

The life and legacy of Sir Julius von Haast: exploring archival documentary heritage collections

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Sir Julius von Haast (1822–1887) was one of the most influential German-born New Zealand scientists of the nineteenth century. He contributed to the establishment and development of scientific institutions, palaeontological research, geographical exploration and geological surveys, and established a network of correspondents around the globe to facilitate the exchange of information, knowledge, specimens and publications. The results of his efforts are evident from the maps and reports of geological surveys undertaken in the provinces of Nelson, Canterbury and Westland, and the establishment and development of Canterbury Museum. Details of his activities and approach to scientific endeavour and collegial cooperation become more fully evident through examining the archives representing his life and work found in the manuscripts, letters, photographs and sketches held in the collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library and elsewhere.

Keywords: Julius Haast; Canterbury Museum; New Zealand; German scientists; exploration and discovery; history of science; heritage collections; archives and manuscripts; correspondence and papers; geology and palaeontology

Introduction

Haast was one of the leading New Zealand scientists of the second half of the nineteenth century, a self-made man of humble origins, who founded a new life for himself in Canterbury, embraced every opportunity to further the scientific and cultural endeavours of the pioneering settler community, and promoted the establishment and growth of Canterbury Museum with all his energy and networking abilities. He was a remarkable individual noted for his stamina and perseverance in the face of obstacles, ranging from the mountain wilderness to the tangles of provincial bureaucracy (Fig. 1).

This paper aims to compile and establish some of the facts around identity and dates relating to the biography of Sir Julius von Haast and members of his family, especially for the early period of his life prior to his arrival in New Zealand, an area of research to which the most significant contribution to date has

been the work of Langer (1992, 2004). Earlier publications have tended to be either prepared with too great a sense of loyal friendship, as for instance Bickerton (1884), filial piety, as in the case of the monumental biography by his son Heinrich Ferdinand von Haast (1948), or a lack of access to primary sources, exemplified by Burdon (1950), who was working on the subject without access to Haast's papers in the 1940s. Much of the later literature, including Maling (1990) and the chapter on Canterbury Museum in MacKenzie (2009), has largely repeated earlier sources, while academic research by Caudel (2007) has greatly increased our understanding of the role of freemasonry, and Cooper (2011) has presented an excellent series of critical case studies looking at Haast's relationship with indigenous New Zealanders and their culture. However, in terms of Haast's early biography, the secondary literature, with the exception of

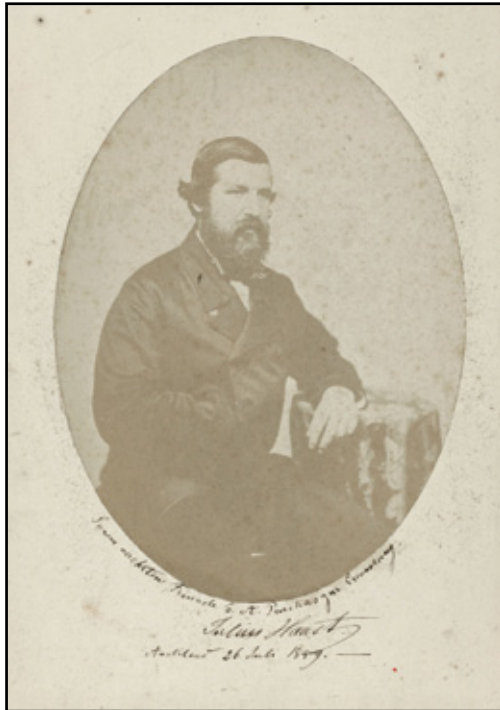


Figure 1. Earliest known portrait of Julius Haast, inscribed with dedication to Arthur Guyon Purchas, dated Auckland, 26 July 1859 (Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, 881-1).

Langer, has primarily added to the confusion by mixing facts with conjecture, often compounded perhaps by the difficulties of English speaking scholars attempting to work with a subject that inherently includes a major German language element.

