

PROTECTING THE EMPIRE'S HUMANITY

Rooted in the extraordinary archive of Quaker physician and humanitarian activist Dr Thomas Hodgkin, this book explores the efforts of the Aborigines' Protection Society to expose Britain's hypocrisy and imperial crimes in the mid-nineteenth century. Hodgkin's correspondents stretched from Liberia to Lesotho, New Zealand to Texas, Jamaica to Ontario, and Bombay to South Australia; they included scientists, philanthropists, missionaries, systematic colonizers, politicians, and indigenous peoples themselves. Debating the best way to protect and advance indigenous rights in an era of burgeoning settler colonialism, they looked back to the lessons and limitations of anti-slavery, lamented the imperial government's disavowal of responsibility for settler colonies, and laid out elaborate (and patronizing) plans for indigenous 'civilization'. *Protecting the Empire's Humanity* reminds us of the complexity, contradictions and capacious nature of British colonialism and metropolitan 'humanitarianism', illuminating the broad canvas of empire through a distinctive set of British and Indigenous campaigners.

ZOË LAIDLAW is Professor of History at the University of Melbourne. She is the author of *Colonial Connections 1815–1845: Patronage, the Information Revolution and Colonial Government* (2005) and co-editor, with Alan Lester, of *Indigenous Communities and Settler Colonialism: Land Holding, Loss and Survival in an Interconnected World* (2015).

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Thomas Hodgkin and British Colonial Activism
1830–1870

ZOË LAIDLAW
University of Melbourne



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For Michael, Hannah and Lucas

CONTENTS

<i>List of Figures</i>	viii
<i>List of Maps</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xiii
1 Introduction	1
PART I Mapping Humanitarianism	
2 Indigenous Protection at the Humanitarian Apogee	31
3 Metropolitan Contexts: Thomas Hodgkin, Science, and Medicine	61
4 Anti-slavery, Colonization, and Emigration: ‘Civilizing’ West Africa	99
5 Free Trade versus Free Labour: British India and the West Indies	137
PART II Humanitarianism and Settler Colonialism	
6 Making Colonization Civilizing: The Aborigines’ Protection Society	175
7 Dealing with the Devil: Systematic Colonization in Australasia	206
8 Conscripts of Civilization: North American Networks	238
9 Betrayal in the Borderlands: Lesotho and New Zealand	280
10 Conclusion	324
<i>Bibliography</i>	334
<i>Index</i>	359

FIGURES

1.1	‘Thomas Hodgkin’, portrait by John Burton.	4
10.1	Signed Lithography of Thomas Hodgkin. Frontispiece to Thomas Hodgkin, <i>Narrative of a Journey to Morocco, in 1863 and 1864: with Geological Annotations</i> (London: T. Cautley Newby, 1866).	326

MAPS

4.1	West Africa	109
7.1	Australasia	210
8.1	Canada West	256
8.2	Rupert's Land	270
9.1	Southern Africa	292
9.2	New Zealand	308

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xi

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACLL	Anti-Corn Law League
ACS	American Colonization Society
ADB	<i>Australian Dictionary of Biography</i>
ANU	Australian National University
APS	Aborigines' Protection Society
BAAS	British Association for the Advancement of Science
BACS	British African Colonization Society
BFASS	British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society
BFBS	British and Foreign Bible Society
BIS	British India Society
CMS	Church Missionary Society
CO	Colonial Office
DNZB	<i>Dictionary of New Zealand Biography</i>
ESL	Ethnological Society of London
FO	Foreign Office
HBC	Hudson's Bay Company
HC	House of Commons
HL	House of Lords
JESL	<i>Journal of the Ethnological Society of London</i>
LMS	London Missionary Society
ODNB	<i>Oxford Dictionary of National Biography</i>
PEMS	Paris Evangelical Missionary Society
PP	Parliamentary Papers
RGS	Royal Geographical Society
RHL	Rhodes House Library, University of Oxford
TFB	Thomas Fowell Buxton
TNA	The National Archives
WMMS	Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society