

relished every moment of the long summer days. He would take me and my brothers tramping up his favourite Maitai valley or swimming and sunbathing at Tahunanui beach. Sometimes he would strike out for the Dun Mountain track, which he had walked hundreds of times as boy and young man, and tell stories of tramping exploits with 'Fred' Gibbs and others. He would visit the Cawthron Institute and look up his friend Dr Tillyard, the entomologist. Over the family dinner table on Sundays when the whole Milner clan traditionally assembled, there would be reminiscences and banter with his brothers. Of an afternoon he would join with zest in a game of rounders on the lawn below Sunnybank.

Remember Robert Browning's confession of ultimate sympathies:

Open my heart and you will see  
Graved inside of it, 'Italy'.

If you opened Frank Milner's, you would see 'Nelson' rather than 'Oamaru'. 'Waitaki' is another matter. And another story.

#### REFERENCES

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The Milner Papers are catalogued as MS Papers 51. References to the Papers cite the relevant folder.

- 1 Minute Book of the Council of Governors, Nelson College, 1906, p. 37 (my thanks are due to the Secretary of the Council for access).
- 2 A. P. Stanley, *Life and Correspondence of Thomas Arnold, D.D.* (London, 1844) p. 62.
- 3 See S. C. M. Mann, F. G. Gibbs; *His Influence on the Social History of Nelson, 1890-1950* (Nelson, 1977).
- 4 James Bertram (ed.), *New Zealand Letters of Thomas Arnold the Younger* (Wellington and London, 1966) Introduction, and pp. 54, 81-84. Arnold wrote to Clough of 'an institution, which like Iona in the Middle Ages, might one day spread the light of Religion and Letters over these barbarous colonies and throughout the great archipelago of the Pacific . . .' (p.84).
- 5 S. C. M. Mann, *op. cit.*
- 6 F. M. was at pains to explain to his mother that the one pound he would pay for lodgings was 'the regular price', though he knew that to her it would seem exorbitant.
- 7 Letter to Mrs W. Milner of 24 March 1893. I am grateful to Shirley Finlayson,