In this study, questions around Haast's name and identity are posed, and an attempt is made to resolve some of these. The published legacy of Haast is briefly sampled, and in response to what H F Haast (1948) records as the lamentable loss of numerous examples of Haast's intellectual output in the form of manuscripts that never made it to print and where no copy appears to have been preserved, the discovery of a manuscript copy of an important paper from the early period of Haast's exploration in the Southern Alps, held in a European collection, is documented. The letters of Haast as evidence of his networking and the range of his contacts

are mentioned and an overview is given of other archival material in a diverse range of formats in the Haast collection of the Alexander Turnbull Library, complimented by examples of documentary heritage material from the estate of Ferdinand von Hochstetter (1829–1884) held in European collections.

Biography: dates and identity

For the biographer, Haast is a difficult subject, as relatively little is known about him for the period prior to his arrival in Auckland on 21 December 1858, and this is in no small part due to the subject's own contribution to myths and misinformation, resulting in a state of confusion and relative lack of verified early biographical information.

Setting out to separate the facts from the fiction, it may be accepted that Johann Franz Haast, as he was named in all early sources, was born at 320 Bonngasse, Bonn (Prussian Germany) on 1 May 1822 (Fig. 2), the son of Mat[t]hias Haast and his wife Anna Eva Theodora Rütth (1788–1853). Haast's father, who was born in Bonn on 16 October 1784 and died on 25 July 1852, was variously described as a tailor and merchant in the birth notices of his children, and as Langer (1992) concludes, contrary to some sources, including Maling (1990), did not serve as mayor of Bonn.

Haast received his schooling in Bonn and later in Köln (Cologne) with only average results and did not remain to complete the

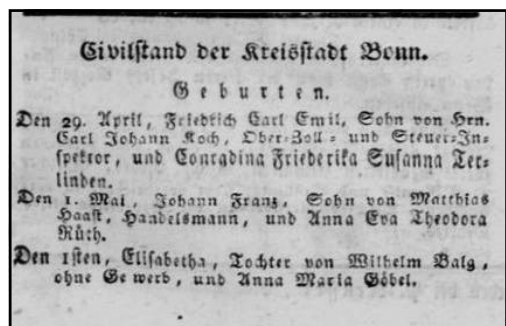


Figure 2. Birth notice of Johann Franz Haast, born on 1 May 1822, published in *Bonner Wochenblatt* newspaper, 23 May 1822.

senior year, but as Langer (1992) states, even graduating as a senior from the school he attended would not have resulted in the gaining of a university entrance qualification. It must

therefore be concluded that Haast did not in fact study at university. As Haast later stated in a letter to Rudolf Veling (1812–1901), given the opportunity he would have studied mining, but



Figure 3. Masonic certificate with Haast's signature in right margin, 30 x 40 cm (Alexander Turnbull Library, MS-0037-21-18). A, Detail showing altered name on Masonic certificate (Alexander Turnbull Library, MS-Papers-0037-21-18).

instead his father wanted him to leave Bonn and he was sent to live in Verviers, Belgium (Letter, Haast to Veling, 4 May 1881, ATL MS-Papers-0037-25B-5). Here, at the age of 21, he was initiated in the Masonic 'Lodge Philadelphes' on 16 October 1842, and less than a year later attained the level of a Masonic master's degree on 11 May 1843 (Fig. 3).

In 1844, he moved to Frankfurt am Main and, as recorded on his Masonic certificate, visited several Lodges there that year, and eventually relinquished his Prussian citizenship to become a citizen of the city in response to his application dated 1 September 1846. Shortly afterwards, on 26 October 1846, Haast married the pianist Antonie Johanna Caroline Schmitt, who was born in Berlin on 4 December 1825, baptised there on 4 April 1826, and died in Frankfurt am Main on 14 October 1859. She came from a prominent musical family, being the daughter

of the pianist and composer Aloys Schmitt, who was born in Erlenbach am Main on 26 August 1788 and died in Frankfurt am Main on 25 July 1866, and his wife Auguste Caroline Wohl, who was born in Frankfurt am Main on 14 August 1802, and died 5 February 1872.

Haast and his first wife had a son named Mathias Robert Haast, who was born in Frankfurt am Main on 10 January 1848, and died 27 May 1895. Robert, as he was known, was raised by his mother's family after her death, went on to serve in the Prussian military, and did not meet his father again until 1886 when Haast and his second wife visited Europe. Another relative Haast visited during his European visit in 1886 was his older sister Veronica Rossum, née Haast, who was born in Bonn on 15 June 1810 and died there on 27 September 1887, the widow of Johann Heinrich Rossum, whom she had married on 17 July 1838 (Figs 4, 5).



