



The *Blenheim* People

Commemorating the Scottish emigrants who travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840



Compiled by
Hugh McPhail

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2015



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Published in 2015

by

Hugh McPhail, 7 Westland Road, Mt Cook, Wellington 6021, New Zealand

ISBN 978-0-473-32988-4

Adapted from the website www.Blenheim175.wordpress.com.

Cover illustrations:

Logo for the Blenheim175 Commemorations: designed by Victoria Nunns for the Blenheim175 Organising Committee.

Brees, Samuel Charles, 1810-1865: Town of Wellington, Port Nicholson, from Kaiwarra-warra Hill. Drawn by S C Brees. Engraved by Henry Melville. [London, 1847]..

Brees, Samuel Charles, 1810-1865: Pictorial Illustrations of New Zealand. London, John Williams and Co., Library of Arts, 141, Strand, 1847. Ref: PUBL-0020-02-2. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.

<http://natlib.govt.nz/records/22424977>

Text: Palatino

Printed by: printing.com Wellington CBD, 4 Panama Street, Wellington 6011

Acknowledgements

Thanks to my colleagues on the Blenheim175 Organising Committee – Rob Cameron, Lindsay Campbell, Ian Dickson, Roz and Ewen Grant, David Moore – for their support and their enthusiastic engagement in commemorating the voyage of the *Blenheim*; to the helpful people at the National Library / Alexander Turnbull Library; to Elisabeth Airey who shared her experience in bringing research to print; and especially to my wife, Kendall Gibson, who is unfailingly supportive and encouraging.

A Note on Spelling:

The spelling of names and other words generally follows the source material, so any 'errors' are not necessarily attributable to faulty proof-reading. The spelling of names in particular presented some difficulties, with variations of Mac, Mc and M', and also variations in how families spell their names themselves (you know who you are). The approach used is based on my judgement of what is most appropriate in the circumstances.

Illustrations

People:

Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand; Harding, William James, 1826-1899: Negatives of Wanganui district. Ref: 1/4-008083-G.. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/23503123>: Mr John Cameron (p.69)

Grant Family: Alexander Grant (p.103); Mary (Cameron) Grant (p.103).

Masterton District Library and Archive, Picture Wairarapa: Donald and Christina Cameron (p.28); Mary (Morrison) Cameron (p.30); Donald (Piper) Cameron (p.31); Ann (Morrison) McLachlan, formerly McPhee, previously Smith (p.166).

McGregor Family: Gregor McGregor (p.123); Catherine (Fraser) McGregor (p.123).

McPhail/McLachlan/Cameron Album: Charles Cameron (p.61); Archibald Cameron (p.64); Jane (Cameron) Brabazon, formerly McLachlan, previously McPherson (p.139).

Otago University, Hocken Library, Hocken Snapshot (10th Jul 2012): In Website Hocken Snapshot. Retrieved 13th Apr 2015 15:23.: Catherine Robertson (McLachlan) Poppelwell (p.140).

Upper Hutt Library, Recollect, from Alexander Turnbull Library, 592 1/11: James Brown Jnr (p.15).

Wanganui Library Ngā Ripō O Mua/Ripples of the Past, Wanganui Portrait Collection: Captain Moses Campbell (p.72); Mrs J Campbell (p.72); Mrs Sheild (p.74).

Ships:

The images in the chapter "About the Blenheim" (pp 194, 198) were found in a variety of sources.

The silhouette is from the website ThePirateKing.com page providing information on the rigging of sailing ships.

The image on the left in page 198 is at the State Library of Victoria (Accession No.H27568/40), and is described as 808t, 1845, Shields. The print is also at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, described as: The 'Blenheim' East Indiaman (1848), 1400 Tons, artist Thomas Coldsworth Dutton.

The original of the image on the right is at Newcastle Libraries (www.newcastle.gov.uk/tlt), Accession Number: 012961. The description is: Blenheim. Owned and built by T.W.Smith at St Peters Yard Newcastle upon Tyne. Launched 18/6/1848; largest merchant ship in Europe at 205 ft 1489 tons. The image used here was apparently sourced from a calendar page.

The image in the bottom, centre is from the State Library of Victoria, Malcolm Brodie shipping collection, Accession Number: H99.220/330. The description is "BLENHEIM. Aberdeen. 1077 Tons. Built at Glasgow. 1877. Ex Wanganui. Sunk 1917. Shows a three masted ship at dock."

Places:

Hugh McPhail: Kaiwharawhara Cairn (p.120); 2015 view from the top of Kaiwharawhara (p.120).

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INTRODUCTION

Scots settlers played an important role in the early years of Wellington and New Zealand. On 27 December 1840 the *Blenheim* arrived in Wellington with mainly Highland farmers and their families. The passengers from the *Blenheim* disembarked at Kaiwharawhara, where they were welcomed and supported by Ngati Tama and their chief Taringakuri. But who were these people and why had they made the arduous voyage to the unknown on the other side of the world, and what happened to them when they got there?

The *Blenheim* left Greenock on 25 August 1840. The *Stirling Observer* of September 3rd 1840 reported:

DEPARTURE OF THE SHIP BLENHEIM. On Monday last we had the opportunity of accompanying a select party who paid a farewell visit to the ship 'Blenheim', before her departure with emigrants for the land of promise in the southern seas. The emigrating band numbered nearly 200; they were principally highlanders who are strangers to the language of the Saxon, and as Dr McLeod had kindly consented to address them in Gaelic for the last time before their departure from the shores of old Scotland, the occasion was one calculated to excite both feeling and interest. The 'British Queen' steamer sailed from the Broomielaw at 11 o'clock, with the New Zealand flag flying from her mast head, and both there and at Renfrew wharf, passengers for the remote home of Port Nicholson, New Zealand, were received, and placed on board the 'Blenheim', which lay at the Tail of the Bank, shortly after one o'clock. The 'Blenheim' is a London ship, commanded by Captain Gray, and although she only reached Greenock on the Sunday week preceding, the time had been so well improved that it only required the lifting of the anchor, and the spreading of the sails, to fit her for sea. It was intended that the ship should be entirely filled with emigrants from the Highlands, but when the day of parting came, the home-sick feeling came so strongly upon them that about 40 drew back, whose places were filled up by families principally from Glasgow and Paisley. Mr Crawford, the New Zealand Secretary, only received notice of the defalcation in the Highland complement on Thursday last; but so eager and so general is the desire to settle in this infant kingdom, that in two days he was able to muster a sufficient number of reputable artisans – weavers, blacksmiths, carpenters, &c, with their families – who were willing and ready to leave the land of their fathers for ever. The great majority, however, were Highlanders, and we have rarely seen a more creditable band; they were selected personally by Mr McDonald late of Druimintoran, who shows his sincerity in the cause of emigration, by proceeding at the head of his peasant friends, accompanied by his lady and family.

The Highlanders had been recruited by Donald McDonald for the New Zealand Company, mainly from the Lochaber area of Argyll and Inverness in the west of Scotland. Many, including several families from the Isle of Skye and from the parish of Morvern in Argyll, were moving because of the clearances of small tenants to make way for sheep farms which provided greater returns for the proprietors. In a number of cases those proprietors paid for all or part of the passage of the emigrants.

The quick response by people in Paisley and Glasgow to the availability of places at the last minute reflected the demand for emigration from the cities at that time. The *Bengal Merchant*, which had departed from Greenock on 30 October 1839 was one of the New Zealand Company's first group of ships, with its complement of emigrants responding to the enthusiastic promotion of New Zealand by the West of Scotland Committee of the New Zealand Land Company.

The trip to New Zealand took 124 days, and involved sailing south across the Bay of Biscay, then the Atlantic Ocean towards South America, before turning eastwards to

go south of the Cape of Good Hope and across the Southern Ocean to the south of Australia and Van Dieman's Land (Tasmania), before reaching Cook Strait and Port Nicholson. The *Blenheim* did not put in at any port during the voyage. There were six births and two deaths on the voyage, both children, and after arriving in New Zealand there were several marriages between passengers, in a few cases some years afterwards. A record of the voyage from the perspective of a cabin passenger has been provided through the Journal kept by Jessie Campbell, which is reproduced in this book.

The *Blenheim* arrived at Port Nicholson on 27 December 1840. The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 2 January 1841 remarked:

The "Blenheim," Capt. Gray, arrived on Sunday last, from the Clyde, having sailed on the 24th August. She brings one hundred and fifty passengers in the steerage, and eleven in the cabin. The Colony has not received a finer body of Colonists they were all selected by the Laird M'Donald, who has arrived with them, and we hope will find a suitable location for his hardy followers within the District of Port Nicholson. A few hills or gales of wind will not frighten these sturdy men out of their propriety; they are just the men to war with a New Zealand forest, and in a few years to bring to market in abundance fine grain such as may now be seen on the Hutt. The vessel did not touch on the passage at any port, and the passengers were healthy throughout. Two children died on the passage, and six were born.

Most of the Highland emigrants had described themselves to the New Zealand Company as labourers, younger boys were cowherds, older girls were housemaids or dairymaids, but there were also several tradesmen – blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, and a miller. The emigrants from Paisley and Glasgow were described as labourers, bakers, weavers, and included a former Customs officer. Once they arrived in New Zealand, however, and after many of them had spent time working as labourers on the construction of the roads to Petone and Porirua, most ended up as landowners, running primarily sheep and cattle.

Many of the *Blenheim* people settled first at "Kaiwarra", which became known as the "Scotch village". A number of the emigrants left Wellington, and New Zealand, fairly early on – some may have been spooked by the earthquakes, others by issues with local Māori and the rawness of the settlement, while others were frustrated by the difficulties in obtaining possession of the land promised to them by the New Zealand Company. Later, the attractions of gold mining in Victoria, Westland and Otago encouraged moves to those places. Many of the Scots families were among the first settlers in the Wairarapa, Wanganui and Rangitikei districts, while others went further afield to Canterbury and Otago, preceding organised settlement in those places, and some to Auckland. Wherever they went they made a significant contribution to the economic and cultural development of New Zealand.

This book provides more facts about the people who came to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*. It is a snapshot of the information contained on the website www.blenheim175.wordpress.com as at the time of publication.

Some effort has been put into establishing a definitive passenger list, based primarily on the records held in Archives New Zealand, and this list, plus some discussion of the sources used, is included.

The information about each of the families and individuals who travelled on the *Blenheim* is based on official records and contemporary newspaper reports where possible, and has also benefitted from a number of family histories that have been published. The focus has been on those who travelled on the *Blenheim*, not on subsequent (or earlier) generations. The stories are told mainly through newspaper

accounts, often obituaries, or are taken from memoirs and journals written by or about the passengers.

There is a brief history of the *Blenheim* itself, which made two voyages to New Zealand with emigrants, as well as two voyages to New South Wales carrying convicts.

The opportunity has also been taken to provide the full text of Jessie Campbell's Journal of the voyage, and the available texts of letters she wrote home to her family in Scotland.

This book, and the website it is based on, mark the 175th anniversary of the arrival of the *Blenheim*. The *Blenheim* pioneers made an important contribution to the establishment of Wellington after 1840. Most critically, they were the workforce that built roads to the Hutt Valley and to Porirua that we now regard as the city's lifelines. The *Blenheim* people made significant economic, cultural, social, and civic contributions to the fledgling settlement at Port Nicholson, and to the lower North Island where many eventually settled. Perhaps the feature that is least recognised today is that Kaiwharawhara was the site of the first settlement of Scots in New Zealand, 8 years before Dunedin and 14 before Waipu. Culturally, they brought with them much that we now take for granted as part of the fusion of Scottish Highland and Kiwi culture: the first set of bagpipes was carried on the *Blenheim*; in 1848, the *Blenheim* "Scotch" as they were called staged the very first Highland Games to be held on these shores, replanting a tradition of Scottish associationalism that continues today.

In recent years there have been a number of publications outlining the scope and nature of Scottish settlement in New Zealand, and its impact on the New Zealand we know today. This book seeks to make its contribution by telling the stories of a group of people who were at the very beginning of that impact.

BLenheim PASSENGER LIST

There are a number of sources of information about who was on the *Blenheim*, and while it is not always clear it does seem that some existing published lists are not completely accurate.

For the purposes of trying to develop a true list, researches have been undertaken into the original lists held by Archives New Zealand and indexed by FamilySearch (relates only to passengers receiving a free passage); newspaper reports at the time of the sailing and arrival of the *Blenheim*; other contemporary sources; and subsequently-published lists.

On this basis, on departure there were 21 cabin passengers and 178 steerage passengers, totalling 199, and on arrival there were 20 cabin passengers and 183 steerage passengers, a total of 203.

The arrivals included 22 married couples, 53 single men, 27 single women, 26 boys and 27 girls (1 girl died at sea), plus 6 babies born at sea, on the emigrant list; with 2 married couples, their 8 sons and 4 daughters, 1 daughter having died at sea, and 4 single men, as cabin passengers.

Cabin Passengers

Captain Moses CAMPBELL and Jessie CAMPBELL [CAMERON] and family

- Captain Moses Campbell, 51
- Jessie Campbell, 31
- John Campbell, 8
- Colin Campbell, 6
- Louisa Margaret Campbell, 5
- Susan Campbell, 1
- Isabella Campbell, 1, died at sea

Donald MacDONALD and Mrs MacDONALD [CUMMINGS] and family

- Donald MacDonald
- Anne MacDonald
- Catherine MacDonald, 17
- Donald MacDonald, 16
- Adam MacDonald, 15
- Flora MacDonald, 13
- Alexander MacDonald, 12
- Campbell MacDonald, 10
- Thomas MacDonald, 5
- Duncan MacDonald, 18 mths

John CAMERON

John MacFARLANE

Dr Sinclair SUTHERLAND

Dr Neil CAMPBELL (Surgeon Superintendent)

Steerage Passengers

James BROWN and Mary BROWN [FLYNN] and family, from Paisley

- James Brown, 28, labourer
- Mary Brown, 30
- Sarah Brown, 9
- James Brown, 7
- George Brown, 5
- Elizabeth Brown 1½

Allan CAMERON and Janet (Jessie) GRANT and family

- Allan Cameron, 35, engineer's assistant
- Jessie Cameron, 30
- John Cameron, 19
- Hugh Cameron, 17
- Allan Cameron, 1¼

Catherine CAMERON and family

- Catherine Cameron, 45, widow, dairymaid, from Borline
- Archibald McQUEEN, her son-in-law, 21, labourer
- Catherine Cameron [McQUEEN], her daughter, 17, housemaid
- Mary Cameron, her daughter, 15, housemaid
- Angus Cameron, her son, 21, labourer

Donald CAMERON and Christian McLEAN and family, from Ormasaigmore

- Donald Cameron, 46, weaver
- Christian McLean, his wife, 40
- Dugald Cameron, his son, 18, labourer
- Alexander Cameron, his son, 17, labourer
- Donald Cameron, his son, 16, labourer
- Catherine Cameron, his daughter, 14, housemaid
- Ann Cameron, his daughter, 12
- John Cameron, his son, 10
- Duncan Cameron, his son, 8

Donald CAMERON and Mary McPHERSON and family, from Trishilaig

- Donald Cameron, 52, labourer
- Mary McPherson, his wife, 40
- John Cameron, his son, 24, quarrier
- Allan Cameron, his son, 22, quarrier
- Donald Cameron, his son, 20, shoemaker
- Duncan Cameron, his son, 18, shepherd
- Ewen Cameron, his son, 17, ploughman
- Alexander Cameron, his son, 15, cowherd
- James Cameron, his son, 14, cowherd
- George Cameron, his son, 9
- Mary Cameron, his daughter, 26, dairymaid
- Ann Cameron, his daughter, 12

Dugald CAMERON and Christina CAMERON and family, from Glenmore

- Dugald Cameron, Glenmore, 48, a labourer
- Christian Cameron, his wife, 40
- Anne Cameron, his daughter, 16, dairymaid
- Angus Cameron, his son, 9, cowherd
- Mary Cameron, his daughter, 7½

Ewen CAMERON and Maria COLQUHOUN and family, from Trisilaig

- Ewen Cameron, 50, tailor
- Maria Colquhoun, his wife, 46
- Mary Cameron, his daughter, 28, chambermaid
- Flora Cameron, his daughter, 26, housemaid
- Marjory Cameron, his daughter, 24, housemaid
- Jane Cameron, his daughter, 22, housemaid
- Charles Cameron, his son, 18, labourer
- Sarah Cameron, his daughter, 16
- Allan Cameron, his son, 14, cowherd
- Donald Cameron, his son, 12, cowherd
- Margaret Cameron, his daughter, 9
- Anne Cameron, his daughter, 7
- Catherine Cameron, his daughter, 4

John CAMERON and Janet McGREGOR and family, from Achranach

- John Cameron, 49, labourer
- Janet McGregor, his wife, 44
- John Cameron, his son, 26, ploughman
- Angus Cameron, his son, 24, labourer
- Charles Cameron, his son, 20, labourer
- Duncan Cameron, his son, 17, cowherd
- Allan Cameron, his son, 15, cowherd
- Anne Cameron, his daughter, 12
- Archibald Cameron, his son, 9
- Dugald Cameron, his son, 7
- Marjory Cameron, his daughter, 5

John CHISHOLM, 40, labourer

Mathew DUNNET and Margaret DUNNET [BARBOUR] and family

- Mathew Dunnet, 36, labourer
- Margaret Dunnet, 33
- John Dunnet, 7½
- Janet Dunnet, 4
- Ellen Thomson Dunnet, born at sea

George EASTON and Mary EASTON [WOOD], from Paisley

- George Easton, 22, baker
- Mary Easton, 21

Donald and Mary FERGUSON and family

- Donald Ferguson, 36, miller
- Mary Ferguson, 35
- Marion Ferguson, 9
- Donald Ferguson, 7
- [Child Ferguson, born at sea?]

John FERGUSON, 22, joiner

Duncan FRASER and Marjory FRASER and family, from Corran

- Duncan Fraser, 40, blacksmith and labourer
- Margaret Fraser, 36
- John Fraser, 17, blacksmith
- Catherine Fraser, 16, sempstress
- Isabella Fraser, 15, housemaid
- Margaret Fraser, 14, housemaid
- Elizabeth Fraser, 13, housemaid
- Ann Fraser, 12
- Alexander Fraser, 8
- Donald Fraser, 7
- Duncan Fraser, 4
- Thomas Fraser, born at sea

Jane FRASER, 20

Alexander GRANT, 30, mason

William HARVIE, 15, labourer

Alexander KEITH, 34, shepherd and labourer

Daniel McCOLLSTY, 27, stonemason

William and Elizabeth McCONNEL, from Paisley

- William McConnel, 22, baker
- Elizabeth McConnel, 21
- Helen McConnel, born at sea

Michael McEACHNIE, 36, labourer

Gregor McGREGOR, agriculturalist, 21

John McKAY and family

- John McKay, 52
- John McKay, 28
- Donald McKay, 25
- Sarah McKay, 19, dairymaid
- Lachlan McKay, 16, cowherd
- Hector McKay, 14
- Colin McKay, 10

Hugh McKENZIE and Catherine McDONALD and family, from Achatany

- Hugh McKenzie, 50, labourer

- Catherine McDonald, his wife, 46
- Jane McKenzie, his daughter, 24, housemaid
- Peggy McKenzie, his daughter, 21, housemaid
- Mary McKenzie, his daughter, 17, housemaid
- Flora McKenzie, his daughter, 15
- Janet McKenzie, his daughter, 12
- John McKenzie, his son, 10

Lachlan McKINNIS, 21, shepherd, from Mirren

John McKINNON, 20, labourer

Dugald McLACHLAN and Jane CAMERON and family

- Dugald McLachlan, 40, labourer
- Jane CAMERON, 35
- Catherine Robertson McLachlan, 15, housemaid
- Alexander Cleghorn McLachlan, 11
- Hugh McLachlan, 10
- Duncan McLachlan, 4
- Isabella McIntyre McLachlan, born at sea

Archibald and Christina McLELLAN, from Mirren

- Archibald McLellan, 30, labourer
- Christina McLellan, 27

Angus McMASTER, 36, ploughman, from Kinlochmoidart

Donald McQUARRIE and Margaret McEACHERN and family, from Borline

- Donald MacQuarrie, 54, labourer
- Margaret McEachern, his wife, 53
- Rachael MacQuarrie, his daughter, 27, housemaid and cook
- Jane MacQuarrie [FRASER], his daughter, 25, housemaid
- Angus MacQuarrie, his son, 23, cooper
- John MacQuarrie, his son, 19, his son
- Alexander MacQuarrie, his son, 17, labourer
- Hugh MacQuarrie, his son, 14, cowherd
- Isabella MacQuarrie, his granddaughter, 3 died at sea?
- Mary MacQuarrie [FRASER] his granddaughter, 7
- John MacQuarrie, his grandson, 3

William and Maria MILLER and family, from Glasgow

- William Miller, 28, labourer (embarkation), weaver (arrival)
- Maria Miller, 27
- Robert Miller, 9
- Janet Miller, 7
- Mary Miller, 5
- Jane Miller, 2
- Margaret Miller, born at sea

James and Jane MITCHELL and family, from Paisley

- James Mitchell, 29, labourer
- Jane Mitchell, 28
- Marion Mitchell, 5
- Jane Mitchell, 3

Hugh MORRISON and Anne TURNER and family, from Kenlochuline

- Hugh Morrison, 50, shepherd
- Anne Turner, 40
- Hugh Morrison, 18, labourer
- Duncan Morrison, 16, labourer
- Anne Morrison, 14, housemaid
- John Morrison, 12, cowherd
- Margaret Morrison, 10
- Mary Morrison, 8
- Colin Morrison, 6

John MURRAY, 24, ploughman, from Paisley

William and Janet NICOL [JAMIESON] family, from Paisley

- William Nicol, 47, labourer
- Janet Nicol, 35
- John Nicol, 18, labourer
- William Nicol, 16, labourer
- Charles Nicol, 13
- James N Nicol, 10
- Janet Nicol, 8

James RANKIN, 21, collier, from Paisley

George ROSS, 21, blacksmith

Francis and Eliza SINCLAIR [McHUTCHESON] and family from Perthshire

- Francis Sinclair, 42, described as a sailor in the arrival list
- Eliza Sinclair, 40
- John Sinclair [McHUTCHESON], 20
- George Sinclair, 15
- James Sinclair, 14, described as a labourer in the embarkation list
- Jane Sinclair, 12
- Helen Sinclair, 10
- Francis Sinclair, 6
- Ann Sinclair, 1

Mary SMITH, 19, housemaid

Alexander and Helen THOMPSON, from Paisley

- Alexander Thompson, 28, labourer
- Helen Thompson, 26

Isabella TURNER, 28, housemaid

John TURNER, 20, mason

Sources

Original Lists

The original lists held by Archives New Zealand, as reproduced and indexed by FamilySearch, include four lists of registered emigrants, i.e. excluding the cabin passengers:

- **Initial list:** The list is headed "We the Undersigned hereby acknowledge to have engaged with Mr Donald Macdonald Agent for the New Zealand Company to Emigrate with him to the said Colony according to the rules of the said Company dated in London 29 June 1839 which have been fully explained to us and we bind ourselves to be ready to Embark with him so soon after the first of June next as he shall be ready to receive us from Fort William, Culchenna 14 January 1840." The columns cover names and designations of emigrants; ages of male adults, female adults and children under 14; trade or calling; and remarks. Many of the names are crossed out, and there is a page which is a late addendum to the original list. The original list totalled 197, of whom 93 were crossed out, leaving 113. The additional lists, which added back some of the deleted names, added 36, giving a total of 149 steerage passengers. This list is at pages 240-247 of the archived document.
- **Interim List:** Appears to be an early version of the embarkation list, signed on 25 August 1840 by Robert Watt, the Surveyor Shipping for the New Zealand Company. The total on the list was 196, but 19 names were crossed out and do not appear in the embarkation list, giving a total of 177. The column headings are the same as in the embarkation list. This list is at pages 218-229 of the archived document.
- **Embarkation list:** The cover notes "Embarkation List, ship *Blenheim*, Capt Grey, off the Tail of the Bank, Greenock, despatched 25 August 1840 at 5 pm," and it is signed off at the end by Niel Campbell, Surgeon Superintendent, and John Grey, Commander of the *Blenheim*. The list was headed "Emigration Register – Register of Emigrant Labourers who have received a Free Passage to NEW ZEALAND". The columns were: a number on the register; name; Christian name; wife's Christian name, trade or calling before emigrating; ages, split up by married or single, man or woman; children's ages split up by boys and girls, number and age; by whom specially recommended; by whom engaged before emigrating; term of engagement; deposit received; departure details of date, from and ship; remarks. Many of these columns had no entries. Some of the names were crossed out because of duplications, giving a total of 179 steerage passengers, which included the additional emigrants from Paisley, Glasgow and Perthshire. This list was at pages 204-217 of the archived document.
- **Arrival list:** This list has the same format as the previous two, and ends with a summary page signed off by Neil Campbell, Surgeon Superintendent, which included births and deaths, making it the arrival document. However, it appears to be based more on the interim list than the embarkation list, repeating the crossings out in the interim list, and with one name, James Drummond, on both of the other lists not appearing in this list. The total of assisted immigrants is signed off as 176 plus six births minus two deaths, but this appears to have miscounted one single man and counted the death of a cabin passenger in arriving at the emigrant total. It also appears likely that one of the crossed-off children (Isabella MacQuarrie) did board the ship, but died at sea. This list is at pages 230-238 of the archived document.

