

Since my last letter our neighbourhood has been, as usual, quiet and there is not much of interest to communicate. The people here have been both amused and astonished by the article reprinted from *All the Year Round* in your issue of 20th instant. The tale has grown wonderfully.

The real facts of the case are something like this:—The person who is most likely to be the writer of the article, describes himself truly as a clergyman of the Church of England, and did live among the Maoris for a time; but his greatest adventure was his being blown off the land to the "Poor Knights", where he remained two or three days, and returned with a favourable wind; but I don't think he found any kiwi's eggs.<sup>12</sup>

## II

And so, as Mrs Ross has said, the last piece of the jigsaw was found and now in place. Before looking at one or two points on which further comment may be available the gap in the record between Carter's arrival and his move north can be pencilled in. The Otahuhu Church Committee Minute Book which Mrs Ross found in the Auckland Diocesan Office when working on the Church's property records provides an outline.

Carter was appointed Resident Clergyman to Otahuhu and Panmure in December 1855, his terms of appointment being a guarantee by the Church Trustees to pay £100 towards his salary during the first year and to provide a house; the 'remainder' of his stipend was to be made up by Panmure. A review in June 1857, eighteen months later, reported the 'almost total cessation of subscriptions' by the inhabitants for the purpose. Carter vacated the chair at this annual meeting of his congregation to allow discussion of the proposal that his appointment be renewed at the end of the year which prompted 'a very unpleasant and storm[y] discussion . . .' Charges against him were made, in part retracted and then rejected as 'too frivolous to be entertained' and a resolution in favour of reappointment was sent on. Nevertheless, in December, lack of funds compelled a reassessment and the meeting in February 1858, the last which Carter attended, noted that the sum of £30.3.0 was owing to him.<sup>13</sup> He was followed by the Rev. G. H. Johnstone whose incumbency, for quite different reasons, does not seem to have been any more satisfactory.

On this point a related discovery by Mrs Ross, when searching for information about the building of the Melanesian College at Kohimarama, was a little clutch of thirteen letters from Patteson to Selwyn during the summer of 1858-9. In one dated 10 February 1859 Patteson informed the Bishop:

I fancy that Mr Johnson [*sic*] does not give satisfaction at Otahuhu, from a long talk I had with John Gordon. This began about Mr Carter, & I pressed him to speak quite plainly to you on your return, and not to let the Otahuhu people put you into