Figure 4. Haast's older sister, Veronica Rossum, née Haast. Carte de visite, 10 x 6.5 cm (Alexander Turnbull Library, PA2-2126).



Figure 5. Haast's brother-in-law, Johann Heinrich Rossum. Carte de visite, 9.8 x 6.3 cm (Alexander Turnbull Library, PA2-2125).

While biographical accounts make reference to Haast's early travels in Europe, including Italy, Holland, Russia, France and England, it is the time he spent residing in Belgium that is most definitively verifiable through his Masonic certificate (Fig. 3). In fact this Masonic certificate of 1842 from Belgium is the earliest surviving document in the Haast family papers collection held in the Alexander Turnbull Library. The lithographed certificate printed by Hubert Joseph Hahn in Verviers, with the imprint 'Lith. de H. J. Hahn, Crapeaurue, 114, Verviers', includes the following in the wording '[...] certifications que le très cher Frère Haast, Jules François né à Bonn dont la signature ici en marge (ne varietur) [...]'; which may be freely translated as '... certifies that the dear Brother Haast, Jules François, born in Bonn whose signature appears here in the margin ...', and in the margin there is the corresponding requisite signature rendered as 'J. F. Haast' (Fig. 3). However, the name 'Jules' on the certificate looks out of place as the ink is noticeably darker and the lettering less regular compared with the remaining text. On closer inspection it would appear as if the original has been overwritten in another hand – the original French 'Jean', for the German name Johann, has been altered to 'Jules', the French form of the name Julius (Fig. 3A). The flourished capital letter 'J' in the certificate was rather too risky to attempt to change, so Haast had no option but to choose a new name of similar length to Jean also beginning with the letter 'J', thus arriving at his new name of Julius. Therefore it is evident that Haast would appear to have adjusted the only identity document he is known to have brought to New Zealand from his earlier life in Europe.

When, on behalf of Haast's son and biographer Heinrich Ferdinand von Haast (1864–1953), Henry Alexander Lamb (1885–1953), the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand, made enquiries into Haast's membership and sent the certificate to Belgium for a sort of verification process in 1939, the response was that records would appear to have confirmed that 'Brother Jean Francois Haast' had joined the lodge at Verviers – and it is apparent from

the typescript letter dated 1 June 1939 (ATL MS-Papers-0037-021-18) that the original name was indeed 'Jean' and not 'Jules'.

By 1858, Haast was in London, contracted to act as an agent for the shipping firm Willis, Gann and Company to look into the suitability of New Zealand as a destination for German emigrants (Nolden 2002). Haast travelled to New Zealand, departing from Gravesend, England, on 11 September 1858 on the ship *Evening Star*, under the command of Captain Frederick Stanley Ewen (1825–1873), and after a voyage of 101 days arrived in Auckland Harbour on 21 December 1858. The passengers addressed a letter of thanks to the captain, dated two days before their arrival in Auckland; included amongst the names of signatories is 'J. F. Haast' (Anonymous 1858a). The passenger list with the name 'Johann Haast' was also published (Anonymous 1858b).

Thus it may be concluded that Johann Franz Haast was the full name of Haast from the time of his birth until most likely the time of his arrival in New Zealand in 1858. The name Julius, by which he chose to be known in the latter part of his life, certainly does not appear to have come into use prior to the time when he arrived in New Zealand; and after briefly publishing articles on New Zealand in a Viennese newspaper under the pseudonym 'Julius Hanf' in 1859 (Nolden 2007), he became firmly known as Julius Haast.

The period in New Zealand has been well documented (Haast 1948), starting with the fortuitous encounter with Hochstetter, who arrived in Auckland just one day after Haast, on the Austrian *Novara* expedition 1857–1859, and their joint adventures and survey work in the provinces of Auckland and Nelson in 1859. Haast then completed an extension of Hochstetter's survey and wrote his first published report (Haast 1861), before taking up the position of Canterbury Provincial Government Geologist later that year (Johnston & Nolden 2011). He became a naturalised British subject in New Zealand on 18 February 1861, and settled in Christchurch, where, although born a Catholic, he converted to the Anglican faith and married Mary Ann Dobson on 25 June 1863 (Figs 6, 7).