This gives a full tally of 203 passengers on arrival, including both cabin and steerage passengers, and including the Surgeon Superintendent, and accounting for 2 deaths and 6 births on the voyage,

Newspapers

The *Glasgow Herald* of 28 August 1840 included a report of the departure of the *Blenheim*. The report noted that in addition to Mr M'Donald, late of Drimintoran, and his family, the cabin passengers included Captain Moses Campbell and family from Lochaber, Dr Sinclair Sutherland, Mr John Cameron, Mr John M'Farlane, Paisley, Mr Thomas M'Donald, and Dr Campbell, the surgeon of the ship, from Mull.

The *New Zealand Journal* of Saturday, 29 August 1840 reporting the departure of the *Blenheim*, noted, "The following is a list of the cabin passengers by the *Blenheim*:— Donald Macdonald, Esq.; Mrs. Macdonald; Catherine Macdonald; Donald Macdonald; Adam Macdonald; Flora Macdonald; Alexander Macdonald; Campbell Macdonald; Thomas Macdonald; Captain Moses Campbell; Mrs. Campbell; John Campbell; Colin Campbell; Louisa Campbell; Susan Campbell; Isabella Campbell; Dr. Sinclair Sutherland; Mr. John Cameron; Mr. John Macfarlane; and the Surgeon Superintendent, Mr. Neil Campbell."

The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 9 January 1841 reported the passengers in the "*Blenheim*": Mr and Mrs M'Donald and eight children, Captain and Mrs Campbell and four children, Drs Sutherland and Campbell; Messrs Cameron and M'Farlane.

Contemporary Sources

The main contemporary source is the journal kept by Jessie Campbell, wife of Moses Campbell, one of the cabin passengers on the *Blenheim*. The cabin passengers mentioned in Jessie's journal include her family and that of Donald McDonald, Doctor Sutherland, John Cameron and Mr Macfarlane, as well as the ship's doctor Neil Campbell and the ship's captain Captain Grey. There were no references to a Mrs Johnston or to a Doctor McDonald who appear on some lists as cabin passengers. The journal also includes references to servants, Mary Cameron and her sister Catherine, and "the Skye woman".

References to specific steerage passengers relate generally to those giving birth – Mrs Fraser, wife of the smith from Ardgour, Mrs McLachlan from Portobello [*she was not, in fact, from Portobello but from Fort William*], and a man from Paisley – or dying – a McQuarrie child died. A man called Sinclair from Stirling gave a bible reading.

Subsequent Lists

A number of lists of passengers have been published in a number of books and online. One of the main sources for these lists was *Early Wellington*, by Louis Ward, and a comprehensive *Blenheim* list published on "Our Stuff" the genealogical website compiled by Denise and Peter.

The *Early Wellington* list incorrectly identifies Capt Moses Campbell as the captain of the *Blenheim*, and leaves out five large families of Camerons and the Miller family. The list identifies as not embarking some of those crossed out in the embarkation and arrival lists, but not all.

The "Our Stuff" list has cabin passenger John Cameron in the steerage list, and adds a Dr Sinclair McDonald and a Mrs Johnston to the cabin passenger list. The evidence from newspaper reports and Jessie Campbell's journal does not support either name, with the reference to Johnston possibly arising from an argument between Jessie

Campbell and Mrs McDonald about “Dr Johnston’s [*sic, Johnson’s*] tour through the Highlands,” referring to a visit by Dr Samuel Johnson and James Boswell in 1773, the record of which was published in 1785. There are several other names included that were in fact deleted from the final list, or are duplications of those listed.

JAMES AND MARY BROWN

The *Blenheim* passenger lists recorded the Brown family as coming from Paisley and including:

- James Brown, 28, labourer
- Mary Brown, 30
- Sarah Brown, 9
- James Brown, 7
- George Brown, 5
- Elizabeth Brown 1½

James Brown and Mary Catherine Flynn

Based on family records listed in Ancestry.com, James Brown was born on 23 May 1806 in Abbey, Renfrewshire, to James Brown and Mary McKorkindale. On 21 January 1831 he married Mary Catherine Flynn, who was born in County Wicklow, Ireland, in 1807. The Old Parish Register for Abbey Parish, Renfrew, records that they were both of the parish and were married on 21 January 1821 by the Reverend Walter Blair, Paisley.

Following their arrival in New Zealand, James and Mary went on to have two more children:

- David Brown, born in 1844, died in 1898.
- Andrew Brown, born in 1846, died in 1926.

The *Evening Post* obituary for Elizabeth (see below), included a description of the family's life in Wellington and the Hutt Valley, where they were the first European settlers in the Upper Hutt:

The voyage in the Blenheim terminated when that vessel anchored off Kaiwharawhara, and on landing there the Brown family were accommodated in a raupo whare provided for their use by the agent of the Kew Zealand Company. Shortly afterwards a removal was made to what is known as Alicetown, Lower Hutt, and at a later date to Belmont. The Brown family were the first settlers beyond the Silverstream-Taita Gorge — communication between these points being by means of a native track over the hills from Taita, across the stream in Stokes Valley, and again across the hills to where the Silverstream brickyards are now located. There was no way alongside the river on the eastern side, as the river ran close in to the hillsides there.

DETOUR AT TAITA. Having acquired possession of a piece of land extending from the neighbourhood of the Upper Hutt Post Office eastward beyond the Borough Council offices Mr. Brown proceeded to settle upon his holding and, placing his worldly goods upon a light dray trekked eastward towards Upper Hutt. The hills of Taita and Silverstream were impassable for wheeled traffic and the vehicle was taken apart, the wheels taken across separately, and the body slung on poles carried by the pioneer, assisted by a couple of stalwart settlers (Messrs. Galloway, of Pahautanui, and M'Ewan, of Rangitikei). On arrival at the eastern side of the gorge the vehicle was reassembled, and the kindly neighbours returned to their homes then at Lower Hutt. On arrival at Upper Hutt Mr. Brown erected a slab whare for his family, and covered it with a sail-cloth for a roof. He conducted the first tavern in the district, which was designated "The Shepherd," and later on reconstructed and improved it, when it acquired the name of the "Criterion Hotel," in which the Duke of Edinburgh stayed the night on the occasion of his visit to see the beauties of the Hutt River and native bush at the "Maori Bank." A photograph of the hotel can be

seen now in the Borough Council Chamber at Upper Hutt. The building, until recently temporarily occupied by the local Bank of Australasia, was the "stables" of the Criterion Hotel, and replaced the original stables which had been destroyed by fire on the night of the Duke's visit. It has the honour of being the first store in Upper Hutt. The original business settlement having been established in the neighbourhood of the Oddfellows' Hall, Trentham.

The *Wellington Independent* of 28 February 1871 included the Death Notice: "Brown – On Sunday, 26th February, at the Upper Hutt, Mr James Brown, after a severe and protracted illness, aged 61 years."

Sarah Brown

The Old Parish Register for Abbey, Renfrew, recorded that Sarah, daughter, legal, of James Brown, weaver, Cotton Street, and Mary Flynn was born on 5 March 1831 and registered on 31 March 1831.

Sarah Brown was listed as a child of 9 when she boarded the *Blenheim* for New Zealand.

Sarah Brown married James Wilson in 1849. The couple had 13 children:

- Mary Wilson, born in 1850, died in 1905.
- James Wilson, born in 1852.
- William Henry Wilson, born in 1854, died in 1938, married Christine Charlotte Fagan in 1890.
- John Wilson, born in 1856, died in 1923.
- Elizabeth Wilson, born in 1858, died in 1921.
- Joseph James Wilson, born in 1861, died in 1935, married Catherine McTaggart in 1897.
- Alexander Francis Wilson, born in 1863, died in 1935, married Adelaide Sophia Worsfold in 1888.
- George Wilson, born in 1865, died in 1923, married Lydia Mary Riley in 1904.
- Annie Wilson, born in 1867, died in 1941, married James McLeod in 1892.
- David Bernard Wilson, born in 1869, died in 1960, married Fanny Louisa Wilson in 1895.
- Agnes Wilson, born in 1871, died in 1946.
- Sarah Jane Wilson, born in 1873, died in 1957.
- Emily Mary Wilson, born in 1875, died in 1946 (Sister Basil).

James Wilson died on 7 July 1912, aged 83. The *Hutt Valley Independent* of 13 July 1912 had the following obituary for James Wilson:

JAMES WILSON: Mr. James Wilson, one of Upper Hutt's early settlers, who for some years has resided in Rangitikei, died at Makino on Sunday last, being 83 years of age. Deceased had an eventful career. Bom in Ireland, he came 67 years ago to New Zealand with the 65th Regiment, and took part in Hone Heke's war and several other campaigns. He afterwards settled at Upper Hutt, where he married a sister, of James Brown, sen, and Mrs. Alex Martin. While at Upper Hutt he acted as instructor to the local militia at the blockhouse in the rear of the Trentham post office. After farming at Upper Hutt for a number of years, he went to Makino, where he has resided for some thirty years past. Deceased had been ailing for the past five years. Mrs. Wilson, who is an invalid, survives her husband, with six sons and five daughters. The sons are Messrs. W. H. and J. (Feilding), J. J. (Christchurch), A. F. (Levin), G. E. (Auckland), and David (Wellington). Mrs. McLeod (Makino) is the eldest daughter, and the others are unmarried.

Sarah (Brown) Wilson also died in 1912. The *Feilding Star* of 23 November 1912 carried the Death Notice: "Wilson – At Makino, on Nov. 22, Sarah, relict of the late James Wilson, R.I.P. No flowers by request."

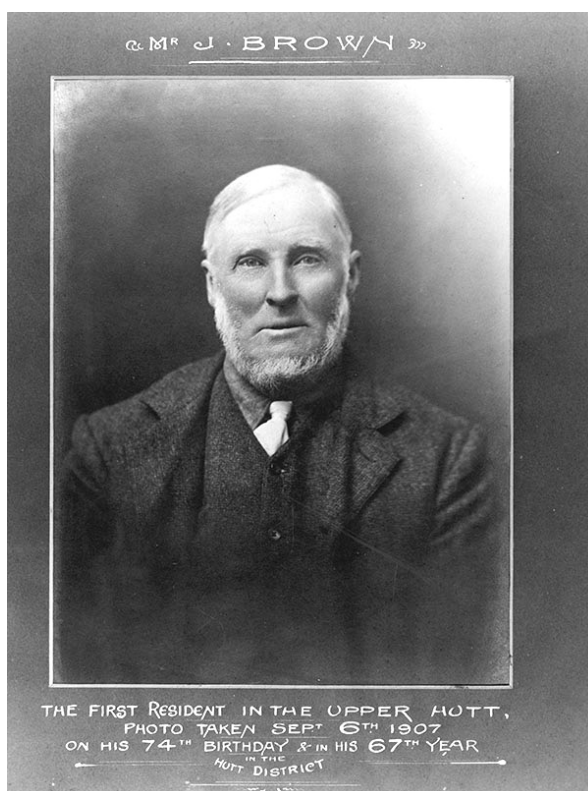
James Brown

James Brown was 7 when he emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* with his family.

After living in the Lower and Upper Hutt Valley with his family, in 1852 James set off for the Australian goldfields, being joined by his brother George. They returned to the Hutt Valley by 1854 and began farming together.

The *Evening Post* of 24 December 1913 carried an article entitled "Seventy-Three Years Ago", which recalled the arrival of the *Blenheim* in 1840, and noted:

Of the 300 who came out in her only seven are now alive. One of these is Mr. James Brown, of Wellington (now 80 years of age), who lived at the Lower Hutt with his parents for seven years and then removed to the Upper Hutt, the family being the first settlers there. His brother (Mr. George Brown) and one of his sisters (Mrs. James Wilson), both of whom died 18 months ago, also came out in the Blenheim. In addition to Mr. James Brown, Mr. James Nicol (Masterton), Mrs. Miller (Carterton), Messrs. Donald Fraser and Cameron (Rangitikei), Mrs. A. Martin, sen. Upper Hutt), and Mr. Donald Cameron (Greytown), who were also passengers, are still alive.



The *Dominion* of 26 July 1916 carried the Death Notice: "Brown – At his late residence. 104 Abel Smith Street, Wellington, James Brown, late of Upper Hutt, aged 83 years. R.I.P."

The *Evening Post* of 25 July 1916 carried the following obituary:

The company of the Blenheim immigrants, who landed here in 1841 suffered a further diminution yesterday by the death of Mr. James Brown. His father (Mr. James Brown, sen.) was one of the Port Nicholson settlers and lived for many years in the Hutt Valley, eventually settling at Upper Hutt. James Brown, the younger, took part in the early gold rushes, and was at Ballarat at the time of the riots. Finally he settled on the land, in partnership with his brothers George (since deceased) and Andrew. That was about 1854. The brothers experienced all the trials which confronted the early pioneers at a time when communication with other settlements was difficult, and the temper of the Natives was uncertain Mr. Brown retired from active work over a decade ago, and shortly afterwards came to reside in Wellington. Hence he was a well-known figure, especially amongst people who delighted to hear of the early history of the settlement of the province. Though 82 years of age, at the time of his death he was, till a few weeks ago, remarkably active, both physically and mentally. His reminiscences were always interesting. The

illness which carried him off came upon him about three weeks ago. He was never married, and his nearest surviving relatives are Mr. Andrew Brown (a brother), and Mrs. Martin (a sister, and one of the Blenheim immigrants), both of whom reside at Upper Hutt.

George Brown

George Brown was 5 when he sailed to Wellington on the *Blenheim*.

After living in the Hutt Valley with his parents he went off in 1853 to join his brother on the goldfields in Australia, but returned to the Hutt. George Brown married Jemima Hunter on 9 May 1875, but they appear to have had no children. Jemima died in 1898.

The *Dominion* of 25 March 1912 carried the following obituary:

MR. GEORGE BROWN, J.P.: HUTT PIONEER. There passed away at 1 p.m. yesterday another of Wellington's pioneers, in the person of Mr. George Brown, J. P., of Buller Street, who has been a resident of the district for the past seventy-two years. He was born in Paisley, Scotland, in 1835, and sailed from the Clyde with his parents in the ship Blenheim, when five years of age, arriving here on the eve of the same year. With his parents, he resided in the Hutt Valley, working on the farm until May, 1853, when he went to join his brother, Mr. James Brown (also of Wellington), who a year previously had gone away to try his luck on the Victorian goldfields. The two brothers went through all the trials and hardships of life on the goldfields for five years, both in Australia and Otago. Finally the deceased returned to the Upper Hutt district, and turned his energies to farming, in which occupation he continued up till about six years ago, when he retired, and came to live in town. He always took an interest in public affairs, and represented the Mangaroa Riding on the Hutt County Council for twelve years, finally retiring on account of ill-health. His father, the late Mr. James Brown, owned and built the first hotel in the Upper Hutt, "The Shepherd's Inn" (later known as The Criterion, but since demolished). Deceased was a member of the Hutt Licensing Committee, and took keen interest generally in advancing the district's welfare. He was a valued member of the S.P.C.A. up to the time of his death, and as a Justice of the Peace rendered good service to his district over a very long period. Like his father, he was one of the militiamen called out to meet the Maoris at Boulcott's Farm, Lower Hutt, upon the historic occasion when Bugler Allen, "the boy hero", died under such tragic circumstances, in giving a timely alarm to the settlers in the vicinity. Deceased, whose widow survives him, leaves numerous relatives and a big host of friends in this district.

The obituary carried in the *Hutt Valley Independent* of 30 March 1912, after providing details of the funeral service, gave some further details of George Brown's life:

Deceased was born at Paisley, Scotland, in the year 1835, and left the Clyde, for New Zealand, on September 6, 1840, in the ship "Blenheim," with his parents and a large company of other Scottish settlers, arriving at Wellington on Christmas Eve 1840. The family settled at the Hutt, and in 1853, he left for Australia, en route for the Victorian goldfields, to join his elder brother James, who had gone across the year previous. The two brothers remained on the goldfields for some five years, and took a prominent part in all the meetings which culminated in what are known in Australian history as the "Ballarat Riots." Returning to New Zealand, he, with his brother David, and his, brother-in-law, James Wilson, went to the Otago Goldfields in 1860, and returned to Upper Hutt a couple of years later, where he resided with the other members of the family. From 1860 to 1870 he served in the Militia, which had been called out owing to the Maori troubles. In 1870, on the recommendation of the late Hon. Sir P. A. Buckley, Mr. G. Brown was appointed a Justice of the Peace. The deceased gentleman was married in 1872 to Jemima, the youngest daughter of the late Robert Hunter of Lower Hutt. For twelve years Mr. Brown represented the

Mangaroa riding on the Hutt County Council, when he retired owing to failing health. As an active member of the committee of the Wellington Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Mr. Brown, after he took up his abode in the city, rendered valuable aid to Inspector Seed, who speaks enthusiastically of his work for the Society, The deceased gentleman, on all occasions took a lively part in local and general politics, he, in conjunction with his brother James, has been a generous friend to the Sisters of Mercy, and has proved an ardent supporter of the Catholic Church locally.

Elizabeth Brown

Elizabeth Brown was only 1½ when she travelled on the *Blenheim* to New Zealand.

Elizabeth Brown married Alexander Gordon Martin on 18 April 1855, and the couple went on to have 12 children:

- Jane Martin, born in 1855, died in 1942, married John Golder in 1877.
- James Martin, born in 1857, died in 1945.
- William Henry Martin, born in 1860, died in 1957.
- Isabella Martin, born in 1862, died in 1945, married Patrick McGrath in 1905.
- Mary Elizabeth Martin, born in 1864, died in 1904.
- Thomas Martin, born in 1867, died in 1884.
- Elizabeth Martin, born in 1869, died in 1929, married Timothy Moynihan in 1907.
- Helen Martin, born in 1872, died in 1960.
- Alexander Gordon Martin, born in 1874, died in 1910.
- Emma Martin, born in 1876, died in 1948, married John Larmer in 1909.
- David Martin, born in 1879, died in 1946.
- John Alexander Martin, born in 1882, died in 1955.

Alexander Gordon Martin died on 27 May 1902 aged 68.

Elizabeth (Brown) Martin died on 6 December 1929. The *Evening Post* of 23 December 1929 carried the following obituary:

MR. BROWN'S DRAY: PIONEERING STORY: FOUNDER OF UPPER HUTT: LAST CHILD DEAD AT 91 (Contributed.)

By the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Martin on Friday, 6th December, 1929 Upper Hutt lost the last original settler of a hardy pioneering Scots family. Born at Paisley, Scotland, 91 years ago, she left the Clyde in September, 1840, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Brown, and other members of the family, arriving in Port Nicholson on 27th December, 1840.

[see above for a description of move to Upper Hutt]

MAORI TROUBLES—THE STOCKADE. Mrs. Martin had two brothers (James and George) and one sister, Sarah (Mrs. Wilson), older than herself, and two brothers, David and Andrew, born in New Zealand, all of whom predeceased her. The deceased lady, though sorely troubled with rheumatism in later life, retained all her faculties until a few hours before her death, and could speak clearly and with wonderful detail upon historical and domestic matters of the Hutt Valley from the sea eastward. She gave vivid pictures of the many hardships and anxieties of the pioneers; of the floods of the Hutt River—half-a-dozen a year—when the water ran through their house in the Lower Valley; of the first bridge over the Hutt River; of the Maori troubles and the early morning attack on Boulcott's Farm outpost, when Bugler Allen was killed while sounding the alarm; of the building of the stockade at Trentham near what is now known as "Quinn's Post" Hotel; the local bushfire fights, and the several sawmilling industries of the district—three mills operating

at the same time between Whiteman's Valley road and the Upper Hutt Catholic Church on the main road frontage.

Mrs. Martin was of a kindly nature and ever willing to help anyone in need. She was a keen gardener, and her residence was surrounded with choice plants and flowers, and was one of the beauty spots of the Upper Hutt. She was the first lady elector to record a vote at a Parliamentary election in the upper end of the Hutt Valley. Her husband, Mr. Alexander Martin, a native of Kirkcudbright, Scotland, died 27 years ago. Of her family of twelve there are nine still living. The sons are James, of Upper Hutt, for many years connected with the New Zealand Railways; William, of New Plymouth, farmer; David, of Wanganui, of the White Star Motor Service; and John, of Hastings, fruit expert; and the daughters are Jane (Mrs. Golder), of Upper Hutt; Isabel (Mrs. M'Grath), Elizabeth (Mrs. Monihan), of Wellington; Emma (Mrs. Larmer) and Helen, of Upper Hutt. There are 42 grandchildren and 53 great-grandchildren.

ALLAN CAMERON AND JANET (JESSIE) GRANT

Allan Cameron and his family were included on the embarkation and arrival lists for the *Blenheim*, but were not on the initial list:

- Allan Cameron, 35, engineer's assistant
- Jessie Cameron, 30
- John Cameron, 19
- Hugh Cameron, 17
- Allan Cameron, 1¼

Allan Cameron and Jessie Grant

In *A History of the Camerons of 'Springhill'*, compiled by Norman Cameron, (and in some other references), it is suggested that Allan Cameron was a brother of John 'Mor' Cameron, another *Blenheim* immigrant, who eventually settled in Turakina, and that a third brother was Angus Cameron, who settled in Turakina in 1857. There is some evidence available to support the relationship between Allan and John, but other evidence suggests that Angus was unlikely to have been a full brother, if related at all.

In any event, based on his age (35) as given in the *Blenheim* list, Allan was born around 1805, while Jessie as described as 30. Given the ages of their sons, these ages appear to be understated. It seems more likely that Allan was born around 1797 and Jessie in 1799, which would have made them 43 and 41.

