

public buildings, churches, bridges, canals jetties wharfs docks & dwelling houses: they *must* have them: they cannot do *without* them Sir!"³

The young man had also been misled by 'rascally gents in London' who had persuaded him 'to lay out his cash in goods perfectly unsaleable in so over-stocked a market'.⁴

Ashworth left London, 19 May 1842, on the barque *Tuscan* (181 tons; F. Ormond master) bound for New Zealand via Port Phillip, where they arrived on 28 September.⁵ There he made an accurate



Club House Melbourne [1842] watercolour 9.7 x 15.4cm. (In his 'Journal of a Voyage from London... 1842, 1844') MS Coll.

and vivid watercolour of the Clubhouse, Melbourne, and grazing sheep. Ashworth kept a lively, informative journal on shipboard and, unlike most emigrants, continued to note his impressions and activities once he had arrived.

Meantime we opened the harbour of Auckland, & were sadly disappointed at the brown & barren aspect of the country, which threw out the white boarded dwellings with a strong relief, which perhaps gave them a doubly desolate and isolated appearance; on the high land, east of the town was the long government house, in a conspicuous situation, a church of brick in process of erection, & a solid barrack for the soldiery near it. No trees, but 2 or 3 ragged ones near the water's edge; no roads, no hedges, apparently no cultivation at all...⁶

The passengers were immediately 'dumbfounded by the news of Captain Hobson's death two months previously',⁷ but the young Ashworth made use of his second letter of introduction, to the Harbour Master. Captain Rough entertained him and helped him find lodgings (1 room, 8s. a week). Ashworth quickly put up his