

if studied against the Hocken Library holdings of the same Exhibition (e.g. MS 39, 334, M5q7AL and Minutes of Meetings of the Commissioners).

Hector, with support from the Weld Government, moved his scientific establishment to Wellington in 1865. But provincial science and its associated institutions largely survived, although hard pressed, the centralisation and consequent dwindling of provincial fiscal resources by appealing to local sentiment and support for funding and management. Hence the comparative richness of New Zealand provincial scientific societies, institutions, museums and collections. The coming of the University Colleges bolstered, indeed renewed, provincial scientific efforts. The Turnbull Library houses some evidence of this provincial academic activity in the papers and correspondence of A. C. Gifford and A. W. Bickerton (MS Papers 259), a valuable record of their common interest in astronomy and other things. We do well, I think, not to dismiss Bickerton too lightly as a crank.²³ The 'Auckland tradition' is represented by copies of Thomas Kirk's correspondence with T. F. Cheeseman (qMS 1869-98).²⁴ The present research is showing that for a more thorough-going appraisal of the emergence of science in the provinces ample collections exist already in the research libraries of the respective centres, e.g. Auckland Institute and Museum (whose manuscript holdings in this area are considerable), Canterbury Museum, Hawke's Bay Museum and Art Gallery, Nelson Provincial Museum and, of course, the Hocken Library.²⁵ Research by others like C. A. Fleming and G. Parsonson is demonstrating the potency of the traditions and legacies of provincial science in the national scientific estate in the latter half of the nineteenth century and, indeed, down to the present time.

The setting up of central government scientific services in Wellington clearly had a quickening impact upon the scientific life of the capital.²⁶ The principal official scientific archives generated by Hector's establishment which comprehended the Colonial (later Dominion) Museum, the Geological Survey, Colonial Laboratory, Observatory and Botanical Gardens are today housed in the National Museum in Wellington, which also possesses records relating to the Wellington Philosophical Society and the New Zealand Institute of which Hector was manager.²⁷ Whatever the later criticisms levelled at Hector's science empire—and they were many and in some cases justified—it did provide a most useful training ground and introduction to local scientific problems and possibilities for generations of scientists. Frederick W. Hutton (correspondence in MS Papers 941 and 1256 and Misc. MS 1096) and Alexander McKay (MS 1863-c 70, qMS 1865 and MS Papers 242) were two scientists who contributed much and gained correspondingly from their work with the Geological Survey.

The 'Wellington school' of science, if such we may call it, was surely