Allan Cameron was described as an "engineer's assistant" in the *Blenheim* passenger list, but like many of his fellow-emigrants he took up farming, originally in Happy Valley but later at Pencarrow, near Eastbourne (originally called Okiwi).

According to New Zealand BDM records Allan Cameron died in 15 April 1854, aged 57.

Jessie (Grant) Cameron died on 1 January 1864. The *Wellington Independent* of 2 January 1864 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron.— On Thursday, the 1st January, at her residence, Pencarrow, Mrs Jessie Cameron, aged 65 years."

John Cameron

John Cameron was noted as being 19 years of age on the *Blenheim* passenger list in 1840.

John Cameron married Catherine Caisey on 6 February 1860 (there is some doubt about the spelling of the surname).

The family farmed at Gollans Valley, behind Eastbourne.

The *Evening Post* of 24 August 1888 reported as follows (the reference to the *Falcon* is almost certainly an error):

Another old settler has passed away, Mr. John Cameron, of Gollan's Valley, died at Petone, on Wednesday, after a short illness of a few weeks. He left his home about four weeks ago to reside at Petone for a short time, in order to receive medical advice, but never returned home again. The deceased came to Wellington about 48 years ago in the Falcon, and has resided at Gollan's Valley, near Pencarrow

Lighthouse, most of the time, enjoying very good health up to about eight weeks ago. He leaves a widow and four sons and two daughters to mourn his loss.

Catherine (Caisey) Cameron died in 1899, aged 60.

John and Catherine had six children:

- Jessie Cameron, born in 1861, died in 1953.
- Allan Cameron, born in 1863, died in 1909, married Adonia Taylor in 1891.
- John Cameron, born in 1865, died in 1919.
- Hugh Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1903.
- Charles Cameron, born in 1871.
- Catherine Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1843, married Daniel O'Sullivan.

Hugh Cameron

Hugh Cameron was 17 in the *Blenheim* passenger list, suggesting he was born around 1823.

No further information has been established for Hugh Cameron. In 1888 correspondence relating to the will of Hugh's brother John Cameron, John's son Allan stated "I am further informed and believe that my fathers brother Hugh Cameron died in New Zealand some years ago but as to this neither I nor any of my family nor the said Allan Cameron my uncle have any certain information."

Allan Cameron

Allan Cameron was born around 1835 in Blantyre, and was listed as being 1¼ in the *Blenheim* passenger lists, but may in fact have been 5-7 .

Details of Allan's life can be found in *A History of the Camerons of 'Springhill'*, which includes the reminiscences of Dr Robert Cameron, Allan's youngest son.

Allan Cameron married Margaret Miller (see [William and Maria Miller](#)), who was born on the *Blenheim* voyage.

Margaret Miller and Allan Cameron were married on 17 March 1863. The *Wellington Independent* of 26 March 1863 carried the Marriage Notice: "Cameron-Miller – March 17, at Wellington, by the Rev. John Moir, Allan Cameron, Esq., sheepfarmer, Province of Wellington, to Margaret, daughter of William Miller, Esq., proprietor of the Commercial Hotel."

Margaret and Allan had six children:

- Jessie Elizabeth Cameron, born in 1864, died in 1946, married William Laing (cousin) in 1887.
- William Allan Cameron, born in 1866, died in 1902, married Margaret Lang in 1895.
- Charles Archibald Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1943, married Mary Crawford in 1903.
- James Hugh Cameron, born in 1870, died in 1939, married Fanny Alexander Christina Wheeler Ahradsen in 1898.
- Alexander John Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1926, married Helen Gregory Laing in 1899.
- Robert Allan Cameron, born in 1876, died in 1954, married Euphemia Duncan Sutherland in Scotland in 1903.

The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 24 November 1915 carried the following obituary of Allan Cameron:

One of the pioneer settlers of New Zealand, in the person of Mr Allan Cameron, died at Masterton yesterday, at the age of 83 years. The deceased arrived in the Dominion from Scotland in the ship Blenheim, which reached Wellington in December, 1840.

After residing in Wellington for some years, and experiencing exciting times, the deceased came to Wairarapa, taking up his residence at Te Whiti. Later he owned Bowlands station, and subsequently Spring Hill and Rewa Rewa. He had resided in Masterton for the past sixteen years.

The late Mr Cameron was held in high esteem by all who met him, on account of his many sterling qualities, and his death will be deeply regretted. He is survived by four sons (Messrs C. A. Cameron, Masterton, J. H. Cameron, Masterton, A. J. Cameron, Makuri, and Dr. R. A. Cameron, Wellington), and one daughter (Mrs W. M. Laing, of Masterton), who will have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends in their bereavement. The funeral will take place on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Margaret (Miller) Cameron died in 1934. The *Evening Post* of 8 November 1934 reported:

The death occurred yesterday at Seatoun of Mrs. Allan Cameron, an old resident of the Wairarapa. Mrs. Cameron, who was in her 95th year, arrived in Wellington, with her parents, by the sailing ship Blenheim, on December 31, 1840. After her marriage, Mrs. Cameron went to the Wairarapa, and resided successively at Te Whiti, Bideford, and at "Rewa Rewa" near Tinui. The late Mrs. Cameron is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Wm. Laing, Seatoun, and three sons Mr. Charles Cameron, Flat Point, Masterton; Mr. James Cameron, Tinui; and Dr. R. A. Cameron, Paraparaumu. Two sons predeceased her. She is survived by twenty grandchildren and thirty-two great-grandchildren. The interment is taking place, at Masterton.

CATHERINE CAMERON, ARCHIBALD MCQUEEN AND CATHERINE CAMERON, MARY CAMERON, ANGUS CAMERON

A group included on the initial list of *Blenheim* passengers was as follows:

- Catherine Cameron, Borline, 40, dairymaid
- Angus McQueen, her son, 21, labourer
- Catherine McQueen, his wife, 17
- Angus Cameron, his brother-in-law, 20
- Mary Cameron, his sister-in-law, 15

In the body of the initial list all of these names were crossed out, but added again at the end were:

- Angus Cameron, 21, labourer
- Catherine Cameron (widow), 45
- Mary Cameron, 15, housemaid
- Archibald McQueen, 21, labourer
- Catherine Cameron, 17, housemaid

They were similarly described in the other lists, although Angus was an agriculturalist.

This post covers all of this family.

Updated information on this family has been provided through the comments on the website from Jacqui Gee, which have been incorporated into the description.

Catherine Cameron (widow)

Catherine Cameron was listed on the *Blenheim* arrival list as a widow of 45.

Family tree information on Ancestry.com shows a range of possible marriages. These include to an Angus Cameron (from Mary's death registration) or to a Ewen Cameron (OPR records show a potential marriage, and births, with Catherine's maiden name as MacPherson or, possibly, McPhee).

No further information on this Catherine Cameron has been established.

Archibald McQueen and Catherine Cameron

According to the Old Parish Register for Bracadale, a parish on the Isle of Skye, Archibald McQueen was born or baptized on 4 February 1819. His parents were Donald MacQueen and Mary MacLeod, and the witnesses were John and Mary Shaw.

As noted above, the Old Parish Register for Bracadale recorded the birth, on 18 April 1823, of a Catherine, daughter of Ewen Cameron, Brittle, and Catherine McPherson his wife.

The Old Parish Register for Bracadale records the marriage on 14 March 1840 of Archy McQueen to a Christian Cameron, and this marriage has been listed in family trees on Ancestry.com as relating to Catherine Cameron.

While it is not clear why Archibald McQueen and Catherine Cameron chose not to travel as a married couple, they both emigrated on the *Blenheim* in 1840, with Catherine Cameron listed in the arrival list as a housemaid of 17 and Archibald McQueen 21, listed next to her.

It appears that Archibald McQueen and his wife travelled to Canterbury in March 1844 to work for the Greenwood Brothers, and then for the Rhodes Brothers in 1847. They then took up land near Lake Ellesmere in what became known as McQueens Valley.

The *Lyttelton Times* of 3 November 1855 carried the Birth Notice: "On the 29th ult., the wife of Mr McQueen, Ellesmere Station, of twin sons, one of which survived but a few minutes."

The *Lyttelton Times* of 12 September 1860 carried the Death Notice: "Sept 11, at his residence, Ellesmere Station, Mr Archibald McQueen, aged 41 years."

Catherine McQueen married her second husband John Apps Dockery on 19 June 1865. Newspapers carried reports of legal action relating to the estate of Archibald McQueen with questions relating to sales of trustee estates (see in particular, the *Star* of 19 October 1885).

The *Star* of 2 January 1895 carried the Death Notice: "Dockery.— Dec. 31, after a long and painful illness, Catherine Dockery, of 294, St Asaph Street west; aged sixty-five years. Deeply regretted."

Catherine Dockery's death registration noted that her father's surname was Cameron and he was a shepherd, and her mother's name was given as Mary. It was also noted that Catherine was twice married, first in Scotland to Archibald McQueen when she was 16, and second in Christchurch to John Dockery when she was 42. There was one living male child from her first marriage, aged 45, and five living females aged 31, 33, 35, 38, and 49, while from her second marriage there was one living male aged 27, and one living female aged 24. [*These ages don't seem to match up*]. The informant was her daughter Catherine McQueen.

Catherine (Cameron) Dockery, formerly McQueen, was buried in Addington Cemetery in Christchurch. The tombstone notes that she was from Lake Ellesmere Station, McQueen's Valley, Banks Peninsular, born Inverness 1824, died Christchurch 1894, and buried with her are her second and third sons, John McQueen 1851-1884 and Charles McQueen 1857-1889, and her third daughter Catherine.

Based on family tree information on Ancestry.com and New Zealand BDM records, Catherine had at least ten children with Archibald McQueen and two with John Apps Dockery:

- Marion (Sarah) McQueen, born in 1841, died in 1907, married John Hart in 1860.
- Hugh McQueen, born in 1843, died in 1927, married Martha Upton Waller in 1879.
- Mary McQueen, born in 1848, married William Bevins in 1865.
- Catherine McQueen, born in 1850, died in 1946.
- John McQueen, born in 1851, died in 1884.
- Christina McQueen, born in 1853, died in 1903, married John Thomas Radford in 1870.
- Jane McQueen, born in 1854, died in 1939.
- Charles Donald McQueen, born in 1857, died in 1880.

- Jean Dean McQueen, born in 1860, died in 1897.
- Isabella McQueen, born in 1861, died in 1950, married Joseph Hart in 1882.
- William Robert Apps Dockery, born in 1866, died in 1929, married Carolina Annie Davies in 1886.
- Lucy Ann Dockery, born in 1868, died in 1902, married Robert Ferguson in 1884.

Mary Cameron

Mary Cameron was listed on the *Blenheim* arrival list as a housemaid of 15. This would make her birth around 1825.

It seems likely, from Jessie Campbell's Journal, that Mary Cameron was Jessie's maid (but was not the "Skye woman" who was "always sick", causing Jessie to engage Mary's sister Catherine). It appears, therefore, that Catherine also worked as a maid for Mrs McDonald.

On 7 September 1840 Jessie Campbell wrote:

Catherine had Susan at the window and allowed her to throw the lid of the tin pan overboard in which we keep the fresh water, very vexed about it. Mary defended her sister very impertinently, told her to hold her tongue I did not want to hear her opinion about it, Mary continued to answer very impertinently, said a letter would reach Dr. Macleod yet to tell how she was used, told her instantly to walk out of my cabin that Dr. Macleod forgot his duty when he did not teach her the respect due to a Mistress, that I would oblige her to make out the time she was engaged with me after that she might go about her business. Had preserved soup, roast ducks and fowls for dinner. Capt. said if the breeze continued we would be in the latitude of Madiera tomorrow, did not think we would see land. Lat: at noon 36-5 N., Long: 16-46 W.

On 29 October 1840 she noted, "Mrs Macdonald discharged one of her servants for insolence, she is sister to my Mary Cameron, they are a forward, pert set. My maid has been quite spoiled, she has been tolerably obedient and submissive since she and I had a row soon after coming on board; I will not keep her after her six months are out. My Skye maid has improved very much, she is so careful and interested in the children."

Mary Cameron married Donald Ross in Wellington on 15 October 1845. One of the witnesses was Alexander McQuarrie who also travelled on the *Blenheim*.

In 1846 Donald Ross and his family sailed on the *Mary Catherine* to Otago with Charles Kettle's survey party. The group included Mary's brother Angus Cameron and Alexander McQuarrie. When the survey was completed around June 1847 many of the party returned to Wellington in the cutter *Leven*, but were drowned when it was lost after calling at Port Levy on the Banks Peninsular. Most of the married men, including Donald Ross and his family, had stayed behind in Otago.

Donald Ross died on 9 February 1880. An obituary was published in the *Illustrated New Zealand Herald* of 27 February 1880:

Mr Donald Ross, of Roslyn, who died early on February 9, at the age of seventy-seven, was a native of Ross-Shire, Scotland. He arrived at Wellington from Cape Colony forty years ago. After residing there for six years, he came to Otago with the late Mr Kettle in the year 1846. Mr Edward Martin and Mrs Duthie of Tokomairiro, were of the party. Mr Ross, then newly married, was among the first who reared a roof-tree in Dunedin. After a time he entered the service of the Government, and latterly served as bailiff of the Supreme Court. Mr Ross was a great walker, making the journey to Invercargill, when the rivers were unbridged

and the roads there were none, in three days. Once and again he all but accomplished the journey to Oamaru in a day.

Mary Ross died in 1886. The death registration shows that Mary Ross, relict of the late Donald Ross, died on 19 February 1886 at Roslyn, in the district of Dunedin. She was 60, the daughter of Angus Cameron, shepherd, and Catherine Cameron, maiden surname not known. Mary was born in Portree, Isle of Skye, Scotland, and had been in New Zealand for 42 *[sic]* years. She was married in Wellington at 18 to Donald Ross. Mary's living issue were three males aged 40, 34 and 29, and two females, aged 38 and 25. The cause of death phthisis pulmonalis, two years, and exhaustion. The informant was the undertaker. Mary Ross was buried at Dunedin's Southern Cemetery with her husband and many of her children.

Mary and Donald had at eleven children:

- Robert Ross, born in 1846, died in 1923, married (1) Mary Beckett in 1869 and (2) Sarah King in 1880.
- Catherine Ross, born in 1847, died in 1848, married James FAMILTON in 1868.
- Elizabeth Ross, born in 1848, died in 1869 (drowned in Cobb & Co coach accident).
- Mary Ross, born in 1850, died in 1872.
- Isabella Ross, born in 1852, died in 1879, married Daniel Forbes Ross in 1875.
- Sarah Ross, born in 1855, died in 1872.
- Angus Cameron Ross, born in 1853, died in 1920, married Elizabeth Hopwood in 1897.
- John Ross, born in 1857, died in 1909.
- Janet (Jessie) Dunn Ross, born in 1860, died in 1941, married James Dick in 1887.
- William Ross, born in 1862, died in 1864.
- Barbara Ross, born in 1864, died in 1874.

Angus Cameron

Angus Cameron was listed in the *Blenheim* arrival list as being 21 years old. Other sources suggest that he was born in 1822, so would have been 18 when he travelled on the *Blenheim*.

The Old Parish Register for Bracadale records the birth on 27 September 1818 of Angus, natural son of Ewen Cameron, Crackinish with [Ket McPhee – *name not clear on record*].

From information summarised in *From Alba to Aotearoa*, after working as a roadbuilder in Wellington, Angus travelled to Port Chalmers in February 1846 with his sister Mary and her family as part of the Kettle survey party, and remained in Otago. He became a shepherd and stockman at Kelvin Grove on the Otago Peninsular owned by Archibald Anderson. By May 1848 Angus was a member of the Armed Constabulary, becoming a senior constable in 1851.

On 25 June 1852, Angus Cameron married Mary Niven at the house of his brother-in-law Donald Ross in Dunedin. Their first child was born two days later.

Mary Niven was born on 11 February 1834 at Bonhill, Dumbarton, Scotland, to Dugald Niven and Christian Swan. She travelled to New Zealand on the *Philip Laing* with her parents, sister, and two brothers, one born on board, arriving at Port Chalmers from Greenock on 15 April 1848.

Angus left the Armed Constabulary in January 1853 and became a shepherd on the Otepopo property of Charles Suisted, and in 1856 moved to the Papakaio Run, then owned by Richard Filleul, where Angus was a shepherd and Mary a cook. By 1858 Angus had purchased land at Otepopo (now Herbert, about 22 km south-west of Oamaru), part of the property where he had previously worked, then a store, and served as postmaster as well as working as a shepherd and drover.

The *Otago Witness* of 2 July 1859 reported that Angus Cameron of Otepopo, drover, was charged with unlawfully driving 200 sheep through the property of Alexander Fraser at Moeraki without the notice required by law. He pleaded guilty and was fined at the rate of 6d per head with costs.

Angus Cameron died on 3 April 1873 at Otepopo. His death registration noted that he was "about 50 years", and described him as a settler. The *North Otago Times* of 8 April 1873 carried the following report:

Sudden death – A well-known resident of Otepopo, named Angus Cameron, died very suddenly on Thursday morning last, He had been, some days previous, on a visit to Oamaru, and left for home by coach on Thursday. Shortly after his arrival he dropped dead. An inquest was held the following day, at the Royal Hotel, by T.W. Parker, Esq., District Coroner, and a jury, of whom Mr Robert Frame was foreman. Dr Haynes deposed to having made a postmortem examination of the deceased, and found that he had died of syncope, congestion of the lungs, and enlargement of the heart, The heart was double the natural size. The jury returned a verdict of "Died from natural causes".

Mary (Niven) Cameron died on 27 April 1884, at Invercargill. The *Southland Times* of 29 April 1884 carried the Death Notice: "CAMERON. — At Ythan street, Invercargill, on the 27th inst. Mary Cameron, widow of the late Angus Cameron, Otepopo, aged 50 years." Mary died at the house of her mother, Mrs J. Kelly, and is buried in the Kelly/Niven plot at Invercargill's Eastern Cemetery.

Based on family tree information on Ancestry.com and New Zealand BDM records, Angus and Mary may have had at least nine children [*this information requires further clarification and checking*]:

- Elizabeth Nivin Cameron, born in 1852, died in 1935, married James Stark Anderson in 1868.
- Hugh Cameron, born in 1855, died in 1934, married Margaret Hunter Brown in 1886.
- Christina Cameron, born in 1857, died in 1857.
- William Cameron, born in 1858, died in 1958.
- Christina Cameron, born in 1860, died in 1940.
- John Cameron, born in 1862, died in 1929, married Elizabeth Susannah Palmer in 1899.
- Mary Cameron, born in 1864, died in 1940.
- Alexander Angus Cameron, born in 1867, died in 1922 (on gravestone as Alexander Angus Cameron-McNeil), married Rose Winifred Dykes in 1902 (with registration in names of both Cameron and McNeil).
- David Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1929.

DONALD CAMERON AND CHRISTIAN MCLEAN

The *Blenheim* passenger list noted that this Cameron family came from Ormasaigmore, and Donald McDonald commented that "This man and his family have been known to me for many years, he is very industrious." The family included:

- Donald Cameron, 46, weaver
- Christian, 40, his wife
- Dugald, 18, labourer, his son
- Alexander, 17, labourer, his son
- Donald, 16, labourer, his son
- Catherine, 14, housemaid, his daughter
- Ann, 12, his daughter
- John, 10, his son
- Duncan, 8, his son

In order to distinguish the various Donald Camerons, the senior Donald Cameron in this family was nick-named "Weaver" on account of his occupation, and his son Donald Cameron was nick-named "Piper", because he was a bagpiper.

A detailed history of this family and their life in New Zealand can be found in *The Kaiwarra Camerons*, by M J Ulyat.

Donald Cameron and Christian McLean

Donald Cameron was born at Ockle, Ardnamurchan, Argyll, probably around 1784.

Christian McLean was born in Ockle, probably in 1791.

Donald and Christian were married around 1820, and went on to have at least the seven children who accompanied them on the *Blenheim*. One child, Allan, born in 1827, died the same year.

Ormasaigmore is a locality on the Ardnamurchan peninsular of Argyll. The parish of Ardnamurchan was partly in the county of Argyll, and partly in the county of Inverness, and comprised the quod sacra districts of Aharacle and Strontian. As discussed in *The Kaiwarra Camerons*, the family probably moved to Ormasaigmore, on the southern side of the peninsular, in the mid-1830s, from Ockle, on the northern side, where the children were born.

Following their arrival in Wellington in 1840, the family lived at Kaiwharawhara ("Kaiwarra"). In 1842 Donald and his son Donald joined a New Zealand Company expedition led by the surveyor Charles Kettle and including Alexander Grant, another *Blenheim* passenger. While exhausting, the expedition did confirm that there was a lot of land in the Wairarapa that would be suitable for farming. Donald and his sons made further trips to the Wairarapa, and also, in 1856, bought a section of land at Waiwhetu in the Hutt Valley, where Donald and Christina made their permanent home.

There is a suggestion in some histories that in 1843 Donald set up a rope-making business and a flax dressing school in Wellington, at the corner of Molesworth and Murphy streets. However, this is incorrect, since in fact it seems to have been the activity undertaken by a Mr Robert Cameron, a rope-maker from Durham, England, who emigrated to New Zealand on the *Himalaya* in 1843 with his wife and six

children, and established himself as a rope and sailmaker, ran a flax and rope-making school in Thorndon, and later owned a flour mill in Ngauranga. Contemporary newspaper reports and advertisements, and juror lists, confirm this.

Donald Cameron and his family had taken up land in the Wairarapa by 1846, at Pahaoa on the Wairarapa coast, which was initially leased from local Maori. In 1854, following the Government purchase of land in the district the leaseholders were able to buy the land. Donald Cameron purchased the homestead block, while the licence for the remainder of the Pahaoa property was in the names of his five sons. By 1858 Donald had also bought land at Parewanui in Rangitikei to secure a property for his daughter Annie and her husband James McDonnell.



Donald Cameron and Christina McLean

In an 1867 court case involving the estate of his son Donald, it was noted that Donald Cameron, the elder, the father of the intestate, died about February, 1860, having devised his freehold land near Pahaua and "Blairlogie" at Whareama to his five sons, their heirs and assigns, as tenants in common. He also bequeathed all his sheep unto, and to be equally divided between, his said five sons. The sheep bequeathed were depasturing upon the devised land. The case goes on to state that the five brothers took possession of the lands and sheep, and carried on, thereon and therewith, the business of sheep-farmers together, without any agreement in writing.

Donald Cameron died on 12 February 1860 aged 75, apparently as a result of a logging accident at Waiwhetu. and his wife Christina died on 18 December 1872 aged 81. The *Evening Post* of 18 December 1872 carried the Death Notice: "On the 18th inst, at the residence of Mr. David Smith, Mulgrave-street, Mrs Donald Cameron, relict of Mr Donald Cameron, of Kaiwarra, aged 81 years. (Canterbury papers please copy.)"

Dugald Cameron

Dugald Cameron was born around 1822 in Ardnamurchan.

In the *Blenheim* passenger lists Dugald was described as a labourer of 18.

The *Wellington Independent* of 8 April 1862 carried the Marriage Notice: "Cameron-Jeffs – On 12th March, at Kai-warra-warra, by the Rev. John Moir, Mr Dugald Cameron to Miss Anne Jeffs, both of this City."

Annie Jeffs was a schoolteacher in Wellington. She may have been baptised in 1845 in Wellington.

Anne (Jeffer) Cameron died on 30 April 1870, aged 26. The *Wellington Independent* of 3 May 1870 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – On April 30, Ann, the beloved wife of Mr Dugald Cameron, Kaiwarawara. Aged 26 years."