Figure 6. Portrait of Julius and Mary Haast, circa 1863. Carte de visite, 10.5 x 6.5 cm (Alexander Turnbull Library, PA2-2164).

Mary was born in London on 21 January 1844 and died in Rome on 27 July 1913, the daughter of Edward Dobson (1816–1908) and his wife Mary Ann Lough (1821–1913).

Julius and Mary Haast had four sons and one daughter:

Heinrich Ferdinand von Haast (11 May 1864 – 5 January 1953)

George Augustus von Haast (7 February 1867 – 22 February 1954)

James Leopold von Haast (9 June 1868 – 27 April 1956)

Eva Veronica von Haast (25 February 1871 – 30 March 1909)

Julius Hermann von Haast (16 December 1873 – 14 August 1941)

In 1883, the painter and sculptor Alfred Beere (1857–1886) from London spent time residing in Christchurch where he was noted for his paintings and sculptural works in terracotta, some of which he exhibited at the annual exhibition of the Canterbury Society of Arts in 1883 (Vangioni 2002). One of the outstanding pieces was a life-sized bust of Haast, of which



Figure 7. Julius and Mary Haast at their residence 'Glückauf' in Christchurch, 1865. Photograph, 9 x 15.5 cm (Nolden & Nolden 2011, cat. no. 2.19.10; Hochstetter Collection Basel).

Haast proudly sent a photograph to his friend Hochstetter in Vienna with an inscription dated January 1883 (Fig. 8). Posthumously, a marble bust of Haast (Fig. 9) was made in Bonn by the German sculptor Albert Küppers (1842–1929), which was unveiled at Canterbury College on 26 July 1890 and subsequently displayed in Canterbury Museum to commemorate the founding director (Anonymous 1890).

Sir Johann Franz Julius Ritter von Haast (Fig. 10) died in Christchurch on 16 August 1887 and was buried in the graveyard of Holy Trinity Avonside, an Anglican church in Linwood, Christchurch. The church was demolished in September 2011 following earthquake damage but the graveyard still exists. The inscription on the gravestone states:

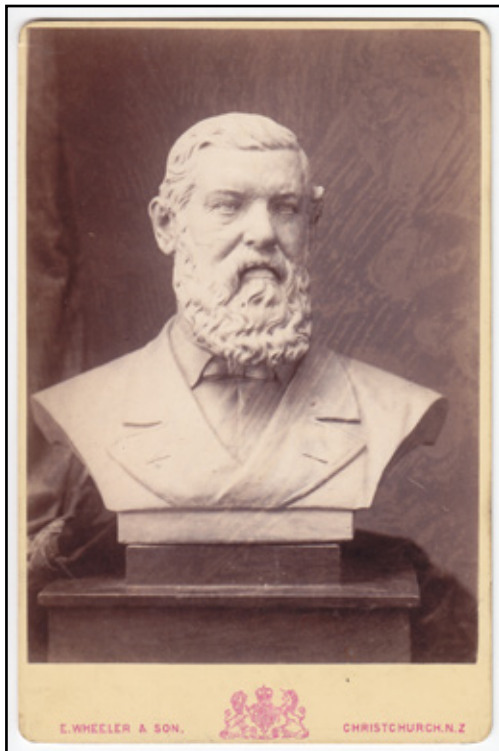


Figure 8. Bust of Julius von Haast by Alfred Beere, with inscription by Haast to Hochstetter, ‘Büste in Lebensgröße modellirt von Alfred Beere von London Januar 1883’. Photograph by E. Wheeler & Son, Christchurch. Cabinet card, 16.7 x 10.9 cm (Hochstetter Collection Basel).

JULIUS von HAAST | Born 1st May 1822 | Died 16th August 1887 | VITAM IMPENDERE VERO | - His wife MARY - | Born 29th January 1844 | Died at Rome, 27th July 1913. | - His daughter - | EVA VERONICA von HAAST | Born 25th February 1871 | Died 30th March 1909.

Thus he was memorialised only with the first



Figure 9. Marble bust of Sir Julius von Haast by Albert Küppers, displayed at Canterbury Museum.



