

Duncan Parnell, the pioneer of the 40 hour week in New Zealand, taken in June 1890,<sup>8</sup> six months before his death. Even the two flies on the sitter's jacket in one version (not the version reproduced here) contribute to the Dickensian feeling of this portrait.

The value of a collection such as this to the library and to the community is immense. As well as providing aesthetic pleasure, Wright's camera penetrated into regions where few other photographers and no other recorders travelled, not only because of their inaccessibility but also because of their essential ordinariness. Few other photographers of the nineteenth century recorded their suburban home life in such detail as Henry Wright, and fewer still took such pains to record dates and other relevant data. It is this sense of history that makes Henry Wright one of the more important photographers of the Victorian era in New Zealand.

#### REFERENCES

- 1 *Evening Post*, 22 May 1936.
- 2 *ibid.*
- 3 *Wise's New Zealand Post Office Directory*.
- 4 *AJHR* 1890, C.3, Goldfields, roads, water-races . . . , p. 65.
- 5 New Zealand Antimony Co., Ltd. *Report from the Committee of Investigation to the Shareholders*, (Wellington, 1890) p. 5.
- 6 W. M. Hamilton, *Little Barrier Island* (Wellington, 1961) p. 21-26.
- 7 *Evening Post*, 22 May 1936.
- 8 Date inscribed on negative.