The *Wellington Independent* in April 1871 published advertisements for the auction by Dugald Cameron Esq. of freehold and leasehold property at Kaiwarra, "comprising 8½ acres of freehold land and 20 acres of leasehold land, including a four-roomed dwelling house, large stable, and piggery; also, a very fine garden, well stocked with fruit trees, in splendid order."

The *Wellington Independent* of 17 March 1873 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – On March 16, at Kaiwarra, Mr Dugald Cameron, aged 50 years." In the same newspaper on 19 March 1873 it was reported that at the inquest on Dugald Cameron, Dr Grace who carried out the post-mortem examination, certified to death having been produced by apoplexy, and a verdict to that effect was returned. The *Evening Post* of 17 March 1873 reported more fully on the death:

A case of sudden death occurred yesterday at Kaiwarra. Mr Dugald Cameron, an old settler, went at about nine o'clock into the Waterloo Hotel, and having obtained a drink, lay down apparently to sleep. After some time, those in the hotel went to wake him, but found that he was dead. An inquest was to have been held this afternoon on the body.

Dugald and Annie had at least five children:

- Christina Ann Cameron, born in 1862, died in 1877.
- Donald Francis Cameron, born in 1864, died in 1943 in Scotland, married Elizabeth Charlotte Margaret Burles formerly Mathie in 1908 in Scotland.
- Catherine Lyons Cameron, born in 1866, died in 1908, married George Herbert Humphreys in 1890.
- George Alexander Allan Cameron, born in 1867, died in 1897.
- William Duncan Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1890.

Alexander Cameron

Alexander Cameron was born around 1823 in Ockle, Ardnamurchan, Scotland, and travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840, being described as a labourer of 17 in the passenger list.

Alexander Cameron married Mary Morrison, another *Blenheim* emigrant, daughter of [Hugh Morrison](#) and [Anne Turner](#), on 5 June 1855. This was a joint ceremony with Anne Morrison's second marriage to Hugh McPhee.

Although Alexander Cameron was a partner with his brothers in their Wairarapa farming activities, it seems that he remained primarily in Wellington and handled matters from there as their Wellington agent.

Alexander Cameron died on 19 December 1899 aged 76. The *Evening Post* of 21 December 1899 published the following obituary:

*The funeral of the late Mr. Alex. Cameron, one of the oldest and most respected residents of Kaiwarra, took place this afternoon, and was very largely attended. The interment was made in the Sydney street cemetery. The deceased, who was a native of Argyllshire, and was 76 years of age, came out to New Zealand by the ship *Blenheim* in 1840, and has resided in the colony ever since. He was in New Plymouth when the first immigrants arrived there, and later on he walked from that township to Wellington. He went down to Otago with the first party of surveyors sent to that district, the journey occupying six weeks. Later on he worked under the Hon. Captain Russell's father in forming the military roads near Johnsonville. Mr.*

Cameron was for some time in partnership with his brothers as station owners in the Wairarapa, but for the last 21 years he has been out of business. Amongst many public offices which he had held were those of Mayor of Onslow, Chairman of the local Licensing Bench, Vice-President of the Caledonian Society, and Chieftain of the Gaelic Society. The deceased, who leaves a widow and nine children, one of whom is the wife of Captain Cameron, Marine Superintendent for the Union Company, was possessed of a genial and generous disposition, and was deservedly popular.

Mary (Morrison) Cameron died on 11 October 1911, aged 77. An obituary was published in the *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 12 October 1911:



Mary (Morrison) Cameron

The death of Mrs Cameron, wife of the late Alexander Cameron, of Kaiwarra, occurred at her son's residence "Okar," yesterday afternoon, at the ripe age of 77. The deceased lady was one of Wairarapa's earliest pioneers. She came out with her father, the late Hugh Morrison, of Glenmorven and Morrison's Bush in the year 1840, by the ship "Blenheim." After residing in Wellington for a short time, when quite a young girl, she came to Wairarapa with her father, who had taken up a run known as Morrison's Bush. They made the journey from Wellington in an open whaleboat, and after a very rough and exciting passage, during which they narrowly escaped shipwreck, they landed on the open beach at Te Kopi. It was in the days when quicker modes of transit were unknown in these parts, and through the roughest of country she made the way to her future home, all on foot. She was the only surviving sister of the late John Morrison, of Blairlogie, well known in this district. Mrs Cameron was a fine type of the early pioneer, facing the difficulties of the early

times with undaunted courage; and at the same time had a kindly disposition and was greatly beloved by all who came in contact with her. She leaves three sons and five daughters to mourn her loss. The funeral takes place to-morrow at Wellington.

Alexander and Mary had ten children:

- Donald Douglas Cameron, born in 1856, died in 1937, married Annie Ida Storey in 1880.
- Annie Cameron, born in 1857, died in 1949, married Captain Angus Cameron in 1882.
- Christina Cameron, born in 1859, died in 1878.
- Mary Cameron, born in 1861, died in 1929.
- Hugh Cameron, born in 1863, died in 1910.
- Alexander Cameron, born in 1865, died in 1937.
- Jessie Cameron, born in 1867.
- Catherine Margaret Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1934.
- Isabella Jane Cameron, born in 1871, died in 1945.
- John Duncan Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1957, married (1) Ellen Jane Kibblewhite in 1906, and (2) Helen Annie McBeath in 1939.

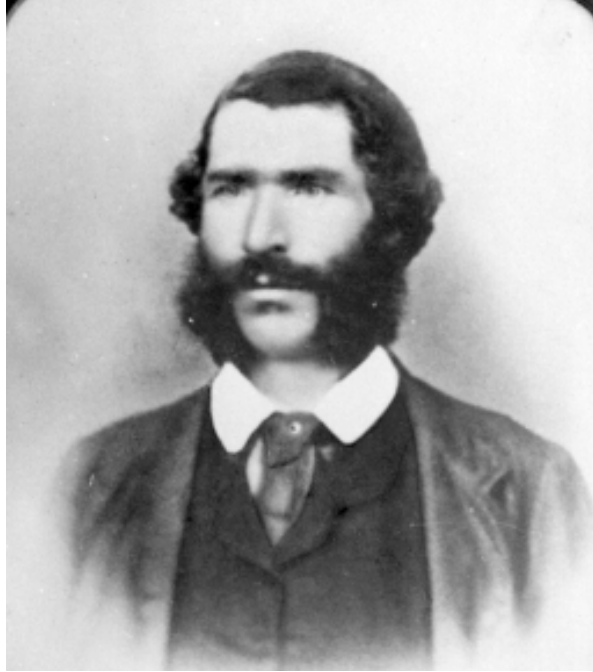
Donald (Piper) Cameron

Donald Cameron was born around 1824 in Ockle, Ardnamurchan, Scotland.

Donald Cameron was a labourer of 16 when he emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

On 28 December 1853 Donald Cameron married Isabella Glasgow. Isabella was the daughter of Robert Glasgow and Mary Lamb, and had arrived in New Zealand in 1842 on the *Bombay*. The Glasgow family went on to become early settlers in Turakina.

Donald Cameron died on 26 June 1866. The *Wellington Independent* of 14 July 1866 carried the Death Notice: "At his residence, Waiwetu, Hutt, Donald Cameron, Esq., on the 27th of June, 1866, aged 40 years. Deeply lamented by a large circle of relatives and friends. He was one of the oldest settlers of this province."



Donald (Piper) Cameron

Isabella (Glasgow) Cameron remarried in 1868 to William Lowes, and died in 1920 aged 86.

The *Wairarapa Age* of 6 July 1920 published the following obituary:

MRS. WILLIAM LOWES. Residents of the Wairarapa will learn with deep regret of the death of Mrs Lowes, relict of the late Mr William Lowes, which occurred on Sunday night. The deceased lady arrived in New Zealand with her parents (Mr and Mrs Robert Glasgow) in 1841, and resided for some time in Wellington. She came to Masterton in 182, and later went to Wanganui, where she married the late Mr Cameron. Returning to Masterton in 1877, the late Mrs Lowes went on to a farm with her husband at Te Ore Ore, and endured many of the vicissitudes of the pioneer settlers. She was a woman of sterling character, and endeared herself to a large circle of relatives and friends by her kindly disposition. The deceased lady was twice married, her second husband being Mr William Lowes, who predeceased his wife some years ago. The family of the first marriage are Messrs Duncan (deceased), Robert, D. J., William, Walter and Allan Cameron, of Masterton, while Messrs F. B. Lowes and J. P. Lowes (Rongomai), Mrs Gledstone, Mrs F. C. Lewis, and Mrs F. F. G. Cooper, of "Westbrook," Queensland, are the family of the second marriage. The funeral will leave the residence of Mr H. Graham, Gladstone road, Manaia, at 2 o'clock this afternoon, for the Masterton cemetery, the processional route being by the Te Whiti road and Johnstone street.

Donald and Isabella had six children:

- Duncan Cameron, born in 1854, died in 1918, married Evelyn Barker in 1881.
- Robert Cameron, born in 1856, died in 1931, married (1) Eliza Clark in 1895 and (2) May Ellen Baigent in 1899.
- Donald John Cameron, born in 1859, died in 1942, married Anna Robina Woodroffe in 1886.

- William Lamb Cameron, born in 1861, died in 1933, married Elizabeth Shaw in 1891.
- Walter Cameron, born in 1862, died in 1946, married Madeline Stewart Baldwin in 1902.
- Allan Alexander Cameron, born in 1864, died in 1934.

Catherine Cameron

Catherine Cameron was born around 1826 in Ockle, Ardnamurchan, in Scotland.

Catherine Cameron was 14, and described as a housemaid, when she travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Catherine married John Macfarlane on 30 December 1848.

John Macfarlane was born on 9 February 1817 at Letter, Port of Menteith, Stirling, Scotland, and came to New Zealand in 1842, landing at Nelson. His brothers Daniel and Malcolm followed him to New Zealand some years later. John Macfarlane was a field man with the survey team at Wairau, and made haste into Nelson to bring news of the massacre there.

John Macfarlane moved to Wellington and by the time of his marriage to Catherine Cameron he was managing White Rock station in the Wairarapa. In 1850 he sold out his interests to his in-laws and moved to Canterbury. The family established themselves in North Canterbury, where John Macfarlane and his sons became leading pastoralists.

John Macfarlane died in 1884. The *Press* of 24 October 1884 carried the following obituary for the late John Macfarlane:

We have to record the decease of Mr John McFarlane, of Rangiora, which took place at his residence, Coldstream, near Rangiora yesterday morning. The deceased gentleman landed in Wellington about thirty-eight years ago, and we believe married there, and then came to Canterbury. He settled first at Loburn station, near Rangiora, and afterwards removed to White Rock, a few miles further up country. He subsequently, bought a large quantity of the best land near Rangiora, and took up his residence on it where he remained until his death. As a sheep farmer he had a most successful career, being able of late years to purchase for his sons several very large stations in the north of this island, The deceased took very little interest in' political matters, but for some time was a member of the Ashley County Council. He was President, for a number of years of the Northern Agricultural and Pastoral Association, in which, he took great interest, giving liberally towards the prizes and encouraging the shows with large exhibits of stock of various kinds. For the past two or three years Mr Macfarlane has been failing in health, and hence has resigned the position he has so worthily filled in connection with the above Society. He leaves a widow and a family of six sons and three daughters, all of whom, except the three youngest sons, are married. The funeral will take place on Saturday.

Catherine (Cameron) Macfarlane died on 24 April 1908 at Christchurch. The *Star* of 25 April 1908 carried the Death Notice: "Macfarlane – On the 24th inst., at the residence of Mrs Nicholls, Papanui, Catherine, widow of the late John Macfarlane of Coldstream, Rangiora; in her eighty-third year." The *Dominion* of 28 April 1908 carried her obituary:

Christchurch, April 27. Mrs J. MacFarlane, of Coldstream, North Canterbury, who died on Friday night, ranked among the very earliest colonists, having arrived in Wellington with her father, Mr Donald Cameron, in the ship Blenheim in 1841. Seven years later, she married Mr. John MacFarlane, who had landed in Nelson in 1842, and afterwards removed to Wellington. In 1850, three weeks before the arrival

of the first four ships; she and her husband came to Canterbury and took up the Loburn run, where they lived until 1862. They then removed to Coldstream, where Mr. MacFarlane died in 1884. Mrs. MacFarlane has left six sons, four of whom are well-known Amuri pastoralists, while the eldest has Coldstream.

Catherine and John had eleven children:

- Malcolm Macfarlane, born in 1849, died in 1911, married Anna Mary Chisnall in 1883.
- John Donald Macfarlane, born in 1851, died in 1921, married Margaret Hart Gibson in 1880.
- Catherine Macfarlane, born in 1852, died in 1934, married John Fulton in 1881.
- James Macfarlane, born in 1853, died in 1931, married (1) Stephana Mary Tylee in 1876, (2) Isabel Louise Scully in 1916.
- Agnes Macfarlane, born in 1854, died in 1924, married George Jameson in 1874.
- Walter Macfarlane, born in 1856, died in 1914 in England, married Minnie Margaret Wilson in 1889.
- Helen Macfarlane, born in 1857, died in 1922, married Walter Charles Nicholls in 1881.
- Christina Ann Macfarlane, born in 1858, died in 1875.
- David Duncan Macfarlane, born in 1860, died in 1914, married Mary Frances Newton in 1893.
- Frederick Graham Macfarlane, born in 1862, died in 1863.
- Alexander Macfarlane, born in 1863, died in 1913, married Sarah Helen McRae in 1896.

Annie Cameron

Annie Cameron was born around 1829 in Ockle, Ardnamurchan, Scotland.

Ann Cameron was listed as 12 years old when she travelled on the *Blenheim* to New Zealand in 1840.

Anne Cameron married James (Big Mac) McDonell on 18 December 1849 at Kaiwarra.

James McDonell was born in Auchlauchrach, Glengarry, Inverness, Scotland, in 1818. He went first to Australia with other members of his family, and then became one of the first settlers in the Rangitikei district.

James McDonell died on 4 September 1875 at Parewanui. The *Wanganui Herald* of 16 September 1875 published the following obituary:

The death of James McDonnell, which happened on Sunday, has cast a gloom over the whole District. The deceased who has been gradually declining for some mouths past, arrived in the Colony of New South Wales as long ago as 1838, when he came to Wellington, being engaged in the shipping of horses and cattle to the above port. He subsequently determined to make New Zealand his home, and was one of, if not the, first, settler in Rangitikei, where he has remained, living at Inverhoe ever since. The deceased in the early days was known throughout the Province for his unbounded hospitality, and never was there a case of want or distress but what "Mr Big Mac" as his friends fondly called him, came forward to assist and alleviate. The funeral, which took place yesterday, was attended by settlers from all parts and as the procession, which started from Bull's, neared the family burial ground at Inverhoe, its ranks were gradually swelled by young and old, by Maoris and others, all wishing to pay the last tribute of affection and respect to the once free-hearted settler, until it was at least half a mile long. In passing Parawanui I noticed that

nearly all the Maoris who were themselves unable to follow, had adopted the usual symbol of their grief, viz—a garland of green creepers wreathed round their brows. The funeral service, which was performed by the Rev. Father Kirk, was admirably adapted for the occasion, and the address afterwards, pointing to the uncertainty of life and the wonderful mysteries of the never ending future, will long be remembered by the hundreds surrounding the grave where the remains of James McDonnell now rest in peace. Much sympathy was expressed for the widow and the large, though happily grown up family, thus suddenly left in sorrow, which let us hope will soon give way to a feeling of thankfulness in that death in this case was not only painless but peaceful.

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 18 September 1875 published the following:

Big Mac has passed away. I know that no irreverence attaches to this old familiar name, with which every one of the pioneers on this coast is so well acquainted. Many will miss his warm hearty greeting, and many will remember his open hearted hospitality. In days of yore, the deceased, Mr James McDonnell, was engaged pretty extensively in cattle trading, Poneke being then the only market. His life has not been without its adventurous incidents, and many and hairbreadth have been the dangers which he encountered and surmounted triumphantly in the early days of colonization in this province. Many an old identity will feel a pang of regret to hear that the genial host of Inverhoe, who was never happier than when his hearth was surrounded with guests, has left the old familiar scenes, where his cheery presence was a welcome in itself. A large family is left behind. His funeral was one of the most touching demonstrations I have ever witnessed Maori and Pakeha seeming to vie with each other in showing respect for the departed.

Annie (Cameron) McDonnell died in 1919. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 19 April 1919 carried the following obituary:

*I have to record the passing of the last of the pioneers of the Lower Rangitikei, in the person of Mrs. Annie McDonnell, who reached the bend, in the road of life early on Wednesday morning. The deceased lady will be sincerely mourned, especially by those to whom she was such a friend in the days of long ago. It is a far cry to the year 1840, when she landed in New Zealand in the ship *Blenheim*. She was a member of one of the Cameron families on board, and to distinguish her family from the others they were known as the Piper Camerons. The deceased lady was the last surviving member of that family. She lived in Wellington for about nine years after her arrival, and was then married to the late Mr. McDonnell, and came up to "Inverhoe," on the Rangitikei, where she has resided ever since. She is survived by three sons and six daughters, viz., Mr. John McDonnell (Marton), Mr. James McDonnell (Wairoa), and Mr. A. A. McDonnell (Lower Rangitikei), Mrs. Hugh Fraser (of Kauangaroa), Mrs. Gray (Wellington), Mrs. Smith (Palmerston North), Mrs. Daniels (Foxton), Mrs. Morse (Bulls), and Miss K. McDonnell, who lived with her mother. Twelve of her grandsons served at the front, viz., Capt. Daniels (killed), Laurie and Denis Daniels, William, Eric, and Dan Gray, also Lionel, Claude, George, Keith, and Wilson McDonnell, and Jack Fraser. Many of them were wounded. She also had three grand-daughters in the nursing staff—Nurse Gray, at the Front, and Nurses E. Gray and I. Daniels on the nursing staff in New Zealand. The two latter were both able to assist in nursing their grandmother at the last. Mrs. McDonnell would have been 90 years of age on Saturday.*

Annie and James had at least eleven children:

- Archibald McLean McDonnell, born in 1850, died in 1917, married Elizabeth Ann Wheeler in 1884.
- Christina Ann McDonnell, born in 1852, died in 1922, married Hugh Fraser in 1874 (New Zealand-born son of Duncan and Marjory Fraser).
- Flora Jemima McDonnell, born in 1855, died in 1938, married Joseph George Smith in 1895.

- Donald Cameron McDonell, born in 1857, died in 1884.
- Catherine McDonell, born in 1858, died in 1921.
- James Angus McDonell, born in 1862, died in 1924, married Mary Jane Nicholls in 1883.
- Elizabeth McDonell, born in 1863, died in 1942, married George Gray in 1888.
- Mary McDonell, born in 1864, died in 1936, married Percy Edward Daniell in 1888.
- John McDonell, born in 1866, died in 1936, married Helen Brookie in 1891.
- Aeneas Alexander McDonell, born in 1868, died in 1930, married Elizabeth Burne in 1896.
- Selina Priscilla McDonell, born in 1872, died in 1960, married Ernest Walford Morse in 1904.

John Cameron

John Cameron was born around 1830 in Ockle, Ardnamurchan, Argyll, and travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* as a 10 year old.

John Cameron married Ann Stewart in 1868.

Ann Stewart was the daughter of Duncan Stewart and Anne McPherson, and was born in Ardnamurchan, Scotland in 1841. The family came to New Zealand on the *Oliver Lang* in 1858.

In October 1873, a number of newspapers, e.g. the *Southern Cross* of 15 October 1873, carried advertisements for the sale of station properties in the Province of Wellington in the estate of the Cameron Brothers, noting that in consequence of the death of two partners in the firm, two stations were to be sold at public auction in Wellington on 1 December 1873. The stations were "Blairlogie" in the Whareama District and the station at Pahaoa in the East Coast District. At the auction they were purchased by the surviving members of the firm.

In 1878 there was a further sale of the Blairlogie and Pahaoa stations, with the former purchased by Mr John Morrison and the latter by Messrs J and D Cameron.

The *Evening Post* of 2 October 1890 reported "The house of Mr John Cameron, at Pahaua, East Coast, was totally destroyed by fire on Sunday last." In the *Evening Post* of 4 October it was further reported that the day after the fire, while returning from the funeral of his nephew William Cameron, John Cameron suffered serious injuries when his buggy overturned as a result of the horse shying at a cow in the road, and he was dragged for a hundred yards along the road.

John Cameron died on 8 December 1900 aged 68. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 8 December 1900 carried the following obituary:

From one end of Wairarapa to another, the news of the death of Mr John Cameron, of Opaki, will be learned with deep regret. He passed away this morning, at the age of 68. The deceased was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, and came out to New Zealand in 1840, in which year he arrived at Wellington. He lived at Kaiwarra for some little time, and eventually settled at Pahaou, where he has a station, which his son John now manages. He leaves a large family, nearly all of whom are grown up. The late Mr John Cameron was a brother of Mr Duncan Cameron, of the Coast, and father of Mr Robert Cameron, who joined the Masterton Contingent of the New Zealand force which went to South Africa. The deceased was one of the few remaining pioneers of settlement in this part of the Colony—and was one who had earned the esteem of all who knew him for his integrity and his sterling qualities as a colonist of many years standing. The grieving relatives will have the sympathy of

a large number of settlers in their bereavement, The funeral will take place on Monday afternoon.

Ann (Stewart) Cameron died on 13 October 1918, aged 76. The *Wairarapa Age* of 14 October 1918 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – At the residence, Cole Street Masterton on October 13th, Mrs John Cameron, relict of the late John Cameron, Opaki, aged 76." The paper also published the following obituary:

Mrs John Cameron: Another old resident of the Wairarapa, in the person of Mrs John Cameron, died at her residence at Cole street, Masterton, on Sunday evening. The deceased, who was seventy-six years of age, had been ailing for about five weeks. She was born at Argyllshire, Scotland, and came to New Zealand in 1857 in the ship Oliver Laing. For a number of years she resided at Pahaoa, East Coast, and later on the Opaki. She leaves a family of six sons and four daughters. The sons are Messrs Donald Cameron (Hinakura), Duncan A. Cameron (Hunterville), John Cameron (Dunedin), Robert A. Cameron (Mauriceville), M. D. Cameron (Sydney), and E. P. Cameron (France). The daughters are Mrs H. Hamlin (Auckland), Mrs W. Roberts (Whakatane), and Misses C. and M. Cameron (Masterton). The funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon.

John and Ann had at least ten children:

- Donald Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1945, married Elizabeth Sutherland in 1898.
- Flora Anne Cameron, born in 1871, died in 1940, married Henry William George Hamlin in 1905.
- Christina Cameron, born in 1872, died in 1967.
- Duncan Alexander Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1937, married Ethel Walton in 1909.
- John Cameron, born in 1875, died in 1928.
- Mary Stewart Cameron, born in 1877, died in 1949.
- Robert Allan Cameron, born in 1878, died in 1942, served in South African War, married Florence Jessie Young in 1914.
- Dugald Stewart Murray Cameron, born in 1880, died in 1967 in Australia, married Ethel Norah Shepherd in 1916 in Australia.
- Ernest Percival Stewart Cameron, born in 1882, died in 1967, married Donald Ross Sutherland in 1921.
- Maud Isabella Katherine Cameron, born in 1884, died in 1970, married William Clare Roberts in 1909.

Duncan Cameron

Duncan Cameron was born in Ockle, Ardnamurchan, Scotland around 1832, and was 8 years old in 1840 when he sailed for New Zealand on the *Blenheim* with his parents.

