

here he went on to Jackson's where perhaps for a meal he was asked for 'half a pound'. He continued on to Kelly's from where on a promising evening he went up to a high camp and made his way through alpine vegetation; during the next two days he explored towards the tarns on the open tops of the Kelly Range between the Taipo and the Otira rivers. But the West Coast drizzle caught up with him: 'Rain already at 4 o'clock. Then very heavily, splashing into the tent and extinguishing the fire. Cold night and little sleep. Breakfast on the very last of the provisions. It continued to rain the whole day very heavily and little rivers started to be formed. I contemplated my fate, if here without provision, stay here or leave. Finally the barometer started to go both up and down and at 4 o'clock the rain was a little less heavy, but I wanted to wait until 5; it continued to subside and the descent began. Rainwater from the trees and my wet spectacles got misty, difficult to see. Ben had a lot to carry. We step on trunks across the now very much larger stream, cross it again with water up to our knees. Dripping wet, I was met with questions about changing clothes, etc, and "happy to see you back". Hot coffee in the evening and early to bed. The workers very friendly [along the road].'¹⁴ Next morning 'The workers had to get up since the road had caved in. Left at 11 o'clock and came to near Roberts' where we set up our camp and where Walker had given a temperance talk . . .'

He was thankful to be again in Christchurch by 12 March and arrived in Dunedin on 1 April. Here there were excursions with Captain Hutton and the hospitality of Dr Hocken and Professor Black.¹⁵ On 7 April was the first meeting for the year of the Otago Institute which Berggren attended. J. T. Thomson, as President, welcomed him¹⁶ and the next two months appear to have passed pleasantly enough.

In a letter to Haast¹⁷ he wrote that Dunedin was a very 'proper field for excursions' and he had found some 'beautiful things'. He asked Haast to send down the specimens in his custody which Berggren had collected as a friend was going direct to London and would take the collections so far assembled. 'The vegetable sheep please put on the bottom of one of the boxes very carefully. Please also send the boxes which came from the interior, with iron bands round them because they might be too weak for a sea-journey . . .' It is clear that Berggren's harvest of specimens was on a considerable scale.

He wrote again from Winton¹⁸ in June. Unfortunately the specimens which Haast had sent down were not in good condition 'because of the cursed long stay in the Malvern Hills . ..'. Several packets had gone mouldy and took a month to dry. 'Dunedin, the bays north and south of that city, the well-known hills inland, and the more distant Bluff and Invercargill areas and Winton are the chief scenes of my attacks on herbs, bushes, ferns, mosses, lichens, seaweeds, and tomentum . ..'. In