

tinct as Australia and New Zealand. Here the natives are Polynesian, similar to most of those found in the South Sea Islands, while Australia's aborigines are of the negro type. The scenery and climate also are equally distinct. New Zealand is of volcanic origin: hence high mountainous cliffs surround it on almost every side; a chain of mountains runs through the length of both islands from north to south; hot springs abound, often close to glaciers and eternal snows; earthquakes are common, and active volcanoes are not unknown. The climate is damp and stormy, and the land is covered with tangled masses of jungle and tree-fern. In addition to all this, even the very fossils are dissimilar, as are the fauna and flora. Australia (South and West) possesses a semi-tropical climate, for there is as great a variety between Sydney and the inland towns as between the midland counties of England and the moors of Scotland. Although tropical plants grow in the gardens of Sydney, a short run by rail is sufficient to reach a climate where British fruits, flowers, and grasses are cultivated with great success.

Here we remained, in this proverbially wet port, for ten days, and at length left somewhat suddenly on the afternoon of the 6th July, although it was blowing very fiercely from the north-west at the time. We had hardly cleared the Heads of Port Nicholson when a dense fog, accompanied with heavy rain, set