Duncan married Mary Gillies in 1863 (daughter of Isabella Turner and Archibald Gillies). They spent the rest of their lives farming in the Wairarapa, although not without mishap. The *Evening Post* of 29 April 1880 reported that Mr Duncan Cameron of Moroa met with a serious accident at Featherston, when his trap capsized going around a corner, causing cuts and bruises and a broken collar bone.

Duncan Cameron died on 21 April 1915. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 22 April 1915 carried the following obituary:

The death occurred yesterday morning, at Moroa, near Greytown, of a highly respected and pioneer settler of the Wairarapa, in the person of Mr Duncan Cameron, who had reached the ripe age of 84 years. Deceased came to New Zealand

with his parents, and landed, at Kaiwarra on Christmas Day, 1840. In the year 1846 his father, Mr Donald Cameron, entered into possession of the sheep station, on the East Coast, known as Pahaoa, which later was taken over by the five sons, Messrs Dugald, Alexander, Donald, John and Duncan Cameron. Later again Messrs Duncan and John Cameron bought out their brother's interest in Pahaoa, and divided the property into two parts, one of which was renamed Glen Dhu, and became the property of Mr Duncan Cameron. Deceased leaves a widow, who is a daughter, of the late Mr Archibald Gillies, of Otaraia, and there were ten children, as follows:—Messrs William, (deceased), Thomas (deceased), Alan (at Castlepoint), and Jack Cameron (at Glen Dhu), Misses Annie, Nellie, and Grace Cameron, and Mrs Cecil Kebbell, Mrs Fred Pearce, and Mrs J. Goring Johnston. The relatives will have the deep sympathy of a wide circle of friends in their bereavement.

Mary (Gillies) Cameron died on 16 February 1916 at Moroa, Greytown, aged 73. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 30 July 1919 reported that the Misses Cameron had instructed Messrs Levin & Co to sell by public auction the well-known Moroa homestead, together with fine old home of 15 rooms and outbuildings which, with slight alteration, could be made into a good boarding school.

Duncan and Mary had nine children:

- Annie Isabella Cameron, born in 1864, died in 1934.
- Donald Thomas Cameron, born in 1866, died in 1913, married Mary Bulkley in 1910.
- Mary Christina Cameron, born in 1867, died in 1943, married Cecil Kebbell (son of *Blenheim* passenger) in 1896.
- Catherine Ellen Cameron, born in 1870, died in 1956.
- Jessie Cameron, born in 1871, married Frederick Pearce in 1896.
- William Duncan Cameron, born in 1872, died in 1901 while serving in the South African War.
- John Alexander Cameron, born in 1874, died in [1941?] married Helen Gough in 1920.
- Alice Margaret Cameron, born in 1876, died in 1936, married John Goring-Johnston in 1899.
- Allan Archibald Cameron, born in 1878, died in 1928, served in South African War, married Kathleen Meredyth Meredith in 1912.
- Constance Evelyn Grace Cameron, born in 1879, died in 1970.

DONALD CAMERON AND MARY MCPHERSON

In the passenger lists for the *Blenheim* Donald Cameron is recorded as a labourer of 52, from Trishilaig, with the note by Donald McDonald:

This man and his family have been known to me all my life & are a very industrious family. The same remark applies to his brother and his family who are next to him but one on the list, they have besides excellent Certificates.

The list included:

- Donald Cameron, 52, labourer
- Mary McPherson, 40, his wife
- John Cameron, 24, quarrier, his son
- Allan Cameron, 22, quarrier, his son
- Donald Cameron, 20, shoemaker, his son
- Duncan Cameron, 18, shepherd, his son
- Ewen Cameron, 17, ploughman, his son
- Alexander Cameron, 15, cowherd, his son
- James Cameron, 14, cowherd, his son
- George Cameron, 9, his son
- Mary Cameron, 26, dairymaid, his daughter
- Ann Cameron, 12, his daughter.

Also on board were Donald and Mary's oldest daughter, Jane, wife of Dugald McLachlan, and the family of Donald's brother Ewen Cameron.

Donald Cameron was called "Cooper" or "Bane" (fair) to distinguish him from the other Donald Camerons.

Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Inverness) records the birth of Donald Cameron, son to Angus Cameron and Mary Cameron, Corveg, on 28 April 1776, making him rather older than the 52 noted in the *Blenheim* list.

Mary McPherson was born around 1790, so was also older than the listed 40.

The couple were married around 1807 and were living in Inverscaddie when their first child, Jane, was born in 1808, but by the time of the next recorded birth, of John in 1812 they were at Trislaig, across Loch Linnhe from Fort William, and seemed to have remained there until their departure for New Zealand in 1840. There are no records of births between John in 1812 and James in 1825, but if the ages given in the *Blenheim* passenger list are correct (and the younger children are about right), then there may have been others who died in infancy or did not travel.

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) recorded that Ewin and Mary, son and daughter to Donald Cameron, Trislaig, and Mary McPherson, his wife, were born on 1st current, and baptized on 6 January 1829. These twins were not on the voyage to New Zealand, so presumably died before 1840, but it is strange that they were given the same names as those held by older siblings.

Donald and Mary and their family had moved on from Wellington to Turakina by 1850 and farmed there for the rest of their lives. In his book *Early Rangitikei*, Sir James Wilson wrote:

A second family of Camerons, of Turakina, was that of Donald "Bane," whose family consisted of John, Allan, Duncan, Sandy, James, and George, Mrs McLauchlan (afterwards Mrs Brabazon), Mrs Grant (Mrs A.K. Simpson's mother), and Mrs Alick McDonald...

The family is also mentioned in the reminiscences of Eliza McKenzie, daughter of Thomas Urquhart McKenzie and *Blenheim* emigrant Margaret Fraser, published in Rob Knight's *Poyntzfield*, "...but we lost interest in the subject sooner than we would owing to a more intimate interest – namely of the arrival of the Grant family in Turakina, They had come out in the same ship as my Grandfather and his family and we had always known them – that is to say we were friends. We children were sorry that their place was not near. It was away past McQuarrie's, and their first whare was built on the flat opposite the old 'Makiri' homestead, occupied by its first owner Donald Cameron. 'The Cooper' he was called in Wellington, but here he soon took on the 'Cameron Makiri' that seemed natural. I liked to go to that house on account of the furniture. Not like other houses but made of queer shaped branches and roots put aside from time to time, we were told it was 'Rustic'. Mr and Mrs Cameron were Mrs Grant's parents – were also 'Little Annie's' and others not so interesting," and "On our way out to the beach we passed the house of 'Cameron Makiri'. (In Wellington he was called Donald the Cooper.) The old man, calling his granddaughter with him went with us as far as the sand hills, said 'Good-bye' in solemn Gaelic and we went on."

Donald died in 1854, and Mary on 15 February 1874 at Turakina, aged 84. A memorial plaque has been reinstated, with additional references, at the Makirikiri Private Cemetery on land that was part of their farm. It reads:

Sacred to the Memory of Donald Cameron native of Argyle Shire Scotland, died at Turakina 1854 aged 78 years, and of Donald Cameron son of the above died at Turakina Sept 15th 1851 aged 30 years & of his son Donald Cameron died April 6th. 1851 aged 6 months and of George Cameron son of the above died at Turakina 1856 aged 24 years and of Alexander Cameron son of the above died at Turakina June 7th. 1860 aged 32 years and of Mary Cameron died at the Makirikiri 15th. Feby 1874 aged 84 years. Also sons, Allan died 1878, aged 60, John born 1816 & Ewen born 1823 died in Wellington prior 1850, James born 1828 died?

Mary Cameron

Mary Cameron was born on 12 August 1813, probably at Trislaig in the parish of Kilmallie (Argyll).

The initial *Blenheim* passenger listed a Janet Cameron, 26, dairymaid, as the daughter of Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson. The embarkation list had her as Mary, 26, but in the subsequent lists she was back to being Janet. Possibly the confusion arose because Mary's older sister Jane was planning to travel with them, and eventually did so but with her new husband Dugald McLachlan and his family.

Mary Cameron married Alexander Grant, another *Blenheim* passenger, on 29 January 1841, a month after their arrival in New Zealand. Their story is continued at [Alexander Grant and Mary Cameron](#).

Mary (Cameron) Grant died on 21 April 1895, aged 82.

Alexander and Mary had nine children, not all survived infancy:

- John Grant, born in 1841, died in 1843.
- Catherine Grant, born in 1843, died in 1918, married Robert Kirkpatrick Simpson in 1863.

- John Archibald Grant, born in 1845, died in 1845.
- Ewen Grant, born in 1846, died in 1920.
- Mary Cameron Grant, born in 1848, died in 1938, married James McDonald in 1874.
- John Grant, born in 1850, died in 1942, married Mary Shove in 1885.
- Elizabeth Grant, born in 1851, died in 1878.
- Duncan Donald Grant, born in 1853, died in 1900.
- Betsy Grant, born in 1857, died in 1947 in Australia, married Alexander Fraser McRae in 1891.

John Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Inverness) for 1812, recorded the baptism of a John Cameron, son of Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson of Trinslack, on 12 May. It is not clear if this is the John who travelled to New Zealand.

John's age was given as 24 on the *Blenheim* passenger lists, suggesting a birth year of around 1815-16, but if this is the same John then he would have been 28. He was described as a quarrier.

John Cameron apparently died by drowning, possibly in Wellington harbour, although his inclusion in the *Early Rangitikei* reference suggests he may have moved to Turakina by 1850.

Allan Cameron

Allan Cameron was described as a quarrier of 22 in the *Blenheim* passenger list, indicating he was born around 1817-18.

Margaret Perry's diary, around 1863, notes, "Old Granny Cammeron lived not far off in an old whare with clay walls, and her son Allan,..."

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 5 March 1878 reported, "March 4. Allan Cameron, a settler, was found drowned in the Turakina river this morning. Deceased was last seen on the racecourse on Friday." New Zealand BDM records suggest that he was 61 years old at the time. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 6 March 1878 reported:

An inquest was held to-day at Belvie's Railway Hotel, on the body of Allen Cameron, before Mr Ross, coroner, and a jury, of which Mr A. Simpson was chosen foreman. The jury having been sworn, Joseph Henderson was the first witness called, who deposed to having seen deceased on the racecourse on Friday last, at 6 p.m.; deceased was the worse of drink. Mr Duncan Grant stated that he was a nephew of deceased; he saw him last on Friday, on the racecourse; he missed him since then; on Monday last went to look for him, and found his body in the Turakina river, at the foot of a high bank; deceased must have fallen 40 feet; was unable to get him out alone, so went for assistance; Mr Archibald Cameron and Mr McInnes helped him to get the body out; deceased was quite dead; he was about 61 years of age. Mr McInnes said he was called to help to pull deceased out of the water; recognised the body as the same. The Coroner summed up the evidence, and the jury returned a verdict of found drowned.

Donald Cameron jnr

Donald Cameron was described as a shoemaker of 20 in the *Blenheim* passenger list, suggesting a birth year around 1820.

The list of persons qualified to serve as jurors in the district of Port Nicholson included Donald Cameron, jun, as a labourer, Kai warra Road in 1845; and a

shoemaker, at Willis Street in 1846 and at Lambton Quay in 1847-1850. A Donald Cameron, Kai warra Road was also listed as a shoemaker in 1845.

From the Makirikiri memorial, Donald was married, and had a child born around October 1850 who died on 6 April 1851. New Zealand BDM records show that a Donald Cameron and Mary Robertson Mitchell were married on 18 March 1850, and that a son Donald Cameron was born on 24 October 1850 to Donald and Mary Cameron.

Mary Robertson was born in Blairgowrie, Perthshire, on 6 May 1821, and may have emigrated on the *Lady Nugent*, which arrived in Wellington in March 1841. A Mary Robertson, 18, servant, was included on the passenger list. On 15 April 1844, Mary Robertson, daughter of Mr Robertson of Blair Gowrie, Perthshire, married Francis Mitchell, an agriculturalist, formerly of Logie, Perthshire. Francis Mitchell had arrived in Wellington on the *Martha Ridgeway* in July 1840. The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 12 April 1848 carried a report of the death of Francis Mitchell, apparently at sea after an absence of two years, having left his wife and young child in Wellington in January 1846.

Donald Cameron died on 15 September 1851, aged 30.

After Donald's death, it appears that Mary (Robertson) Cameron, formerly Mitchell, married John Cameron on 25 September 1855. John Cameron, the son of John Cameron and Janet McGregor, was also on the *Blenheim*, and the chapter for that family provides further information on Mary Robertson.

Mary (Robertson) Cameron died on 5 June 1887. Her death registration noted that she was 66, her father was given as Alexander Robinson, carrier, she was born in Scotland and had been in New Zealand for 40 years, and was married in Wanganui to John Cameron. She had three female children living, aged 30, 28 and 27. The cause of death was dropsy. There was no reference to any of her other marriages.

Donald and Mary had one child:

- Donald Cameron, born in 1850, died in 1851.

Duncan Cameron

Duncan Cameron was a shepherd of 18 on the *Blenheim* passenger list, indicating he was born around 1821-22.

Duncan was referred to in *Early Rangitikei* but was not included on the Makirikiri memorial plaque.

No further information has been established regarding Duncan Cameron.

Ewen Cameron

Ewen Cameron was described as a ploughman of 17 on the *Blenheim* passenger list, meaning he was born around 1822-23.

The *History of the Parewanui district and schools* incorrectly states that this Ewen Cameron married Sarah McKinnon, but that was a Ewen Cameron from another Turakina, but non-*Blenheim*, family of Camerons.

The reference in *Early Rangitikei* noted above does not include a Ewen or Hugh, suggesting that he may have died or gone elsewhere before the family moved to Turakina.

No further information has been established for Ewen Cameron.

Alexander Cameron

The *Blenheim* passenger list described Alexander Cameron as a cowherd of 15, suggesting he was born around 1824.

According to the Makirikiri memorial, Alexander Cameron died on 7 June 1860 at Turakina aged 32. New Zealand BDM records confirm the date but give his age as 34.

The *History of the Parewanui district and schools* incorrectly states that this Alexander Cameron married Jemima McDonell, but in fact it appears that he did not marry, and his estate administration involved his mother, Mary Cameron (who signed documents with her mark "X"), John Cameron, the younger (son of John Cameron and Janet McGregor, who married the widow of Donald Cameron jnr above), and James Stewart, both of Turakina. Alexander was described as a farmer of Turakina in the probate documents.

James Cameron

According to the Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) for 1825, James, son of Donald Cameron in Trislaig and Mary McPherson, was born on 24 October and baptized on 1 November.

In the *Blenheim* passenger list James was described as a cowherd of 14.

James is referred to *Early Rangitikei* and is included on the Makirikiri memorial, but with a date of death unknown.

No further information has been established for James Cameron.

Ann Christian Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) records that Ann Christian, daughter of Donald Cameron crofter in Trinsleig and Mary McPherson was born on 27 ulto, [*i.e. November*] and baptized on 27 December 1827.

The *Blenheim* passenger list included 12 year-old Ann Cameron.

In *Poyntzfield*, Eliza McKenzie described a picnic on Somes Island in 1848 or 1849, "Most of the company we were acquainted with, and were pleased to see amongst them 'Little Annie Cameron' (The cooper). It was so nice just to look at her....Near her was sitting 'Alick' called so by all present and genial to all, and a member of a proud Scottish family as he was. He too had come out in the *Blenheim* but as a passenger with some others, not as immigrant, and I feel now that neither he nor the rest of the party forgot that fact."

Annie Cameron married Alexander McDonald on 13 January 1852, and more details of their life can be found at [Donald McDonald and Anne Cummings](#).

Ann Christian (Cameron) McDonald died on 26 February 1898.

Annie and Alexander had possibly eight children:

- Mary McDonald, born in 1854, died in 1939, married Alexander Dundas in 1878.
- Annie McDonald, born in 1855, married (1) Henry Seegers Palmerson, (2) George Latta Rodaway Scott in 1891.
- Donald McDonald, born in 1857.
- Adam Alexander McDonald, born in 1860, died in 1940, married Mary Helen Sarah Dundas in 1898.

- Ada McDonald, born in 1863, married John Henry Lee Macintyre in 1887.
- Catherine McDonald.
- Georgina McDonald, born in 1866, died in 1945, married Alfred Richard Lyons in 1889.
- Margaret McDonald, born in 1869, died in 1924, married Edward Cyril Morley Netherclift in 1897.

George Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) for 1831 shows that George, son to Donald Cameron, crofter Trislack, and Mary McPherson, was born on 11 February and baptized on 16 February.

George Cameron is referred to in *Early Rangitikei* and was included in the original Makirikiri memorial.

George Cameron died in 1856 aged 24.

DUGALD CAMERON AND CHRISTINA CAMERON

In the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, this family was noted as coming from Glenmore, with Donald McDonald noting, "Also a Pensioner of Chelsea Hospital and brother to the above Duncan Cameron, may be considered as one Family having always lived together since their retirement from the army." In the event, Duncan Cameron, his wife and four children, did not sail on the *Blenheim*.

Dugald and his family were listed as follows:

- Dugald Cameron, Glenmore, 48, a labourer
- Christian Cameron, his wife, 40
- Anne Cameron, his daughter, 16, dairymaid
- Angus Cameron, his son, 9, cowherd
- Mary Cameron, his daughter, 7½

Duncan Cameron stayed in Ardnamurchan, appearing in the 1841 and 1851 census returns for Glenmore (1841) and Glenboradale (1851) as a Chelsea pensioner, born in 1786, with wife Janet and children – Alexander in 1841 and 1851, and Mary and Angus in 1851.

Dugald Cameron and Christina Cameron

There is an entry in the Old Parish Register for Kilmallie that records the marriage on 14 October 1826 of a Dugald Cameron and a Christian Cameron in Banavie, Corpack.

In addition to the children who travelled on the *Blenheim*, it appears that Dugald and Christina may have had other children who died before 1840, but the records are confusing, in that there are two Mary Camerons and two Johns. While the older Mary is a better match for the age given in the *Blenheim* lists, the baptisms could have taken place some time after the births, so it has been assumed that the earlier entries were for children who died before the birth of the later child. Or there could be more than one family involved.

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian or Sunart includes the following records:

- The baptism on 27 May 1827 of Anne, adulterous daughter of Dugald Cameron, pensioner, Glenbeg, and of Christina Cameron.
- The baptism on 12 October 1829 of John, son of Dugald Cameron, pensioner, Glenmore, and of Christina Cameron, his wife.
- The record that Dugald Cameron, tenant, Glenmore, and Christina Cameron had a son, Donald, born 5 December 1830 who died before he was baptized.
- The baptism on 22 January 1832 of Mary, daughter of Dugald Cameron, pensioner, Glenmore, and of Christina Cameron.
- The baptism on 1 June 1833 of Angus, son of Dugald Cameron, pensioner, Glenmore, and of Christina Cameron, his wife.
- A baptism on 29 March 1835 of Mary, daughter of Dugald Cameron, pensioner, Glenmor, and of Christina Cameron, his wife.
- The baptism on 8 May 1836 of John, son of Dugald Cameron, pensioner, Glenmore, and of Christina Cameron, his wife.

It appears that this Cameron family did not stay long in Wellington, and probably moved on to New South Wales.

The death of a Dugald Cameron, parents Angus and Ann, was registered in Maitland, NSW, in 1857.

Anne Cameron

The OPR records show that Anne Cameron was baptized on 27 May 1827, but she was an “adulterous” daughter. Given that both of her parents were named, and it seems likely they were married by that time, it may be that Anne was born before the marriage took place and baptized afterwards. Her parents were named as Dugald Cameron, pensioner, and Christina Cameron, of Glenbeg.

In the *Blenheim* lists, Anne Cameron was described as 16 and a dairymaid, giving her a birth year of 1823 or 1824.

It is possible that Ann Cameron married Hugh Connor in 1845 in New South Wales.

New South Wales BDM index records list possible children of Ann and Hugh Connor:

- Dugald Cameron Connor, born in 1857, Raymond Terrace, died 1919, Murwillumbah
- Agnes Connor, born in 1862, Grafton
- (Male) Connor, born in 1865, Grafton

The *Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser* of Tuesday 2 June 1885 carried the Death Notice: “CONNOR. — On Tuesday, 26th May, at her late residence, Rosebank, South Arm, Ann, the beloved wife of Hugh Connor, after a protracted illness. Aged 59 years. Deeply regretted by a large circle of relations and friends.” The BDM index for this death records her parents as Dugald and Christina.

Angus Cameron

According to OPR records, Angus Cameron was baptized on 1 June 1833. His parents were named as Dugald Cameron, pensioner, and Christina Cameron, of Glenmore.

In the passenger lists for the *Blenheim*, Angus is described as being 9 years old and a cowherd.

It seems likely that Angus accompanied his family to Australia.

The *Clarence and Richmond Examiner* of Saturday 20 July 1901 carried the following report:

BRUSHGROVE, MONDAY. Death has claimed an old resident of the district, Mr. Angus Cameron, brother-in-law to Mr. H. Connor, senr., South Arm. On Monday Mr. Cameron was in his usual health and assisting to thrash maize, and on Tuesday morning was found dead in his bed. His remains were taken by the Young Dick to the Maclean cemetery on Wednesday, where the last ceremony was performed in the Presbyterian burying ground. Deceased resided many years ago at Swan Creek, and was well known throughout the district. He was 65 years of age.

Mary Cameron

From OPR records, it seems likely that Mary Cameron was baptised on 8 May 1836, with her parents being Dugald Cameron, pensioner, and Christina Cameron, of Glenmore.

In the *Blenheim* passenger lists Mary's age is given as 7½.

Mary probably moved to Australia with her parents, and married William Connor in 1853.

The *Clarence and Richmond Examiner* of Saturday 24 February 1894, carried a Death Notice: "On 27th January, 1894, at her residence Clark Hill, Noarlunga, South Australia, Ann Cameron, relict of the Rev. R. Balderston, of Paisley, Scotland, aunt of the late Mrs. Hugh Connor, Mr. Angus Cameron, of South Arm, and also Mrs. William Connor, of Grafton, Clarence River." This Ann (Cameron) Balderstone was therefore a sister of either Dugald or Christina Cameron.

In 1910, the death of a Mary Connor, parents Douglas and Christina, was registered at Balmain South, NSW.

EWEN CAMERON AND MARIA COLQUHOUN

This family were noted as coming from Trishilaig in the initial *Blenheim* passenger list, with Ewen being the brother to Donald Cameron, the subject of Donald McDonald's comments, "This man and his family have been known to me all my life & are a very industrious family. The same remark applies to his brother and his family who is next to him but one in this list, they have besides excellent Certificates."

The large family was made up of:

- Ewen Cameron, 50, tailor
- Maria Colquhoun, his wife, 46
- Mary Cameron, his daughter, 28, chambermaid
- Flora Cameron, his daughter, 24, housemaid
- Marjory Cameron, his daughter, 24, housemaid
- Jane Cameron, his daughter, 22, housemaid
- – crossed out on initial list, and not included in subsequent lists
- Charles Cameron, his son, 18, labourer
- Sarah Cameron, his daughter, 16
- Allan Cameron, his son, 14, cowherd
- Donald Cameron, his son, 12, cowherd
- Margaret Cameron, his daughter, 9
- Anne Cameron, his daughter, 7
- Catherine Cameron, his daughter, 4

Ewen and Maria's son John Cameron did not travel on the *Blenheim*. The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) for 1820 records that John Cameron, son of Ewen Cameron at Gearidh and Maria Colquhoun his spouse was born 4th and baptized 9th April.

