resembling our *Blue Lias*, but it might be a member of the "Oxfordian" mid—or upper—Oolite. You will, I hope, be able to send us more precise information of this interesting bit of New Zealand palaeontology: perhaps as regards the precise locality.'[67]

Owen's apparent lack of interest in matters relating to the Moa was shared in New Zealand where, while not forgotten, the Moa was pushed aside in favour of the more important search for gold and coal deposits and the means of opening up new grazing lands for the expanding sheep industry. The surveys initiated by the various provinces, Haast's museum at Christchurch, Hector's organisation of the Dunedin Exhibition, the establishment of the Geological Survey and the Colonial Museum in Wellington and the founding of the New Zealand Institute—all during the 1860s—were the direct results of the need on the economic level for organised scientific activity. Together they are the first expressions of a 'made in New Zealand' science, a declaration of intellectual independence. Although New Zealand continued to supply examples of its natural history to the 'imperial' institutions of England as a filial obligation. Hooker's commission to produce a handbook of New Zealand flora in 1862 was, in a way, the last act of uncritical dependence upon the experts 'back home'.[68]

Again, the Moa, the interest in which is a continuing theme in New Zealand science, illustrates the change.

Although he continued to receive occasional Moa fragments from travellers to New Zealand, none was sufficient to arouse again the interest and excitement which had invested Owen's work of the 1840s. In 1864, however, Hector wrote to him to describe 'an unusually perfect skeleton of Moa' which had been found by some gold diggers in Otago province.[69] He was quick to complain to Haast, however, at the lack of response.[70] Although Mantell's large collection fifteen years earlier had promised a rich reward from the South Island, and although Owen was still receiving occasional specimens from settlers and transients in the Colony,[71] Hector's announcement, to be followed very shortly by one of greater importance from Haast, shifted the locus of research to New Zealand. The more highly focussed activity by the two geologist-naturalists, professionals with a local commitment, not only provided a much richer harvest of site-defined collections but also established the South Island as the mother lode of this hitherto valuable resource. But that which was to renew Owen's interest was the rich discoveries in the Glenmark swamp, outside of Christchurch.

In March, 1867, on his way to the Paris Exhibition, Major J. Michael, brought Owen some Dinornis bones which he had found while cutting a drain through the Glenmark swamp north of