Figure 10. 'Dr Julius Ritter von Haast, 1880'. Photograph by Nelson King Cherrill, Christchurch. Carte de visite, 10.3 x 6.2 cm (Hochstetter Collection Basel).

name he chose himself 'Julius'; the title 'von' he earned himself as a German-born naturalised British subject from the Austrian Emperor in 1875; and the family name 'Haast', the only name that remained as a constant throughout his life. His Latin motto *VITAM IMPENDERE VERO*, which may be translated as 'life devoted to the search for truth', doubtless aided his relentless striving to establish and grow his professional status and solid reputation as a scientist.

Publications: printed legacy

During the time Haast was based in Frankfurt am Main, Müllerott (1966) states that he worked for the Jügelsche Buchhandlung, a publishing house and bookselling institution originally founded

in 1823 by Carl Christian Jügel (1783–1869). It is likely that Haast, thus connected with the book trade in Frankfurt am Main, was commissioned to prepare a German translation of Charles Hursthouse, *New Zealand, or Zealandia, the Britain of the South*, published in London in 1857. The German edition was published as *Handbuch für Auswanderer nach Neuseeland, dem Grossbritannien der südlichen Halbkugel: Ein kurzer Abriss der Geschichte und Beschreibung des Klimas, der Boden-Beschaffenheit, der Vorzüge und der Verfassung dieses schönen Landes*, Frankfurt am Main, August Osterrieth, 1859. However, this volume of a mere 143 pages, compared to the 664 pages of the English edition, does not name the translator. If Haast was indeed the translator, then this would likely be what resulted in his being invited to investigate New Zealand as a destination for German emigrants for the London shipping firm, Willis, Gann and Company. Hocken describes the German edition as 'A complete emigrants' handbook, issued by the shipping firm of Willis, Gann, and Co., for Germans' (Hocken 1909). Heinrich von Haast, in the biography on his father, states that Haast had met Charles Hursthouse at the offices of the firm in London, and was presented with a copy by the author (Haast 1948).

Haast certainly did not identify himself with any publications pre-dating his arrival in New Zealand, which is not surprising given that if he had published anything, it would not have appeared under the name Julius, the name he had very likely only assumed on arrival in New Zealand and by which he became generally known. Soon after his arrival – and having befriended Hochstetter – he was invited to write a continuation of a series of travelogue articles, which Hochstetter had been writing for the *Wiener Zeitung* on a regular basis in serialised form since the departure of the *Novara* expedition from Trieste on 30 April 1857. Haast did not imitate Hochstetter's literary style, but did write a series of articles that were published in eight issues of the *Wiener Zeitung* newspaper between 13 April and 21 April 1859 under the pseudonym Julius Hanf (Nolden 2007).

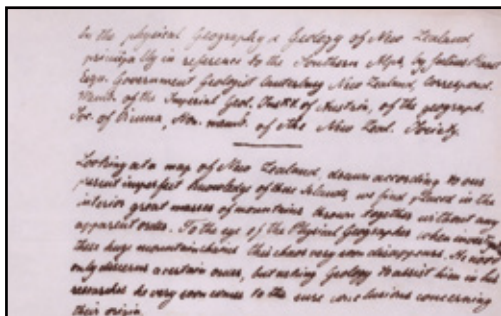


Figure 11. Manuscript copy by Haast of paper read at meeting of the Royal Society of Victoria in 1861 (Hochstetter Collection Basel).

After continuing the survey work in Nelson Province begun by Hochstetter, he wrote his first formal report (Haast 1861), which was then published, albeit without any maps or illustrations. The report was put to good use when, with the assistance and cover letter by Hochstetter, dated 24 September 1862, it was submitted to the University of Tübingen together with a carefully worded curriculum vitae, dated 23 January 1862, leading to Haast being granted a doctorate on 11 October 1862

(Universitätsarchiv Tübingen, UAT 131-12B, 9).

The publications and writings of Haast are listed by H F Haast (1948), however, as an annotated bibliography with 172 entries, this is rather unsatisfactory, especially due to the lack of precise bibliographic details for some items and the confusion between those items published, those that might have been published if only circumstances had not got in the way, and those manuscripts that were ‘prepared but not preserved’.