Ewen Cameron and Maria Colquhoun

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Inverness) for 1783 recorded the birth of Ewen Cameron, son to Angus Cameron and Mary Cameron, Corvig, on 11 June.

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Inverness) recorded the marriage on 28 February 1811 of Ewen Cameron and Maria Colquhoun, at Inverscaddle.

Information from the birth registrations of their children shows that Ewen and Maria lived in Ardgour, the southern part of the Kilmallie parish to the west of Loch Eil. Inverscaddle was at the mouth of Glenscaddle, north of the Corran Ferry, and Gerridh was to the south, on Linnhe Loch. Despite the notation in the *Blenheim* passenger list, it does not appear that they lived at Trislaig, which was at the northern end of Ardgour, opposite Fort William.

Ewen Cameron was actually 57 when he sailed on the *Blenheim*. A record of Maria's birth has not been confirmed.

Ewen Cameron, sometimes known as Hugh Cameron, lived in Kaiwarra and worked as a tailor, as confirmed by Juror lists.

The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 9 December 1848 reported the death of Ewen Cameron as follows:

A fatal accident occurred on Wednesday last to Mr. Ewen Cameron, who resided on the road to Kaiwarra. On his return home about eight o'clock in the evening, in walking too near the edge of the steep ravine or gully in front of his house his foot unfortunately slipped, and he fell head foremost, and his head striking a projecting piece of rock he was killed on the spot. The body was discovered by his family the next morning lying in the ravine. An inquest was held on the body by Dr. Fitzgerald the Coroner, yesterday, when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned. The deceased was very much and deservedly respected as an honest man and an industrious settler, and had brought up a very numerous family with great credit and propriety.

As recorded in *Poyntzfield*, Eliza McKenzie recalling her Kaiwarra memories, wrote, "By far the most tremendous episode of that period was the death of 'Cameron, the Tailor'. He was found dead on the rocky path leading up from the beach to his house. Inquiries showed that he had left the 'Highlander Inn' at about nine in the evening and was not seen again alive. He had evidently slipped in the darkness, and struck his head against the wall of rock bordering the way."

After Ewen's death most of the younger members of the family appear to have moved to Auckland with their sister Jane and brother-in-law Alexander Alison, and where several of the daughters married mariners. In 1861 Sarah and Catherine went to the Otago goldfields with their husbands, apparently taking their aged mother with them, because Maria Cameron died at Blue Spur, Otago, on 28 December 1874. Blue Spur was in Tuapeka County, near Lawrence.

The *Tuapeka Times* of 7 January 1874 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – On the 28th December, at the residence of James Campbell, Blue Spur, Maria Cameron, relict of the late Ewen Cameron, of Kaiwarra, Wellington." The death registration contains no information, other than the date of death, her name and age, 85, and cause of death, "old age". The informant was the local undertaker.

Mary Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll), records that Mary, daughter of Ewen Cameron and Peggy Colquhoun of Glenscaddle, was baptized on 24 January 1812.

Mary Cameron was described as a chambermaid of 28 in the *Blenheim* passenger list.

New Zealand BDM records show the marriage on 5 February 1841 of Mary Cameron and Peter McGrigor, barely six weeks after the arrival of the *Blenheim*.

The *New Zealand Colonist and Port Nicholson Advertiser* of 16 August 1842 reported on a narrow escape from drowning, "Last Thursday, a boat laden with wood from Petoni, bound for Te Aro, with Charles Cameron, Peter M'Gregor, and a sailor; it was blowing very hard at the time and the boat being deeply laden, Cameron recommended M'Gregor not to leave, and if he did he might go by himself, as he (Cameron) would walk it, M'Gregor said he would chance it and left accordingly with the other boatman. They proceeded as far as Ngaurangi in safety, when a gust of wind upset the boat, and the men were thrown into the sea, the upper part of the cargo being washed away, the boat again righted, and the men got into her, although she was full of water, and were drifting out to sea all night, sometimes clinging to the outside of the boat, being frequently washed overboard. About nine o'clock the following morning, some natives rescued them from a watery grave, near Barrett's reef, and brought them ashore more dead than alive." It is not known if the Charles Cameron referred to was Peter McGregor's brother-in-law.

Peter M'Gregor, Kai Warra, road, labourer, was on the list of prospective jurors for Port Nicholson in 1845.

The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 15 July 1846 carried the Death Notice: "Died – on Saturday, the 11th inst., Mary, the wife of Mr. P. M'Gregor, and eldest daughter of Mr. Ewen Cameron, Tailor, of Kai Wara."

Mary and Peter appear to have had one child:

- Mary McGregor, born in 1842.

No further information has been established for Peter McGregor or his daughter Mary.

Flora Cameron

In the *Blenheim* passenger list, Flora was described as a housemaid of 26, suggesting that her birth was probably in 1814.

Flora Cameron and Thomas Ritchie Simson were married on 3 October 1844 in Wellington. The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 19 October 1844 included the Notice: "Married – On the 3rd instant, by the Rev. J. Macfarlane, Mr Thomas Richie Simpson, formerly of Glasgow, to Flora, daughter of Hugh Cameron, formerly of Ardgour, Invernesshire."

It seems from Electoral Roll records that the Simsons farmed at Turakina for a period, but by the time of their mother's death in 1886 the sons had moved to Opunake, although their father was in Wanganui.

The *Hawera and Normanby Star* of 26 November 1886 included the Death Notice: "Simson – on the 21st instant, at the residence of her sons, Taungatara, near Opunake, Flora, the beloved wife of Mr Thomas R Simson. She was the second daughter of Mr Hugh Cameron of Kaiwarra, Wellington, who has long preceded her to the grave. The family arrived in Wellington in 1840; and she has passed away at the age of 66 years."

Thomas Ritchie Simson died in 1907 aged 88, at Wanganui Hospital. The *Wanganui Herald* of 3 September 1907 carried the Death Notice: "Simson – At the Wanganui Hospital, on Sunday, 1st September, Thomas Simson, aged 88 years."

Flora and Thomas had at least two children:

- Charles Simson, born in 1849.
- David Cameron Simson, born in 1851, died in 1901, married Elizabeth Putt in 1888.

Marjory Cameron

Marjory (Mysie) Cameron was described as a housemaid of 24 in the *Blenheim* passenger list, indicating she was born around 1816.

Marjory Cameron married John McQuarrie in 1844. John McQuarrie, son of Donald McQuarrie and Margaret McEachern, was also on board the *Blenheim*, described as a joiner of 18. The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 3 January 1844 carried the Married Notice: "On the 1st inst., by the Rev. John Macfarlane, Mr John M'Quarrie, formerly of Invernesshire, carpenter, to Marjory, daughter of Mr Hugh Cameron, formerly of Ardgone, Argyleshire, now of Wellington."

Marjory Cameron was the "Auntie" referred to in Margaret Perry's diaries. The couple moved to Rangitikei, and Margaret Perry wrote, "I used very often go and stop with Uncle and Auntie in the Valley, Uncle like all the McQuarries used to drink heavily; when he would come home, he was a perfect madman, he would set to work and throw chairs tables and crockery outside the door, Auntie and I used to run and

hide, in the bush till the storm was over and all was quiet, then we would go in and find him fast asleep; then we would set to work and gather up the pieces and put all straight. After a while they left the Valley, and went to live in a four-roomed cottage in Turakina. Uncle got very ill and the doctors told him that drink was killing him.”

John McQuarrie died on 10 December 1865. Mysie McQuarrie married George Perry on 14 February 1867.

According to New Zealand BDM records, Marjory (Cameron) Perry, formerly McQuarrie died on 26 March 1903 aged 87. Her death registration indicates that she was a widow, and died at Devonport from heart failure and senility. Her parents were listed as Hugh Cameron, tailor, and her mother's maiden surname was Colquhoun. Marjory was born in Argyleshire and had been in New Zealand for 63 years. She was married first in Wellington to Hugh [sic] McQuarrie when she was 22, and secondly in Turakina to George Perry. There were no living children. The informant was W H Burgess, authorised agent. William Henry Burgess was Marjory's brother-in-law, the widower of her sister Margaret.

Jane Cameron

Jane Cameron was listed as a housemaid of 22 when she travelled on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 22 November 1845 contained the Marriage Notice: “Married, on the 17th November instant, Mr Alexander Allison, formerly of Inverness, Shipwright, now of H.M. Colonial Brig “Victoria,” to Jane, third daughter of Mr Ewen Cameron, formerly of Ardgour, Agyleshire.”

Alexander Alison was a ship's carpenter who came to Nelson in the early 1840s. The family moved to Auckland in 1848, settling in Devonport in 1854, where Alexander continued his trade as a boat-builder.

Alexander Alison died in 1887. The *New Zealand Herald* of 27 June 1887 carried the following obituary:

DEATH OF MR. A. ALISON, SEN. It is with much regret we have to announce the decease of another of the old identities of Auckland, in the person of Mr. Alexander Alison, sen., who has been ailing for some weeks past, and who died peacefully at his residence, Devonport, yesterday morning, at half-past eleven, at the advanced age of 78 years. The deceased gentleman, who was a native of Inverness, Scotland, arrived at Nelson some fifty years ago, but shortly afterwards chose Auckland as his place of residence, and has lived at Devonport over thirty years. The deceased was a man of sterling qualities, of a warm-hearted and genial disposition, and highly respected by a wide circle of friends. He leaves a widow and three sons, each of whom are grown up and married, and hold prominent positions, to mourn his loss. The funeral is announced to take place at Devonport to-morrow (Tuesday), at three o'clock.

The *New Zealand Herald* of 6 February 1893 carried the Death Notice: “Alison – On Saturday, February 4 1893, at her late residence, Beach Road, Devonport, Jane, relict of the late Alexander Alison, Esq., aged 78 years. Interred at Devonport Cemetery.”

Jane and Alexander had at least four children who lived beyond infancy:

- Alexander Alison, born in 1846, died in 1923, married Annie Stokoe in 1868.
- Roderick Alison, born in 1850, died in 1882.
- Ewen William Alison, born in 1852, died in 1945, married Mary Ann Coleman in 1876.

- Duncan Donald Tobias Alison, born in 1856, died in 1935, married Emma Lyons in 1884.

The *New Zealand Dictionary of Biography* has an entry for Ewen William Alison, noting that he was born in Auckland on leap day, 29 February 1852, the son of Jane Cameron and her husband Alexander Alison, a shipwright. At the age of 15 Ewen went off to look for gold in the Thames goldrush, and made sufficient money to join his brother in a butchery partnership in Devonport. He went on to become a businessman involved in shipping and property, and was active in local and national government. Ewen married Mary Ann Coleman on 26 July 1876, and they were to have four sons and two daughters. His main claim to fame was to found and develop the Devonport Steam Ferry Company Limited, with his brother Alexander. Ewen Alison died on 6 June 1945 at the age of 93.

Charles McLean Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) for 1822, records the baptism of Charles McLean Cameron son to Ewen Cameron and Margaret Colquhoun in Gearidh on 28 July, born on 20th Curr. [*of the current month*].

In the *Blenheim* passenger list Charles McLean Cameron was described as a labourer of 18.

The 1905-1906 Electoral Roll for Eden in Auckland, records Charles McLean Cameron, inmate, at Costley Home. The Costley Home for the Aged Poor, was originally located within the Auckland Hospital grounds, but in 1890 moved to Epsom.

New Zealand BDM records have the death of Charles McLean Cameron on 1 April 1909, aged 87.

Sarah Cameron

Sarah Cameron was 16 when she sailed on the *Blenheim* with her family.

In 1851, Sarah married Duncan Campbell, a master mariner. The *Wellington Independent* of 27 September 1851 carried the notice: "Married – On the 29th inst., by license, at St Paul's, by the Rev. J.F. Churton, Mr Duncan Campbell, of Auckland, to Sarah, fifth daughter of the late Mr. Ewen Cameron of Wellington."

Duncan Campbell was born in Perthshire, Scotland and was a half-brother of James Campbell who married Sarah's sister Catherine Cameron. It is not clear when he came to New Zealand.

In the early 1850s Duncan Campbell was the skipper of the *Benlomond*, a 35 ton schooner in the coastal trade. According to Electoral Roll records the family was living at Nelson Street, Auckland, in 1856.

It appears that the family moved to Gabriel's Gully, Otago in 1861.

Sarah Campbell died on 24 February 1863 in Lawrence, Otago, a few weeks after giving birth to Mary. The *Daily Southern Cross* of 21 March 1863 carried the following Death Notice: "On February 24th, at the Molyneux, Province of Otago, Sarah, the beloved wife of Mr Duncan Campbell. She leaves six children with her sorrowing husband to lament her loss."

In 1872 Duncan Campbell was appointed to be teacher at the Tuapeka Mouth School. An inspector's report noted that he was untrained and only on trial, and it

was doubtful if he would succeed as a teacher. He then took up farming in the district.

Duncan Campbell died in October 1875. He was found drowned in the Molyneux River in Otago. The *Tuapeka Times* of 6 October 1875 reported:

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF A SETTLER. We learn that Mr. Duncan Campbell, settler at Tuapeka Mouth, has disappeared in rather a mysterious manner. It appears that on Sunday evening Mr. Campbell crossed a man from the west side of the river to Dalhousie, and remained with the boat whilst the passenger went up to the township, promising to return in a few minutes. The man was longer than he anticipated, and on his return to the river bank was surprised at not to find either the boat or Mr. Campbell who has not yet been seen or heard of. Search was made by the residents of Dalhousie without avail, and up to the hour of our going to press, neither Campbell nor the boat had been heard of. Mr. A. M'Beath gave information to the police last evening, and they started away to assist in the search.

The *Tuapeka Times* of 9 October 1875 was able to shed more light on the disappearance, noting that Duncan Campbell provided a ferry service and on the day in question had brought over two men then adjourned to public house at Tuapeka Mouth, and was observed as being "slightly the worse for liquor." It appeared that he may have gone to sleep in the boat while awaiting the later passenger and been carried down by the current, and somehow fallen in the river. The report went on to note:

The missing-man was an old resident in the district having come from the North Island about the first the Gabriels Gully rush. He followed digging for sometime, and subsequently became a mining agent in Lawrence. Being a man of good education, and possessing a fair share of natural talent, he was subsequently appointed Schoolmaster at Tuapeka Mouth, a situation which he resigned only a few months ago, when he took to farming, following it up to the time of his disappearance. He was well known throughout the district; his obliging disposition and genial character rendering him generally well liked in the place.

A correspondent writes: Not a few in and about the district of Gabriels will read with feelings of melancholy interest the circumstances attending the sad end of poor old Duncan Campbell. He was in many respects of the word a coupling link between New Zealand of the past and New Zealand of the present. The date of his advent in this colony is somewhat obscure, but it is understood he got here about the latter part of the decade ending '30 or beginning of '40. When I say here, I mean Auckland, as you must be aware the southern provinces were little known of in those primitive days. The last time I saw him was only a few weeks ago, and he then presented all the animated appearance of a hale hearty old man who had yet many days to live. Nothing delighted him better than to recall the old times and early associations, when British rule was to a great extent subservient to Maori custom. On the occasion to which I allude he was in company with another of the old New Zealand School a resident about Tokomairiro. To hear these two old "fogies" recite their early adventures in the Northern territory was a perfect treat. The name and surname of a leading minister of the Colonial Cabinet was mixed up with one of their exploits the burden of the narrative being that they had only one blue blanket amongst the three of them, and that thus gaudily attired they set out to pay court to a tattooed damsel, possessed of great personal attractions. The conclusions indulged in by these two worthies in drawing parallels between the third occupant of the blue blanket engaged upon this escapade, and his present occupation as leader of the House of Representatives, were whimsical in the extreme. With their recollection still fresh upon my memory the intelligence of his sad end comes home to me with all the force and effect of one of those rude shocks which teaches us too truly that in the midst of life we are in death.

The *Otago Daily Times* of 24 November 1875 reported:

Our Lawrence correspondent inform us by telegraph that the body of Duncan Campbell was found on the bank of the river at the mouth of a small creek 13 miles below Tuapeka Mouth by Mr John Tyson some days ago. The body was brought up to Tuapeka Mouth, an inquest was held by the Coroner, and a verdict returned, "Found Drowned." A large number of friends followed the remains to the Lawrence Cemetery.

Sarah and Duncan had at least seven children:

- Margaret Campbell, born in 1852, died in 1917, married John Glass in 1871.
- Maria Campbell, born in 1854, died in 1947, married Andrew McBeath in 1875.
- Donald Campbell, born in 1855.
- Duncan Campbell, born in 1857, died in 1938, married Mary McFadzien in 1885.
- Euphemia Campbell, born in 1859, died in 1942, married George Anderson Laidlaw in 1879.
- Sarah Campbell, born in 1862, died in 1862.
- Mary Campbell, born in 1863, died in 1944, married William Rainsford Bennett in 1884.

Allan Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Inverness) for baptisms from Corran in 1826, recorded the baptism on 3 September of Allan, son of Ewen Cameron and Maria Colquhoun in Girah, Ardgour, born on the 22nd of August.

On the passenger list for the *Blenheim* in 1840, Allan was described as a cowherd of 14.

There is a reference in *Early Wellington* to the death in 1846 of a son of Mr Hugh Cameron, died of consumption, aged 21. The Bolton St Cemetery records confirm the death.

No further information has been established for Allan Cameron.

Donald Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) in listing baptisms from Corran and Balacolith, recorded that Donald, son of Ewen Cameron and Maria Colquhoun in Ginah, was born on the 25th of December 1828 and baptised on 4 January 1829.

Donald Cameron was a cowherd of 12 in the *Blenheim* passenger list.

No further information has been established for Donald Cameron, apart from a suggestion that he may have gone to the Victorian goldfields.

Margaret Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Ballachulish and Corran of Ardgour recorded that Margaret, daughter of Ewen Cameron and Margaret Colquhoun, Gearradh, was born 1st April 1831, and baptised on 24 April 1831.

Margaret Cameron was 9 when she travelled on the *Blenheim* with her family.

New Zealand BDM records show that Margaret Cameron married William Henry Burgess on 26 March 1862.

William Henry Burgess was the son of James William Burgess and Elizabeth Blackburn, and was born in London on 14 March 1834. He became a mariner, like his

brother Isaac Burgess, who was the Auckland Harbourmaster for many years, and also lived on the North Shore.

Electoral Rolls for 1870-1876 show that William Henry Burgess lived at North Head, on Auckland's North Shore, and from 1880 at Devonport, when his occupation was given as pilot, and mariner from 1890 to 1906.

According to New Zealand BDM records Margaret Burgess died on 18 November 1894, aged 60. The *New Zealand Herald* of 20 November carried the following Death Notice: "Burgess – On Sunday, November 18, at her residence, Devonport, Margaret, the beloved wife of Captain W.H.Burgess, aged 60 years."

William Henry Burgess died on 8 March 1912, aged 77. The *New Zealand Herald* of 13 March 1912 carried the following obituary:

Captain William Henry Burgess, brother of the late Captain Isaac Burgess, for many years harbourmaster at Auckland, died at Devonport on Friday, in his 78th year. Born in Limehouse, London, in 1834 deceased, like his forefathers, took to the sea, and shipped as boy on the ship City of Poonah, bound for India. On his return he joined the barque Lord William Bentinck, which arrived in Auckland with troops on board on August 26, 1850. After serving in various capacities in the brigs Invincible and Kestrel, the steamer William Denny, and the brigantine Despatch, he entered the pilot service in 1858, remaining there until 1884 – a service of 26 years. Many of the early arrivals will remember Captain Burgess as being the first person they met in the new land, when he came aboard to pilot them in. After leaving the pilot service he served on the coast in the steamer Waitaki, and then in the Devonport lorry service. Retiring on account of ill-health he lived quietly at his home at Devonport. Captain Burgess passed through all the hardships of the early seafaring days, from ship's boy to the holder of a deep sea ticket. At Parnell, in 1862, he was married to Margaret Cameron, of Argylshire, Scotland, by the Rev. Dr. Bruce. He leaves two sons, four daughters, and nine grandchildren.

Margaret and William had at least seven children:

- Alice Maria Burgess, born in 1863, died in 1954, married Charles Frederick Taine in 1895.
- Clara Margaret Burgess, born in 1865, died in 1950, married Henry Dugald McKellar in 1890.
- William Isaac Burgess, born in 1866, died in 1869.
- Flora Cameron Burgess, born in 1868, died in 1945 (Australia), married George William Phillips in 1905.
- James William Burgess, born in 1870, died in 1952, married Bertha Lucie Barlow in 1904.
- Maud Jane Burgess, born in 1871.
- Herbert Donald Burgess, born in 1876, died in 1966.

Ann Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Ballachulish and Corran of Ardgour recorded that Ann, daughter of Ewen Cameron and Margaret Colquhoun, Gearrigh, was born on 8th April 1833, and baptised on 15 April 1833.

The *Blenheim* passenger list recorded Anne as 7 years old in 1840.

Annie Cameron, married Donald McLeod McKinnon in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, on 23 January 1853.

Donald McKinnon was born on the Isle of Skye, the son of Malcolm McKinnon and Euphemia McLeod. The family emigrated to Australia on the *Midlothian* in 1837, and

settled in the Maitland area of New South Wales. Donald went to school for a while before leaving to go to sea, working in the whaling industry off New Zealand, and presumably met Ann in Auckland, possibly through her brother-in-law Duncan Campbell.

Ann (Cameron) McKinnon died on 21 June 1881 at Wingham, NSW, aged 45.

Donald McKinnon died on 21 April 1891. The *Australian Town and Country Journal* of 2 May 1891 carried the following Notice:

Taree – April 27th Death.- On Tuesday morning, at his residence, Glen Ora, Clarksons Crossing, after a somewhat protracted illness, died Mr. Donald M'Leod M'Kinnon, at the age of 67 years. The deceased gentleman was a native of the Isle of Skye, Scotland, and had resided on the Manning from about 1856 until 1862, when he removed to the Walambra district, where he lived up to the time of his death. His wife has been dead for several years, but four sons and daughters, all grown up, are left to mourn their loss. The departed gentleman was the father of Mr. Hugh M'Kinnon, commission agent, of Sydney, and was well known and much esteemed and respected. The funeral, which was very largely attended, took place in the Taree Estate Cemetery, when the Rev. S. P. Stewart officiated at the grave.

Ann and Donald had at least eleven children:

- Malcolm McKinnon, born in 1853, died in 1908, married Catherine Emily Brewer in 1887.
- Hugh McKinnon, born in 1855, died in 1930.
- Donald McLeod McKinnon, born in 1857, died in 1922, married Sarah Jane Cox in 1884.
- Euphemia McKinnon, born in 1859, died in 1915, married Thomas Richard McCartney in 1883.
- Charles William McKinnon, born in 1861, died in 1940, married Catherine Taylor in 1923.
- John McKinnon, born in 1863, died in 1863.
- Maria Flora McKinnon, born in 1864, died in 1935.
- Ann McKinnon, born in 1867, died in 1952, married Henry Miles in 1902.
- Harriet Frances McKinnon, born in 1870, died in 1948.
- Mary Jane McKinnon, born in 1873, died in 1848.
- Catherine Mary McKinnon, born in 1879, died in 1962, married Eric Hugh Stuart McMaster in 1911.

Catherine Cameron

Catherine Cameron was 4 years old when she sailed to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*.

The *Daily Southern Cross* of 21 April 1857 carried the Notice: "Married. At the North Shore, on the 16th instant, by the Rev. Mr Heywood, Mr James Campbell, youngest son of the late Mr Alexander Campbell, farmer, Dundaree, Grandtuly, Perthshire, Scotland, to Catherine Cameron, youngest daughter of the late Mr Ewen Cameron, of Wellington, N.Z."

