

As well as papers concerning the religious activities of the missionaries, much of the material in this collection includes writings, and incidental observations, on exploration, anthropology, linguistics, trade and economics, education, publishing, agriculture and social conditions. Political events closely affected the mission stations and are also documented in the Society's records, as in the case, for instance, of the proclamation of a British Protectorate in eastern New Guinea in 1884.

#### *Finding aids*

An inventory is available detailing the contents of each reel, supplemented by a two volume calendar listing individual letters for selected reels.

#### *Research value*

The collection is particularly useful not only because of its extensive coverage of LMS mission work but because the missionaries have recorded details of local culture, language and commercial activity, all of which are interwoven with the missionaries' work.

### METHODIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY Micro MS Coll 3

Letters and other material relative to Australia, New Zealand and the South Seas. 1812-1889. 59 reels.

#### *Provenance*

Reels 56-59 copied by the Australian Joint Copying Project (M988-991). The originals are held by the Methodist Missionary Society, 25 Marylebone Road, London. Inward letters from Fiji and some Australian Methodist records from 1855 are now in the Mitchell Library, Sydney. Microfilm of these records has come from the AJCP. The bulk of the collection was obtained about 1957 from the Society.

#### *Contents*

The papers relate to mission affairs in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands between 1812 and 1889. Fiji is given strong coverage.

The collection consists of reports of missionaries, correspondence between missions and the Society Head Office, committee and district minutes, personal papers of missionaries, papers relating to mission ships and other related material including drawings, portraits, and religious books in Pacific Island languages.

#### *Finding aids*

Access is through the *AJCP Handbook, Part 8*, and an inventory.

#### *Research value*

This collection is a valuable resource on the work of Methodist missionaries in general. Of particular interest is material on the activities of individual missionaries and their commentaries on indigenous customs and religious practices.

### CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY Micro MS Coll 4

Archives relating to the Australian and New Zealand Missions, 1808-1884. 71 reels.

#### *Provenance*

The originals are held by the University of Birmingham Library. The microfilm was acquired by the Library in 1959.

#### *Contents*

The New Zealand Mission was known as the Australasian Mission until 1841 when the Australian Mission was closed. Filming ended at 1884 coinciding with the year that the organisation of the New Zealand mission became a New Zealand responsibility.

The collection includes: committee and sub-committee minutes, 1799-1884 (both with indexes); mission books, 1820-1880; bishop's correspondence, 1830-1880; missionaries' reports, 1836-1858 and New Zealand letters, 1822-1860.