in strongly urging that he should be granted the assistance he requires to complete these researches.'<sup>20</sup>

Cabinet apparently approved a grant of £100, although Haast in a later letter referred to the amount as £300.<sup>21</sup> Dr Pollen's minute as Colonial Secretary was 'I have arranged with Dr Hector to make a contribution on acct. of Col. Govt. of £100 towards the travelling expenses of Dr Berggren on the conditions referred herein.'<sup>22</sup>

While in Wellington he attended the July meeting of the Wellington Philosophical Society and left for Napier by sea on 1 August. As men-