James Cameron was born in 1835 in Grandtuly, Perthshire, and was a half-brother to Duncan Campbell, who married Catherine's sister Sarah.

The family was living in Whangaparoa, Auckland, and James was described as a farmer, when the first three children were born. They then moved to Gabriel's Gully in Otago, and James Campbell was described as a miner in the birth registrations of his children.

Catherine Campbell died on 26 February 1896 at Blue Spur, Otago.

James Campbell died on 24 October 1898 at Blue Spur.

Catherine and James had at least eleven children:

- James Campbell, born in 1857, died in 1882.
- Charles Campbell, born in 1858, died in 1941, married Isobel Patterson Cousins in 1884.
- Alexander Campbell, born in 1862.
- Margaret Campbell, born in 1865, died in 1934, married Samuel Edward Portman Vernon in 1907.
- Catherine Campbell, born in 1866, died in 1898.
- Archibald Campbell, born in 1868, died in 1869.
- Anne Campbell, born in 1870 (twin), died in 1943, married John McDonald in 1903.
- Jane Campbell, born in 1870 (twin), died in 1923, married Andrew McGregor in 1900.
- Maria Campbell, born in 1873, died in 1950, married Albert Swanwick in 1897.
- Sarah Campbell, born in 1875, died in 1955, married Robert Henry Ledlie in 1898.
- Isabella Campbell, born in 1877, died in 1882.

JOHN CAMERON AND JANET MCGREGOR

According to the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, John Cameron was from Achranach, and was recommended by Sheriff Gregorson and his Parish Minister. The family included:

- John Cameron, 49, labourer
- Janet McGregor, his wife, 44
- John Cameron, his son, 26, ploughman
- Angus Cameron, his son, 24, labourer
- Charles Cameron, his son, 20, labourer
- Duncan Cameron, his son, 17, cowherd
- Allan Cameron, his son, 15, cowherd
- Anne Cameron, his daughter, 12
- Archibald Cameron, his son, 9
- Dugald Cameron, his son, 7
- Marjory Cameron, his daughter, 5

John Cameron and Janet McGregor

John Cameron, known as John “Mor’ Cameron, meaning Big John Cameron, was born probably at Invermaillie in Inverness-shire, near Achnacarry in Lochaber, in the parish of Kilmallie. His parents were Angus Cameron and Anne McIntyre. The age of 100 given in reports of his death was probably overstated, 90 being more likely, giving a birth year of around 1790.

At some point, John Cameron must have moved to Morvern. Achranach (or Achranich) was part of the Ardtornish estate at the head of Loch Aline in the parish of Morven, in Argyll. John Gregorson purchased the estate in 1819, having previously rented it from the Duke of Argyll, and for a time was Sheriff for the district. Achnagoun/Achnagaun is near to Achranich.

Based on information provided for her death registration, Janet McGregor was born in Argyll, Scotland to John McGregor, farmer, and Ann St Clair, and was married at Lismore to John Cameron when she was 17 years old. If she was 94 at the time of her death this would put the marriage in 1803, but it is more likely that her age was around 84, which would put the marriage in 1813, a better match for the birth information for her children and their name order, and her birth year as around 1796.

In any event, the family of John Cameron and Janet McGregor which set sail on the *Blenheim* in 1840 included 7 sons and 2 daughters.

After arriving in New Zealand, John Cameron may have worked on the road from Kaiwarra to Wellington, but later explored in the Wairarapa and obtained a property on the shores of Lake Wairarapa.

During this period, Angus Cameron was drowned in Lake Wairarapa and then his brother Duncan was drowned in Cook Strait.

In 1850, the Wairarapa farm was sold to Charles Matthews, and the Camerons moved initially to Porirua, and then to Turakina, where they were among the first settlers. Their first property in the Rangitikei was called “Invermaillie”, but after a few years John and Janet moved to another property up the Turakina Valley which

they called "Glenmore". They later moved to Mangahoe in the Hunterville district, before returning to Turakina.

Janet (McGregor) Cameron died on 9 November 1880, with her age given as 94. Her death registration noted that she died at Turakina Valley; she was the daughter of John McGregor and Ann St Clair; born in Argyllshire, Scotland and had been in New Zealand for 40 years; was married at Lismore, Scotland, to John Cameron, when she was 17; and had 4 sons and 2 daughters living. The informant was her grandson, John Baldwin, Turakina Valley.

The *Wanganui Herald* of 13 November 1880 reported, "There has passed away at her residence up the Turakina Valley, a very old resident of that district, in the person of Mrs John Cameron, senior. The old lady was approaching her hundredth year, and till recently enjoyed the use of all her faculties, and was remarkably active considering her very advanced age."

The *Grey River Argus* of 24 November 1880 carried a report of the funeral: "The Highland customs are even in the north of Scotland rapidly passing away. A funeral in the old style is seldom witnessed in Scotland now save in the case when a representative of the nobility 'shuffles off this mortal coil.' One would hardly expect, therefore to see a real Highland funeral here at the Antipodes. Yet such a funeral was that of the late Mrs John Cameron, who, at the ripe age of 94, was gathered to the lap of mother earth at Turakina recently. The customs of the Gael, which were in vogue a century ago, were rigidly observed, The husband of the deceased lady, though 102 years old, prescribed all the dirges which were to be played on the bagpipes at the funeral of the wife who had shared his joys and sorrows for 77 years. The cortege was the largest ever seen in the district, and amongst the mourners were many of the oldest settlers of the West Coast. It was not only by Europeans that Mrs Cameron's death was lamented; about 40 Maoris met the sad procession with weeping willows, and their wailing cry drowned the notes of the bagpipe."

John Cameron died little more than two months later on 19 January 1881. His age was given as 100 years but was more likely to have been 90. The *Wanganui Herald* of 20 January 1881 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – Died at his residence, Turakina Valley, on Wednesday, January 19th, Mr John Cameron, senior, at the advanced age of 100 years. The funeral will leave his late residence, on Saturday, the 22nd inst., at 1 o'clock precisely. All friends are invited to attend." The funeral was reported in the *Wanganui Herald* of 24 January 1881:

FUNERAL OF THE LATE JOHN CAMERON OF TURAKINA The earthly remains of this venerable old gentleman were interred in the Turakina Cemetery on Saturday last. The funeral cortege was the largest ever seen in the district, among the number being nearly all the old pioneers of settlement on the coast. The procession started from the late residence of the departed in the Turakina Valley, and entered the township in the following order. Two carriages containing the pall-bearers, the Minister (Rev. J. Ross), the undertaker and piper. Then came the hearse, followed by two carriages containing the nearer relatives as chief mourners. The carriages were followed by eight grand-daughters on horseback and more than that number of grandsons, also riding. Then came eight carriages filled with friends and neighbors, followed by about 60 others on horseback. As the cortege rounded the Valley road into the Turakina road the pedestrians to the number of 60 or more formed in file and followed on. The cemetery was also attended by a large number of women and children. As the grand-daughters entered the Cemetery they were each handed a wreath of flowers which were dropped into the grave at the conclusion of the services. The Rev. J. Ross performed the last sad rites, delivering an impressive address suitable to the occasion. Business in the township was entirely suspended during the day.

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 1 February published the following obituary:

THE LATE MR J CAMERON. (FROM A CORRESPONDENT.) On my return from the funeral of the late John Cameron, senr., of Turakina, I fully intended to have sent you a full description of it, but I found every part of the ceremony so much the same as that adopted at the funeral of his wife, who departed this life about two months ago, that a repetition would not have been interesting to many of your readers. I will, however, give a brief account of the last days of the old man, and a short biographical sketch of a few of his ancestors, which I hope will be interesting, at least to his friends and neighbours, among whom he has sojourned for the last forty years. On the 19th January, 1881, at the ripe age of a hundred years, old John Cameron passed away from the midst of his family, deeply lamented and regretted. He had been ailing for some time previous, but, excepting the decay of nature, there was nothing painful attending his latter days. Saturday, January 22nd, was fixed for the funeral, and, as the day was remarkably fine the attendance exceeded that at the funeral of his wife. At 1.30 p.m., the pipes commenced 'Return no More' and the procession moved on from his residence, some hundred and fifty horsemen and several conveyances following. As on the former occasion, when the cortege reached Glenmore, the residence of his son Archibald, a halt of ten minutes was made for refreshment, and here many joined the procession, which with others at the village was swelled to upwards of two hundred. Business was entirely suspended, and the whole of the inhabitants were in attendance at the graveyard. The Rev. John Ross performed the service and gave a very impressive address, which was listened to with silent attention, and the scene and the grave thus closed over one of the best and noblest specimens of our nature and the pride of his family. His stalwart frame, manly bearing, and simple honesty and generosity will be long remembered by all whose lot it has been to enjoy his acquaintance and friendship. To allow one, who has contributed so largely to advance and promote the interests of our adopted country by his own industry, as well as that of a large family who accompanied him here nearly forty years ago in the ship *Blenheim*, to pass away without comment, would be a reproach to the community, and I can only wish that some one more able to do justice to his memory had taken up the task. However, to me it is a labour of love, and if critics will let it pass, and you consider it worth a place in your columns, I shall feel well repaid. During the few days that have elapsed since the funeral I have endeavoured to collect some little information about the ancestors of our departed friend, and I learn that they have all descended from the clansmen of the Great Lochiel, whose attachment to the House of Stuart, and his determination against his own judgment to share the fortunes of the Pretender, or, to use his own words, of "His Prince," proved not only disastrous to his followers, but fatal to himself. Mr Cameron's great grandfather, Dugald McDugald, followed him at Preston Pans, where he fell after cutting to pieces with his broadsword many of the muskets of the enemy. His grandfather fell at Culloden, and his father died at the age of eighty-eight. His family consisted of eleven sons and three daughters. Charles was mortally wounded with *Abercromby* in Egypt. Alexander served in Holland, and was paymaster of the regiment. Dugald served in Ireland, and was cut down by a cannon-ball while engaged with the French. The regiment lost its colours, but next day the whole of the French were made prisoners, and the colours recovered. Evan and John served with *Fassifern*, in the 92nd Highlanders, all through the Peninsula War and at Waterloo, where they fell with their chief. One settled in America; two others came with John to New Zealand. One of them, Allan, was considered the most powerful and best built man in Wellington. Angus died in Turakina, aged eighty-four, the other died in the Highlands. Mr Cameron was accompanied to New Zealand by his wife, seven sons, and two daughters, who with four of the sons survive him. They are all settled in the neighbourhood of Turakina, where, with their families, they may form the nucleus of a clan wealthier, if not so powerful or so warlike as their forefathers.

As noted in the newspaper article quoted above, there is a suggestion that two brothers of John Cameron also emigrated to New Zealand, including Allan Cameron, who came out on the *Blenheim* (see [Allan Cameron and Janet Grant](#)), and an Angus Cameron, who died in Turakina aged 84. The passenger list does not refer to any relationship between the families, unlike that referred to in the comments on Donald Cameron and Ewen Cameron, both of Trislaig, which identified them as brothers, or between Dugald Cameron of Glenmore and his brother Duncan, who did not embark. Possibly this was because unlike the others referred to, John and Allan Cameron were not personally known to Donald McDonald, and in any event, Allan Cameron did not appear on the main list in which comments were made. However, in *A History of the Camerons of Springhill*, material from Robert Cameron's journal in describing the voyage of the *Blenheim*, refers to advice he received from his father's cousin, Charles Cameron, who was around 18 at the time of the voyage. The fact that both families were involved in the illicit distillation of spirits, one in Turakina and the other in Gollans Valley might also suggest a common heritage. The evidence is less clear in relation to Angus Cameron, who emigrated on the *John McVicar* in 1857 with his wife and two of his children, and was joined at Turakina in 1864 by his older son Duncan and his family. Angus Cameron was in fact 80 when he died, and his parents were Angus Cameron and Annie (or Mary) McMillan, which would mean at the least a different mother from John Cameron. The newspaper obituary for Angus Cameron in the *Wanganui Chronicle* of 6 June 1876, and family references, do suggest a relationship, but its nature cannot be confirmed as necessarily familial.

John Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded that to John Cameron, residenter, Achnauna, and Janet McGregor a lawful son John was born on 6 January 1816.

The *Blenheim* passenger list had John Cameron as a ploughman of 26.

On 25 September 1855 John Cameron married Mary (Robertson) Cameron, formerly Mitchell, widow of Donald Cameron. Donald Cameron, the son of [Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson](#), was also on the *Blenheim*.

Mary (Robertson) Cameron, formerly Mitchell, died on 5 June 1887. Her death registration noted that she was 66, her father was Alexander Robinson, carrier, she was born in Scotland and had been in New Zealand for 40 years, and was married in Wanganui to John Cameron. She had three female children living, aged 30, 28 and 27. The cause of death was dropsy. There was no reference to any of her other marriages.

John and Mary had three children:

- Margery (Mysie) McGregor Cameron, born in 1856, died in 1915, married Robert James McAlley in 1883.
- Janet Robertson Cameron, born in 1859, married Thomas Reid Dodson in 1886.
- Frances Mitchell Cameron, born in 1861, died in 1936, married James Alexander Bailey in 1882.

Angus Cameron

Angus Cameron was described as a labourer of 24 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

Angus was apparently drowned in Lake Wairarapa.

Charles Cameron

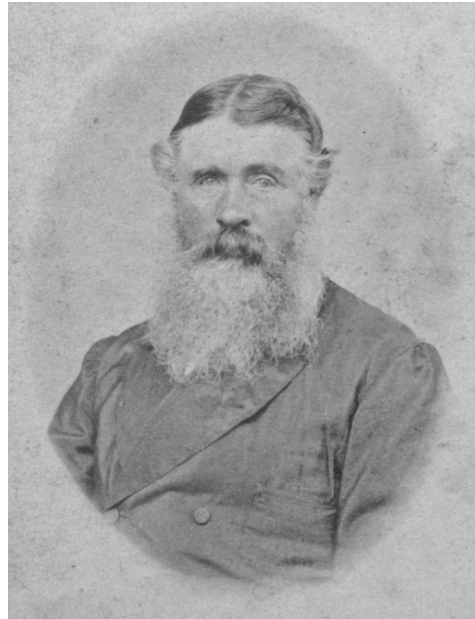
The Old Parish Register for Morvern records that to John Cameron, resider, Achnagauna, and Janet McGregor a lawful son "John" was born on 14 September 1820. While the name given is not Charles, the rest of the facts appear to fit, so perhaps there was a mistake somewhere along the line.

Charles Cameron was a labourer of 20 when he sailed to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Charles Cameron married Catherine McKinnon on 1 January 1860.

Catherine McKinnon was born around 1833 in Morvern, Argyll, Scotland.

Charles Cameron appears to have led a busy and eventful life, with frequent appearances in court disputes, active in local affairs, a range of sporting and cultural activities, and a successful farmer and cattle-breeder. In *Early Rangitikei*, Sir James Wilson in writing about Turakina settlers noted, "One of the most familiar figures was 'Charlie Cameron,' who for long was in partnership with Mr Alick Simpson. Mr Cameron had 'got' the Gaelic: he died quite lately, over eighty years of age. A fine stamp of a hardy old Highlander."



Charles Cameron

In 1869 Charles Cameron faced a charge of the illicit distillation of spirits. In April 1869 police found a still on Charles Cameron's property in the Turakina Valley and initially charged John Cameron, senior, and Ewen (Hugh) McIntosh, but these charges were withdrawn and new charges brought against Charles and Dugald Cameron. The *Wanganui Herald* of 28 May 1869 reported on the outcome of a hearing before the Resident Magistrates Court in the case of Collector of Customs v Chas. and Dugald Cameron. The Resident Magistrate, Walter Buller, Esq., noted that the Distillation Act carried a presumption that if an unlicensed still was found on the certain premises then guilty knowledge on the part of the owner of the premises is presumed, and a conviction must follow, but the Act enabled the Court to give the accused the benefit of any doubt that might exist as to any real complicity in the offence by allowing a very wide discretion as to the measure of punishment, ranging from a fine of £50 to a term of imprisonment. In the present case, the Magistrate noted, there was no direct evidence before the Court to connect the defendants with the illicit distillation that had been carried on, or with any participation in the profits arising therefrom, and he therefore fined each defendant £50 and a moiety of costs. An appeal against the conviction failed.

Charles Cameron died on 12 February 1909, aged 89. The *Wanganui Herald* of 13 February 1909 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – On the 12th inst., at the residence of his son-in-law (Mr W. Chapman Fordell), Charles Cameron, native of Morven, Scotland; aged 89 years." The *Wanganui Herald* of 12 February 1909 carried the following obituary:

Mr Charles Cameron, of Wangaehu: It is with sincere regret that we have to record the death of another of our sturdy old pioneers in the person of Mr Charles Cameron, of Ratamapua, Wangaehu, and formerly of Invermarlie, Turakina. The

deceased gentleman, who was the eldest son of the late John Cameron, of the Turakina Valley, was in his ninetieth year, and enjoyed excellent health up to within a few days of his death, in fact he rode up to Fordell, and came on to town on the morning of the Caledonian sports on January 22nd last, and as usual took a prominent part in the day's proceedings. But he had, nevertheless, a presentiment that the sands of time had nearly run their course with him, and, in bidding good-bye to many of his old cronies, he said he felt that that was his last outing, and that they must not forget him when next they met, as he would then be "a silent member of a doleful cortege." On his return journey home, not feeling well, he stayed with Mrs Wm. Chapman, Fordell, where he passed away after a few days' illness. The deceased was a true type of a real old Hielan' Laird, a man of sterling integrity whose word was his bond. Hospitable almost to a fault, his door was always open, and no one ever passed his home without being asked to come in and have a meal and a night's lodging if necessary. He was a man of the most genial disposition, but he lacked not the Highland temper, and he proved a doughty warrior when any man dared to disparage the men of Auld Scotia. But quick as he was to anger as quick was he to shake hands and be friends again, and all those who had the pleasure of sharing in that friendship might well be proud of knowing one who was always a friend, come weal or woe. The "Commodore" as he was familiarly called by the old identities will be greatly missed by his large circle of friends and relatives, and to all the latter we beg to tender our deepest sympathy. The late Mr Cameron leaves a widow and grown up family, among whom are Mrs James Higgie (Okoia), Mrs William Chapman (Fordell), Mr D. Cameron (Fordell) and Mrs Charles Cameron, jnr. (Turakina Valley), also a number of grand-children besides a brother (Mr Dougald Cameron), and a sister (Mrs Cumberland McDonell) and a very large circle of near relatives to mourn his loss.

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 16 February 1909 published a report of the funeral:

There was an exceedingly large attendance of mourners at the funeral of the late Mr Charles Cameron, of Wangaehu Valley, which took place on Sunday. The remains were conveyed from Fordell to Turakina, and amongst vehicles which followed were two brakes containing some twenty-six members of the Wanganui Caledonian Society, which body the deceased had been prominently connected since its inauguration thirty years ago. A very large number of settlers followed the procession, which was about a mile in length. As the procession wended its way past the house to the main road, on past Wangaehu, and again on arrival at Turakina, the laments "The Land of Leal," "Lord Lovett's Lament," "Flowers of the Forest," were played by Pipers Mackenzie Forbes, C. McDonald, and Muirhead. There was a very large crowd of sorrowing friends waiting the arrival of the cortege in Turakina. The service at the house was conducted by the Rev. Mr Ross, that at the graveside by the Rev. R. McCully. The pall-bearers were the following members of the Caledonian Society:—Messrs T. Copeland, Jas. Dempsey, R. G. McNiven, D. Stewart, A. Strachan, and D. Urquhart. Many handsome wreaths were laid on the grave, one of the most noticeable being that sent by the Wanganui Caledonian Society. This wreath was a magnificent one and was finished with Cameron tartan.

Catherine (McKinnon) Cameron died on 1 June 1917, aged 84. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 2 June 1917 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – On the 1st inst., at Okoia, Catherine, widow of the late Charles Cameron, aged 84 years."

Charles and Catherine had six children:

- John Cameron, born in 1861.
- Duncan Cameron, born in 1863, married Eliza McDonell (cousin) in 1888.
- Elizabeth Cameron, born in 1864, died in 1906, married John Baldwin (cousin) in 1888.
- Janet Cameron, born in 1866, died in 1959, married James Higgie in 1884.

- Sarah Cameron, born in 1868, died in 1913, married William Chapman in 1891.
- Charles Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1969, married Jessie Paton Templeton Robson in 1908.

Duncan Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded that to John Cameron, residentifier, Achnagauna, and Janet McGregor a lawful son Duncan was born on 23 July 1823.

Duncan Cameron was a cowherd of 17 on the Blenheim passenger list.

Duncan Cameron was apparently drowned in Cook Strait.

Allan Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded that to John Cameron, Achnagaune and Janet McGregor, a lawful son Allan was born on 19 September 1825.

Allan Cameron was a cowherd of 15 when he emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Allan Cameron, farmer, died on 24 October 1895 at Mangahoe, aged 70. His death registration noted that his parents were John Cameron, farmer, and Janet McGregor; he was born in Morvern, Argyllshire, Scotland and had been in New Zealand for 55 years; and was unmarried. The cause of death was asthma and old age.

Anne Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded that to John Cameron, residentifier, Achnagaune, and Janet McGregor, a lawful daughter Anne was born on 23 March 1828.

Anne Cameron was 12 years old when she accompanied her family on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Anne Cameron married Francis Baldwin on 13 August 1852.

Francis Baldwin was born around 1823 in Brighton, Sussex, England

Francis Baldwin died on 10 March 1904. The *Wanganui Herald* of 10 March 1904 carried the Death Notice: "Baldwin – At St John's Hill, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs H Earle; Francis Baldwin, of Turakina Valley; aged 81 years. Died March 10 1904." The *Wairarapa Times* of 14 March 1904 reported, "The death is announced in the Wanganui papers of Mr Francis Baldwin, a well-known old colonist, at the age of 81. He was for some time the proprietor of the Red Lion Hotel, and was well-known to many old Wairarapa settlers. At one time, – away back in the sixties – he was engaged in shipping cattle from Wanganui to Auckland, and bringing back sheep."

Anne (Cameron) Baldwin died on May 1908. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 22 May 1908 carried the following Death Notice: "Baldwin – On the 21st inst., at the residence of Mr A. Smith, Wilson Street, Anne, relict of the late Francis Baldwin, aged 82 years. Interment at Turakina." The *Wanganui Herald* of 23 May 1908 carried the following obituary:

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of another of our pioneers in the person of Mrs. Frank Baldwin, Senr., of the Turakina Valley, who passed away peacefully on Thursday last, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. A. Smith, Wilson Street, Wanganui, at the ripe old age of 82. The deceased lady was a daughter of the late Mr. John Cameron, of Turakina Valley, and sister of Mr.

