

face of the circular with a specimen 'pattern' supplied by the College for a recent job and showed the Committee that the two documents were 'exactly alike'. He thought that St John's and the *New Zealander* were the only two Auckland printers with any quantity of this font—'Richardson and the *Southern Cross* may have some very much alike, but not exactly the same'.<sup>26</sup>

However, any uncertainty was removed by the next witness, Richardson himself who admitted to printing 250 copies although he now didn't have one. In his words: 'I do not perfectly understand Maori and did not think I was printing any harm or I would not have printed it. . . . It was brought to me by a person [Telford] in a careless off hand sort of manner saying "print this".'<sup>27</sup>

Richardson's own background warrants noting. He had arrived in Auckland in July 1841 with his family, under engagement to the Auckland Newspaper and General Printing Company. He was thus a staff member of the capital's first newspaper, the *New Zealand Herald and Auckland Gazette*. About 1848 or 1849 a legacy enabled him to commence his own printing house at Windsor Terrace, Mechanics Bay.<sup>28</sup> Two years later he was publishing a short-lived journal, the *Auckland Independent and Operative's Journal*, from William Street near the Mechanics' Institute. In 1855, some months after the Grace inquiry, he was publishing the *Trumpeter*, allegedly a free-thought paper, although on his death 28 years later he was duly buried by the vicar of St Matthew's in the Anglican cemetery. He was also printer and part-owner of the *Auckland Examiner* (1858–61) but none of these enterprises seem to have prospered, for his obituary stated that he had 'experienced his share of the vicissitudes of colonial life'. At the time of his death in 1883 at the age of 76 he was a compositor for the *New Zealand Herald*.<sup>29</sup>

Grace told his own Committee that the omission of the printer's name was no one's fault but his own. On the point of anonymity Grace was somewhat more equivocal. If the failure to acknowledge the circular was a crime 'I am sorry for it'. He had never before written an anonymous document, but in the present instance did not presume to think that he deserved the whole honour for its appearance. Again—'how many sets of questions have been published in Native without a name?'<sup>30</sup>

The Provincial Council Committee could not itself examine Grace, some weeks away on his lengthy journey to Pukawa, or Telford. On the question of authorship, Carleton at the outset had said that he 'had not the slightest doubt but . . . no positive knowledge [but] from various circumstances I believe Mr Grace to be the author'. He was not obliged to disclose from what source he had obtained either the printed or the manuscript copy but interestingly cited the use of the word 'potiti' (patiti, i.e. grass) in