Fortunately, in one instance a manuscript with the title ‘On the Physical Geography & Geology of New Zealand, principally in reference to the Southern Alps’, that was presumed lost, even though it had been read by the secretary at a meeting of the Royal Society of Victoria in 1861 (Haast 1948), was found in the form of a copy written in ink and pencil, which Haast had sent to Hochstetter, and is preserved amongst the Hochstetter Collection Basel papers (Fig. 11). Hochstetter based most of his chapter on the Southern Alps in his work *New Zealand* (Hochstetter 1867) on information supplied by



Figure 12. Canterbury Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand. Zincography printed in Vienna by Rudolf von Waldheim as frontispiece for Haast (1879).

Haast, and this manuscript may have been one of his sources.

The only book Haast published was also a project that benefited greatly from his relationship with Hochstetter. Published with the title *Geology of the Provinces of Canterbury and Westland, New Zealand: a report comprising the results of official explorations* (Haast 1879), the printing of the letterpress was completed in Christchurch at the offices of the Lyttelton Times, however, many of the maps and illustrations were printed in Vienna under the capable supervision of Hochstetter (Nolden 2014). The frontispiece depicts Haast's pride and joy – the Canterbury Museum in Christchurch (Fig. 12).

Letters: global networking

Letters provide evidence of Haast's global network of correspondents – the growth and expansion of a world wide web of contacts aimed at the facilitation of an exchange of knowledge, information, specimens and publications (Nolden 2016). Some of the letters have been the subject of extensive research, resulting in a number of annotated editions of English language letters (Nolden et al. 2012; Nolden et al. 2013), and English translations of German letters (Nolden 2013).

The correspondence forms part of the Haast family papers, held in the manuscript collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library MS-Papers-0037, consisting of some 380 folders of papers divided into twelve series, with series 1–8 encompassing the letters and papers of Julius von Haast, and series 9–12 the papers of his son and biographer, H F von Haast. Heinrich was responsible for depositing the collection with the Library between 1948, when he published the biography on his father, and the end of his life, in 1953, although some posthumous deposits were made by his widow Mary.

The Haast family papers are arranged as follows:

- Series 1 Sir Julius von Haast – Official papers and correspondence (19 folders)
- 2 Sir Julius von Haast – Personal papers

- (7 folders)
- 3 Sir Julius von Haast – Personal correspondence (127 folders)
- 4 Sir Julius von Haast – French letters (10 folders)
- 5 Sir Julius von Haast – German letters (75 folders)
- 6 Sir Julius von Haast – Italian and other letters (4 folders)
- 7 Sir Julius von Haast – Manuscripts (32 folders)
- 8 Sir Julius von Haast – Printed material (19 folders)
- 9 Heinrich von Haast – Correspondence (17 folders)
- 10 Heinrich von Haast – Manuscripts (16 folders)
- 11 Heinrich von Haast – Printed material (16 folders)
- 12 Heinrich von Haast – Personal papers (38 folders)

However, there is also other Haast manuscript material, which has become separated from this main body of papers, found at MS-Papers-0171, including a folder of larger format material containing certificates and diplomas at MSO-Papers-0171-5.

The Haast collections also encompass material in various other formats. The Photographic Archive collection includes photographs from Haast family albums, where the individual photographic prints in carte de visite and cabinet card formats have been removed from the albums by the Library and the original albums have not been retained. Most of the photographs from the estate of Haast are found under the reference number PA-Group-00377, which consists of more than 400 photographic prints.

In the area of Drawings, Paintings and Prints, Haast's sketches and watercolours are found at A-108-023 to A-108-040, A-149-001 to A-149-013, and larger format material in a collection of 165 drawings with the title 'Topographical drawings from South Island surveys, 1860-1868' at reference C-097-001/181, where it should be noted that individual works consisting of



Figure 13. Pair of locket with miniature hand-coloured photographic portraits of Julius and Mary Haast with their eldest child Heinrich Ferdinand Haast, circa 1865. Gold locket, 25 x 19 mm **A**, Left locket exterior, front. **B**, Left locket exterior, back (Alexander Turnbull Library, Curios-005-003 and Curios-005-004).



