

such an unfair position as before, telling you one day that they were perfectly satisfied & a few months afterwards bringing charges against their own nominee.<sup>14</sup>

The next discovery by Mrs Ross, when working through the Panmure property records, was that Carter had come out on the same vessel as did Selwyn, a point to which we return shortly. The only Carter information she actually looked for was the Church Register in the Auckland diocesan office and that 'delightful entry in Lush's journal to which I picked up the reference in the AP [Auckland Public Library] New Zealand index'. This incident in a lengthy entry for 17 January 1856 describes how Lush when visiting Ashwell was obliged to eat two substantial mid-day dinners, the second, to which he could do scant justice, meticulously cooked by Carter (who had no servant)—'Mr Carter seemed disappointed that his stewed fowl, fried pork & cherry tart were not done more justice to'.<sup>15</sup> Mrs Ross thought it 'very revealing' that Carter was such an accomplished cook.

The Panmure papers contained a letter written in June 1858 to the Bishop of Newcastle, William Tyrrell, by G. A. Kissling as Bishop's Commissary in Selwyn's absence. Carter had apparently applied for a position in this Australian diocese and Kissling was clearly embarrassed in drafting his comments:

The Rev. R. Carter came out to New Zealand in 1855 in the same ship in which our Bishop returned. He remained for a short time at St John's College and was subsequently placed in charge of two small settlements of Pensioners, which gave him no more employment than what was thought suitable to his health and strength; but recently symptoms of pulmonary disease have in a great measure unfitted him even for his moderate duties and his clerical brethren have been obliged to assist him; he has therefore resigned his charge and is preparing to leave this Diocese.<sup>16</sup>

Then followed the Bay of Islands interlude as already related. There were two further points which Mrs Ross would have liked to resolve, one of these being any possible early association between Carter, Selwyn and Tyrrell—an 'old-boy network'. Apart from the coincidental passage of Selwyn and Carter to Auckland in 1855 on the *Duke of Portland* why did Carter approach Tyrrell? It was quickly established that the two bishops had been contemporaries at St John's College but Carter at the moment has eluded us as he does not appear in *Crockford* or any available Cambridge university lists. Whatever the degree of prior acquaintance with Selwyn it seems unlikely that the stresses of a long voyage would not have shown up one or another of Carter's weaknesses, accepting that as a lover of the seas he could have responded positively. The writer shares Mrs Ross's feeling that there must have been some connection. With