

some instances the use of fast motor launches. The establishment of shore whaling factories capable of processing the whale carcass for a higher oil produce and for such by-products as bone dust for fertiliser and in some rare instances, whale-meat, fostered this revival.

Although in his annual reports the Secretary for Marine⁸ reported in some detail of developments in the New Zealand fisheries, it was not until 1909 that he first took note of the 'considerable developments' in the whaling industry in New Zealand. Mr L. F. Ayson, the Chief Inspector of Fisheries, had been 'looking into the matter' and in his opinion the revival in the trade was in part due to 'the fact that the whales have been very little disturbed for the last thirty years, from his own observations and from information received from the officers of the steamers, they are very plentiful round the coasts and south of New Zealand'.

Mr Ayson thought that 'whaling on modern lines—i.e. from whale factories—would mean establishing a very important industry as a large amount of capital would be invested in buildings and plant and a large number of persons would be employed in manufacturing the various products obtained from the whales'. He was 'strongly of the opinion that every encouragement should be given to anyone else who may wish to engage in the whaling industry with factories on shore,' but he also emphasised that 'killing whales for the oil alone is now considered by Canadian, American and Norwegian whalers to be simply waste as the carcase, when treated at a properly equipped whale factory can be made to yield other products of considerably more value'.⁹

Although modern techniques and to some extent, the return of the whale were undeniable factors in the twentieth century revival of the whaling industry, there is also evidence that latter day whaling, rather than a modern phenomenon, was at least in part a survival from the past and a derivative of a strongly entrenched tradition and of family background. Names such as Heberly, Jackson and Thoms which will recur in the narrative which follows, were examples of families whose forebears were whaling on the New Zealand coast when the *Tory* arrived and before and, also writing in his report of 1909, the Secretary for Marine made special reference to the 'considerable attention now being given to whaling in the Dominion by Messrs Cook and Co. who have been engaged in the industry for some years at Whangamumu'.

The Cook Family

In fact the Secretary's reference to the Cook family was somewhat belated, for by 1909 they had been whaling at Whangamumu for the better part of two decades and their names spring to prominence, not only for their whaling operations in the north and later at Campbell Island, but also as members of an historic New Zealand family.¹⁰