Figure 14. Julius Haast's miniature medals, with a full-size example for comparison (Alexander Turnbull Library, Curios-005-011 and Curios-005-013/019).

more than one sheet may have more than one identifier, while an example of an even larger work, with the title 'View from Mt Arthur of Karamea R[iver]', is at reference D-007-004. A selection of watercolours was reproduced in Murray-Oliver (1966), Paul (1977/1978), and topographical sketches and maps in Burrows (2005). The collection also features a range of 'curios' including medals and jewellery (Figs 13, 14) at Curios-005-003/026, pieces of china collected by Haast at Curios-038-001/009, and pieces of wooden furniture at Curios-030-029, -040, -044, and -070.

Examples of archival Haast material that

compliments the holdings of the Alexander Turnbull Library are found in European collections of papers from the estate of Haast's friend and correspondent Ferdinand von Hochstetter.

The Dr Albert Schedl Collection at the Geological Survey of Austria includes 22 of Haast's sketch maps and watercolours depicting scenes in the Southern Alps from the period of Haast's field survey work (Figs 15–17), which were exhibited in Auckland in 2008 (Nolden 2008), while the Hochstetter Collection Basel includes two large panoramic watercolours of the Southern Alps (Figs 18, 19).

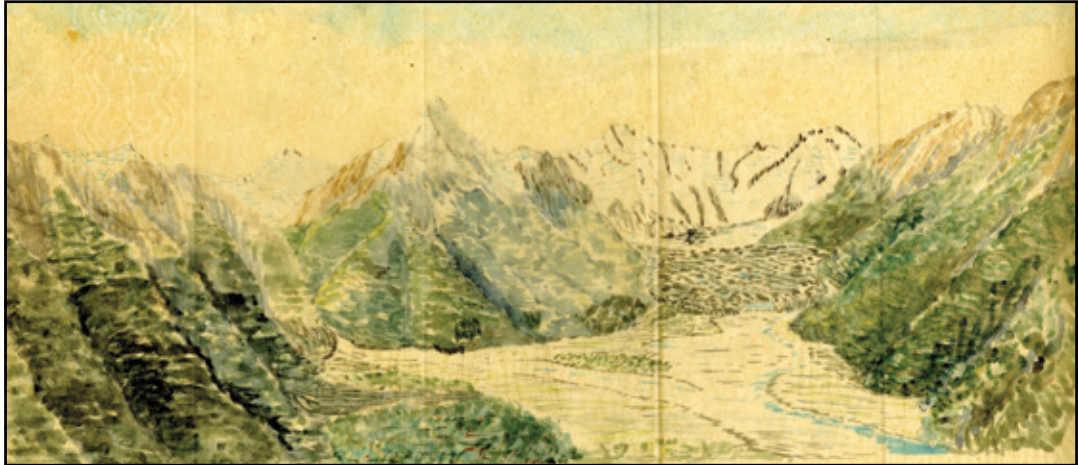


Figure 15. Julius Haast, 'The Great Tasman Glacier Middle Island of New Zealand. 18 miles below junction of the River Hooker with the Tasman River – Mt Cook in the centre'. Watercolour and pencil on tracing paper, 18 x 50 cm (Nolden 2008, exhibit no. 139; Dr Albert Schedl Collection, Vienna).



Figure 16. Julius Haast, 'From Spur about 6500 above sea level, leading to Mt Cook, over the Great Tasman Glacier & the Murchison Glacier'. Watercolour and pencil on paper, 11 x 17.5 cm (Nolden 2008, exhibit no. 93; Dr Albert Schedl Collection, Vienna).

Conclusion

It may be concluded that much of what has been written and repeated about the life of Haast prior to his arrival in New Zealand has been largely

based on conjecture, with the exception of Langer (1992, 2004) who was the first scholar to contribute substantiated facts to the scant body of biographical knowledge for this early period. Haast's efforts to forge a new identity for himself

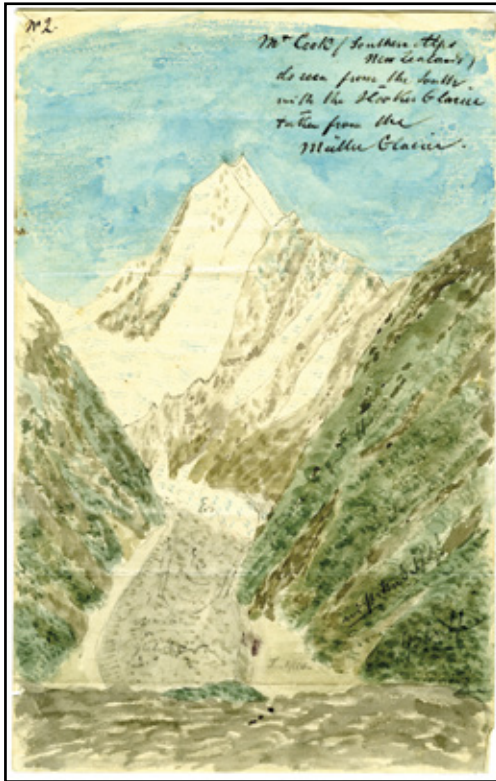


Figure 17. Julius Haast, 'Mt Cook (Southern Alps New Zealand) as seen from the South with the Hooker Glacier taken from the Mueller Glacier'. Watercolour and pencil on paper, 17.5 x 11 cm (Nolden 2008, exhibit no. 89; Dr Albert Schedl Collection, Vienna).

and escape his past have become more fully apparent with the present research, resulting in the realisation that Haast was prepared to change both his identity and allegiances whenever it seemed to serve his purposes – to leave behind his past and build a better future for himself.

Thus the merchant's son had to first leave his native city of Bonn in order to continue his education in Köln (Cologne), but neither completed his schooling nor gained a university entrance qualification (Langer 1992). He was then strongly encouraged by his father to leave Germany and go to Belgium, where by the age of 21 in 1842 he was initiated in the Masonic Lodge at Verviers. In 1844 he returned to Germany, and this time moved to Frankfurt am Main, where he made a number of documented visits to Masonic Lodges, before relinquishing his Prussian citizenship in order to be able to gain citizen's rights in the City of Frankfurt am Main in 1846, and marry into a prominent local musical family.

This was followed by a period of only vaguely documented business ventures and travels, leading up to an eventual arrival in London, where he found employment with a shipping firm. Leaving almost everything, including a wife and son, behind, except the all-important certificate of his membership of the Masonic



Figure 18. Julius Haast, 'The Southern Alps from the Western Shores of Lake Poerua, June 1st 1865'. Watercolour on paper, 16 x 72.5 cm (Nolden & Nolden 2011, cat. no. 1.3.1; Hochstetter Collection Basel).



Figure 19. Julius Haast, 'Panoramic View of the Southern Alps New Zealand from the Mouth of the Waiau, June 17th 1865'. Watercolour on paper, 21.4 x 121.5 cm (Nolden & Nolden 2011, cat. no. 1.3.2; Hochstetter Collection Basel).



Figure 20. Photograph of Mary Lady von Haast, with inscribed dedication to Georgiana von Hochstetter, “With the warmest love and gratitude of the original, Wien October 21, 1896.” Photograph by Giovanni Horvath, Vienna. Cabinet card, 16.7 x 10.6 cm (Hochstetter Collection Basel).

Order, which with careful falsification would form the basis of his new identity, Haast was ready to begin a new life. But to fit into his new environs, a change of name, including the interim use of a pseudonym, was not quite enough – again a citizenship was relinquished in favour of a more advantageous one – and as a newly naturalised British subject he was ready to take up a Government position as Provincial Geologist, and although a Catholic since birth, chose to convert to the Anglican faith in order to marry his second wife (Fig. 20), a member of a prominent Cantabrian Anglican family.

The changes continued as both the person and name became increasingly embellished with titles and post-nominal letters. The enormous

buying power of moa bones (Barton 2000) and carefully placed geographic names became apparent, as Haast grew his empire of contacts and reaped the rewards of being at a seemingly insurmountable geographic distance from his past and yet having the advantage of being able to offer to those at a distance some of the most desirable currency of museum barter of the day. Finally, the full extent of Haast’s contribution and the finer details of his life and work may yet be gleaned from his papers and archives held in the collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library and elsewhere, as these documentary heritage collections represent significant resources of biographical and historical informational value.

Acknowledgements

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