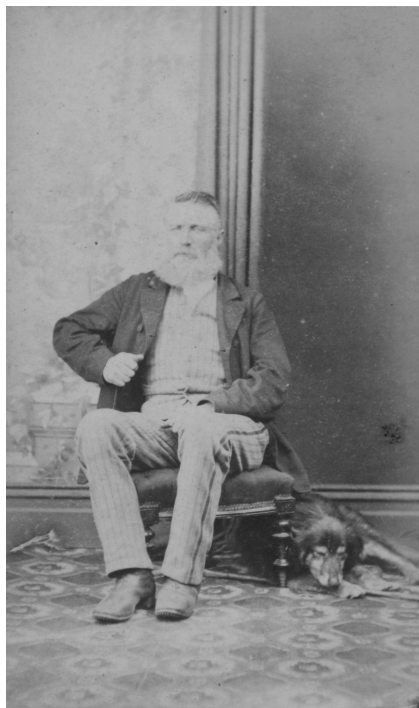
Charles Cameron, of Invermallie. The late Mrs. Baldwin was a native of Morven, Argyleshire, and came to the colony with her parents in 1840, and shared all the vicissitudes of the early settlers, eventually settling down in the Turakina Valley, where she has resided for the better part of half a century. The late Mrs. Baldwin leaves a family of two sons, Messrs. John and Frank Baldwin, and four daughters, Mesdames Smith, Earles, Land [sic], and Miss Baldwin, besides a number of grandchildren, to mourn her loss. The deceased lady was a quiet, unassuming character, and endeared herself to all her friends by her hospitality and her many unostentatious acts of kindness, and of the many hundreds of people who have travelled up and down the Valley, no one was ever known to leave the hospitable roof of Mrs. Baldwin without partaking of her good cheer. The present generation have little knowledge of the hardships and privations of the sturdy pioneers who paved the way for them. They had to bear the heat and burden of the day, and it is with deep regret that we see the ranks of these good old folk depleted by the relentless hand of Death. To the bereaved family we tender our deepest sympathy. The funeral will take place to-morrow (Sunday), reaching the Turakina Cemetery at 2 p.m.

Anne and Francis had at least seven children:

- John Baldwin, born in 1852, died in 1922, married (1) Elizabeth (Betsy) Cameron (cousin) in 1888, and (2) Rubina May Cowie in 1909.
- Janet Baldwin, born in 1854, died in 1927, married Henry Earles in 1875.
- Mary Anne Baldwin, born in 1856, died in 1930, married Alfred Mozart Smith in 1879.
- Duncan Baldwin, born in 1858, died in 1859.
- Maria Baldwin, born in 1861, died in 1920, married Charles Laird in 1881.
- Francis Baldwin, born in 1863, died in 1931.
- Elizabeth Catherine Baldwin, born in 1870, died in 1923.

Archibald Cameron

Archibald Cameron was 9 years old when he sailed to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.



Archibald Cameron

After trying the Wairarapa, the family had moved to Porirua before taking up land in the Rangitikei district. Archibald had a position in the commissary of the Porirua barracks, and did not immediately move to Turakina with them. In *Poyntzfield*, Eliza McKenzie recalls their family leaving Porirua for Turakina at the end of 1850, "Everything was ready at last, and we were to begin our journey on Monday morning, by being rowed across 'The Ferry'. Archie Cameron who lived at Pahatanui near the barracks, because he had something to do with the Commissariat, had arranged to come and take us across in his big boat. He arrived soon after sunrise – looking as I see now, the impersonation of that early summer morning, so handsome, so happy, so full of life, and with a voice to match."

Archibald Cameron married Mary Laird on 4 August 1858.

Archibald Cameron took over the Glenmore

property from his father. He suffered a fall from a horse in 1867 which affected his mobility, but went ahead and purchased a section in the Paraekaraetu Block at Hunterville, called Mangahoe. He was active in local affairs, being a member of the Rangitikei County Council and the Rangitikei Highway Board.

Mary (Laird) Cameron died on 21 January 1902. The *Wanganui Chronicle* carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – On January 21, 1902, at Mangahoe, Mary, the beloved wife of Mr Archibald Cameron, aged 66 years."

The *New Zealand Tablet* of 30 January 1902 published the following obituary:

MRS. CAMERON, MANGAHOE. I deeply regret (writes our Wanganui correspondent) to record the death of Mrs. Archibald Cameron, of Mangahoe, which occurred very suddenly on Monday morning of last week. Mrs. Cameron, who was 66 years of age, was the daughter of one of those gallant Irish soldiers who have done so much to build up the Empire. Her husband, Mr. Arch. Cameron, is one of the most respected settlers on this coast. He and his wife were always regarded as perfect land marks of hospitality in the early days on the West Coast of this island. We can only give expression to the hope (says the Chronicle) that the rapidly-thinning rank of these forceful and hospitable pioneers, such as the lady whose death we announce to-day, may be filled by successors worthy of the early settlers of this colony. A grown-up family of four sons and four daughters is left to mourn the loss of a good mother. R.I.P.

Archibald Cameron died just two months later on 19 March 1902 at Mangahoe, Hunterville. The *Wanganui Chronicle* carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – At Mangahoe, Hunterville, on the 19th of March, Archibald Cameron, aged 74 years. Deeply regretted." The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 21 March 1902 published the following obituary:

MR. ARCHIBALD CAMERON: It is with deep regret that we have to chronicle the death of one of Wanganui's old identities, in the person of Mr. Archibald Cameron, of Paraekaraetu, who passed away at his residence, Mangahoe, on Thursday last, at the advanced age of 74 years. The deceased gentleman had only been pre-deceased by his wife by a few weeks, and since her death his strength had gradually failed him until he succumbed on Thursday afternoon. The deceased was third son of the late John Cameron, of Turakina. He landed in the colony when quite a boy, and passed the greater part, of his life on the west coast of the North Island. Some forty years ago he took up his residence in the Turakina Valley, and in the olden days, when the hospitality of the pioneers was proverbial, no more hospitable roof welcomed the stranger than that of Glenmore. Some thirty years ago Mr. Cameron met with a serious accident through a fall from a horse, which deprived him of the use of his limbs to a great extent, but the indomitable pluck of the man was such that notwithstanding his infirmity, he was one of the first to take up land in the Paraekaraetu Block, a then unknown country, and buying a large block of country at Mangahoe, took up his residence there. For many years he took a foremost part in every movement for the advancement of the country and progress of the district, and was for many years a member of the Rangitikei County Council. Of late years increasing infirmity compelled him to forsake the more active pursuits, and leasing his properties to his sons, he has lived a retired life at Mangahoe. His death removes another old land mark from our midst, and many will miss his cheery manner and kindly disposition. Although a martyr to infirmity, his indomitable courage was such that he always looked at the happy side of things, was ever ready to say a kind word, and do a kindly act. He was a man of the greatest integrity, whose word was his bond, and who always enjoyed the utmost respect of all those who knew him or had the pleasure of coming in contact with him. He leaves a grown up family of four sons and four daughters to mourn their loss—namely, Mr. William Cameron, of Waituna; Mr. Archibald Cameron, of Mangahoe; Mr. John Cameron, of Glenorchy; and Mr. Hugh Cameron, of Glenmore; Mrs. Balmer, Mrs.

J. Morgan, Mrs. W. Simpson, and Miss Cameron, to whom we tender our deepest sympathy. The funeral will take place this afternoon, and will reach the town bridge at 2 p.m.

Archibald and Mary had eight children:

- William John Cameron, born in 1859, died in 1930, married Margaret Eleanor Cameron in 1882.
- Mary Bridget Cameron, born in 1861, died in 1937, married John Duncan Cameron Balmer in 1886.
- Janet Agnes Cameron, born in 1863, died in 1932, married John Charles Morgan in 1886.
- Archibald Cameron, born in 1865, married Catherine Euphemia Gair in 1906.
- Catherine Cameron, born in 1868, married William Simpson in 1890.
- John Cameron, born in 1870.
- Hugh Joseph Cameron, born in 1874, died in 1957, married Helen Jane Spurdle in 1899.
- Elizabeth Cameron, born in 1877.

Dugald Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded that to John Cameron, crofter, Achnagauna, and Janet McGregor a lawful son Dugald was born on 15 June 1833.

Dugald Cameron married Margaret Mitchell on 27 January 1862.

In 1869 Dugald, with his brother Charles, was tried and convicted of keeping an illicit still (see above under Charles Cameron for details).

Dugald Cameron died on 17 February 1919. The Death Notice in the *Wanganui Chronicle* of 18 February 1919 said: "Cameron – On the 17th inst., at Wanganui, Dugald, son of the late John Cameron, Invermaillie, Turakina Valley; aged 86 years." The death registration noted that he died at 1 Parnell Street, Wanganui, from Turakina Valley, and that he was a farmer. His parents were John Cameron, farmer and Janet McGregor; he was born in Scotland and had been in New Zealand for 79 years; was married in Turakina when he was about 32 to Maggie Mitchell, now deceased, and there was no living issue.

Dugald and Margaret may have had children who did not live beyond infancy:

- Janet McGregor Cameron, born in 1866, died in 1867.
- Annie Cameron, born in 1868.
- Annie Cameron, born in 1877.

Marjory (Mysie) Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded that to John Cameron, labourer, Achranich, and Janet McGregor a lawful daughter "Mary" was born on 9 July 1835.

Marjory Cameron was 5 when she travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

In *Poyntzfield*, Eliza McKenzie recalls their family leaving Porirua for Turakina, "Mysie was Archie's sister and housekeeper. (Their father was 'Big John Cameron' who with his family came out on the *Blenheim* with ours). Mysie was more dignified than her close friend 'Little Annie' [*Annie (Cameron) McDonald*]; but scarcely less beloved, she was so kind."

Marjory Cameron married Cumberland Reed Scott McDonell on 31 August 1858.

Cumberland Reed Scott McDonell was the son of Archibald McDonell and Annie McRae, and the younger brother of James McDonell, an early Rangitikei settler, who married Anne Cameron, daughter of Donald Cameron and Christian McLean, also *Blenheim* passengers.

In *Early Rangitikei* Sir James Wilson noted, "Mrs Cumberland McDonell was a daughter of big John Cameron, of Turakina, and was renowned as a rider."

Cumberland Reed Scott McDonell died on 24 May 1907, aged 75. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 25 May carried the Death Notice: "McDonell – On 24th May, at his residence, 25 Ingestre street, C.R.S. McDonell, aged 75 years. R.I.P." The *Wanganui Herald* of 25 May 1907 reported:

Another of Wanganui's oldest settlers has joined the great majority. Mr C.R.S. McDonell, one of the best known and most highly respected residents in the district, having died last night at the age of 75. The late Mr McDonell was a native of Invernesshire, Scotland, and came out to the colonies in 1852, settling in Victoria for a few years, and then coming on to New Zealand, taking up his residence in Wanganui. He engaged in contracting for some time, and then purchased the Red Lion Hotel, which he conducted for some years. He subsequently owned hotels in Bulls and Turakina, and then entered into farming pursuits in the Turakina district. Two years ago his health failed, and he came into Wanganui to reside. His many friends will regret to hear of his death, and keen sympathy will be felt towards his family – three sons and four daughters in their bereavement.

Marjory (Cameron) McDonell died on 21 October 1914, aged 79. The *Wanganui Chronicle* carried the Death Notice: "McDonell – On the 21st inst., at her residence, No. 27 Ingestre Street, Marjory, relict of the late Cumberland McDonell, aged 70 years. R.I.P."

Mysie and Cumberland had at least ten children (there may have been others who died in infancy):

- Kate McDonell, born in 1858, died in 1921.
- Janet McGregor McDonell, born in 1859, died in 1941, married James Champion (son of *Blenheim* passenger) in 1883.
- Eliza McDonell, born in 1861, died in 1896, married Duncan Cameron (cousin) in 1888.
- John McDonell, born in 1865, died in 1892, married Helen Brookie in 1891.
- Cumberland Reed Scott McDonell, born in 1866, died in 1866.
- Annie McDonell, born in 1867, died in 1943, married Francis Herbert Cane in 1894.
- Charles McDonell, born in 1871, died in 1943, married Mary Sarah Smith in 1895.
- Alexander Cumberland Reed Scott McDonell, born in 1872, died in 1941, married (1) Margaret Clifford Lucy McDonald in 1899, and (2) Flora Cameron in 1910.
- Flora McDonell, born in 1875, died in 1954.
- Mysie McDonell, born in 1879, died in 1946.

JOHN CAMERON OF MARANGAI

John Cameron was a cabin passenger on the *Blenheim*, so was not included on the list of assisted passengers. Newspaper accounts of the departure and arrival of the *Blenheim* note that John Cameron was one of the cabin passengers.

John Cameron

John Cameron was a member of the family of Camerons of Callart. According to Somerled MacMillan in *Bygone Lochaber*, he was born at Lochmaddy, North Uist, on 7 October 1817, the son of Allan Cameron and Mary Campbell, daughter of Duncan Campbell of Ardgour House.

Callart lies on the northern shore of Loch Leven, directly opposite Glencoe, but was forfeited to the Crown because of the participation in the 1745 rising by Allan Cameron, 9th of Callart. His son John Cameron, 10th of Callart, recovered the estate by payment of a fine, but he then sold Callart to Ewen Cameron of Fassiefern, and was succeeded, as representative of the family, by his brother James. James' second son Allan succeeded him as representative of the family, and after serving as Captain and Paymaster of the Lochaber Fencibles, Allan Cameron was factor for Lord MacDonald in North Uist for a period of 27 years and resided at Lochmaddy, where John Cameron was born.

In their history of the Wanganui County, *From Sand to Papa*, Rex H Voelkerling and Kevin L Stewart devote a chapter to John Cameron as a case study of an early settler in the district. In this book it is noted, "John initially took up medicine as a career but decided that he was unsuited to this work and studied surveying instead. Hearing the persuasive propoganda put out by the New Zealand Company and being attracted to the idea of starting afresh in a new country, Cameron travelled to London and purchased a land order."

John Cameron's grandmother, Mary Cameron, wife of James Cameron and daughter of Alexander MacSorlie-Cameron, 12th of Glenevis, was the aunt of Jessie Cameron, who married Moses Campbell, making John Cameron and Jessie Campbell first cousins, once-removed. John Cameron and the Campbells were fellow-passenger on the *Blenheim*, and neighbours and business partners in Wanganui, New Zealand. Jessie Campbell made no overt reference to the family relationship in her Journal or letters, although she was full of praise for his character and hard work.

In Wanganui John Cameron lived with the Campbells for a period. In a letter of 4 December 1842, Jessie Campbell wrote, "John Cameron has gone to Wellington on business of his own, also to purchase cattle for the section, if he can get any to his mind. We miss him very much, he makes himself very useful, he sleeps on a sofa in the sitting room, makes his bed every evening and in the morning clears everything away and even sweeps the room. I often tell him, what would his friends at home say if they could see him with a scrubbing brush cleaning his canvas trousers or in the evening mending them, he can patch as neatly as I can," and "Cattle are the only thing that pay here, but it requires judgment, experience and money. Of all this John Cameron is possessed, so that instead of being a burden upon us as George would be, he is a very acquisition. He was busy making oars for the boat when he went away, he intends making some of the doors for our new house, in short he can put his hand to anything, even to the nursing of Willie who is an immense pet of his, besides he is well enough informed to support his own side of an argument rather

stiffly which makes him a pleasant companion for the Capt. he is quite au fait in all farming matters and gardening." In March 1843 she wrote, "John Cameron is still an inmate of our house, and a valuable acquisition he is. He provides so much for the house, such as tea, flour etc. that his living with us is a great assistance besides his own labour which he does not spare. He is the person to do well here, he has so much prudence, good sense, energy of mind and of activity of body. My better half was most fortunate to get him for a partner. He has worked as hard at that new house of ours as if it were his own, I hope it will be his house until he gets a wife."

Survey work and the allocation of sections of land in Wanganui took longer than expected because of the failure of the New Zealand Company to finalise purchase arrangements in Wanganui with the Maori tribes concerned. It took until 1848 before Governor Grey brokered a solution and Donald McLean negotiated the details of the purchase. Up until then John Cameron and Moses Campbell had been working on the land they had selected, although troubles with Maori in 1847 meant that their cattle had to be moved to Waitotara. Once the land purchase was settled, the Campbells built a house at Wiritoa and John Cameron lived with them and supervised the running of both that property and his adjoining section of Marangai.

In 1853 the partnership with Moses Campbell was terminated, and John Cameron built his own house at Marangai. In 1863 problems with the Maoris re-emerged. John Cameron raised a troop of volunteer cavalry from the local area and a blockhouse was constructed.

In 1863 John Cameron had employed a housekeeper and eventually he married her. John Cameron and Annie Sutherland were married on 6 June 1865 at Marangai.

Annie Sutherland was born in Nova Scotia on 22 October 1832 to Hector Sutherland and Jessie Ferguson. The family moved to Australia and then to the New Zealand settlement of Waipu, in Northland, in December 1852.

Annie (Sutherland) Cameron died on 20 August 1884. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 21 August 1884 carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – On the 20th instant, at Marangai, Annie, the beloved wife of John Cameron."

John Cameron died on 6 November 1892, aged 75. The *Wanganui Herald* carried the Death Notice: "Cameron – At Marangai, Wanganui, on November 6th, John Cameron, aged 76." The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 7 November 1892 published the following obituary:

It was with deep regret that we heard yesterday of the death of Captain John Cameron, of Marangai. None of our readers, we are sure, will read of his death without concern, for a kinder heart was not known in the district nor one more



John Cameron of Marangai

entitled to the respect of either rich or poor. Mr Cameron was one of our oldest settlers, and at such a juncture one cannot avoid the thought that the sturdy race of pioneers who have been the very backbone of the country are surely and swiftly passing away from amongst us. Mr Cameron arrived in New Zealand in 1840, over half a century ago, and we believe that at least 50 years of that time have been spent in Wanganui. In the early days of his colonial life the deceased was in partnership with the late Captain Campbell, and the two estates of Marangai and Weretua were held between them. In the time of the wars Captain Cameron did good service as captain of the Wanganui Cavalry, but for many years before his death he had ceased to take any active interest in Volunteering. He was President of the Wanganui Jockey Club, and a successful horse breeder, although he never ran any of his horses at the races. In character he was quiet and unassuming, and he preferred the quietude of private life to the stir of public business. He was a kind and hospitable friend, and his family of four sons and one daughter will in their bereavement have the sympathy of all with whom he was ever brought into contact. The funeral takes place to-morrow afternoon, leaving Marangai at 1 o'clock.

John and Annie had five children:

- Allan Cameron, born in 1865, died in 1950, married Maude Mary Ralston in 1892.
- John Cameron, born in 1867, died in 1915 (WW1, also served in Boer War).
- Hector Sutherland Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1944, married Eleanor Grierson Robertson in 1906.
- Mary Cameron, born in 1871, died in 1954, married Henry William Wilson in 1897.
- James Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1916 (WW1, Australian Forces).

CAPTAIN MOSES CAMPBELL AND JESSIE CAMERON

Captain Moses Campbell and his family travelled as cabin passengers on the *Blenheim*. Being cabin passengers they were not included in the passenger lists of those receiving free passage. The family included:

- Captain Moses Campbell, 51
- Jessie Campbell, 31
- John Campbell, 8
- Colin Campbell, 6
- Louisa Margaret Campbell, 5
- Susan Campbell, 1
- Isabella Campbell, 1 (died at sea)

Jessie Campbell kept a detailed journal of the voyage of the *Blenheim*, and also wrote many letters to family and friends back in Scotland. This material provides a fascinating view of life on the *Blenheim*, and in early colonial New Zealand, from Jessie's perspective.

Moses Campbell and Jessie Cameron

Moses Campbell was born around 1787, the son of John Campbell of Inverliver and Susan Cameron of Breadalbane.

Moses Campbell served in the 72nd Regiment, the Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders. In February 1811 Ensign Moses Campbell was promoted to be Lieutenant without purchase, and in 1828 Lieutenant Moses Campbell from the 72nd Foot was promoted to be Captain of Infantry. On the death of his father, Moses Campbell left the Army on half-pay and seems to have lived in Glasgow while he tried to sell the estate of Inverliver, on Loch Awe in Argyll.

Moses Campbell and Jessie Cameron were married in 1827, when he was around 40 and she was 19.

Jessie Cameron was the daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel John Cameron of Achnasaul and Louisa Campbell of Glenure. She was born around 1807 in Kilmallie.

After advertising it for a number of years, Moses Campbell sold the Inverliver Estate in 1836 having already moved to Achindale, near Fort William and the home of Jessie's family.

By 1839, the family had decided to emigrate to New Zealand. In that year Moses was allotted two one-hundred-acre sections in Wanganui by the New Zealand Company. The *Morning Post* of 4 July 1840 carried the notification from the *London Gazette* that "Capt. Moses Campbell, upon half-pay Unattached, has been allowed to retire from the army, by the sale of his commission, he being about to become a settler in New South Wales."

Moses Campbell and Jessie Cameron had at least one child who died before they left for New Zealand in 1840:

- Susan Ann Campbell, born on 24 October 1830 to Capt. Moses Campbell 72nd, Achandell, and Jessy Cameron, baptized 13 November (OPR, Kilmonivaig).

As cabin passengers and with servants to help with the chores and children, and with additional private food supplies, the Campbells were more comfortable than their fellow-travellers in steerage. Jessie's journal provides a valuable record of the voyage and her perception of the experience. On arrival in Wellington she noted, "The climate would be delightful but for the high winds that prevail."



Captain Moses Campbell

On arriving in Wellington it was found that titles to the land in Wanganui were delayed, and in 1841 Captain Campbell sailed to Sydney with a deputation to the Governor. Although the titles remained unsettled, the family moved to Wanganui in November 1841, travelling on the *Clydeside*, which was nearly wrecked on the North Spit at the entrance to the Wanganui River. Moses Campbell formed a partnership with John Cameron, who had also travelled on the *Blenheim* as a cabin passenger, and while waiting to take possession of their land built a town house. They also leased land at Putiki and later grazed stock at Kaitoke.

Jessie's letters home to her family give us some insights into the life they led and the problems they faced, including the continuing issue of finding and keeping servants, not to mention the gossip about her friends and neighbours.

In 1847, the settlement at Wanganui was attacked by Maori and Captain Campbell took his family to Taranaki, where they lived for a several years, returning in 1851 when peace was achieved. In 1853 Moses Campbell completed the first house at his property "Wiritoa", which also served as a blockhouse. The property bordered Lake Wiritoa which was about three miles from Wanganui. In 1857 the partnership with John Cameron was dissolved.

In 1841, Moses Campbell had been appointed as a magistrate in Wellington Province, and represented Wanganui and Rangitikei in the Wellington Provincial Council from 1857 to 1861. He was also an elder in the Presbyterian Church in Wanganui.

Moses Campbell died on 20 September 1862, aged 75.

Jessie Campbell died on 18 October 1885, aged 78. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 20 October 1885 carried the following obituary:

On Sunday afternoon Mrs Campbell (widow of the late Captain Campbell), one of Wanganui's oldest and most respected residents, passed peacefully away to her rest. The deceased lady, who was in her 78th year, succumbed to an attack of bronchitis, which an enfeebled system was too weak to resist.



Jessie (Cameron) Campbell

Though she had been ailing for about a fortnight, she was only confined to her room for four or five days, and retained perfect possession of her mental faculties to the last. Mrs Campbell, with her husband, arrived in the Colony in the year 1840, landing at Port Nicholson, and soon after coming on to Wanganui, where the family have resided ever since. Among the surviving passengers by the vessel which brought Mr and Mrs Campbell from the Old Country may be mentioned Mr John Cameron, of Marangai, and Mrs Gregor McGregor, of Wilson street, old settlers who have borne the heat and burden of the day. The deceased lady and her husband experienced all the vicissitudes common to the early settlers. On one occasion, during the early Maori troubles, they were obliged by the military to quickly abandon the house in which they were living, at what is now the corner of Wilson and Ridgway-streets, as it was considered a dangerous outpost and likely to invite attack from the natives who were hovering round. The place was therefore vacated, the occupants retiring to the town stockade, which stood on the spot now occupied by the Ship Hotel. The deserted house was partially destroyed by the troops, but the ruins were subsequently taken possession of by the Maoris. These were the days of stirring scenes, numberless stories concerning which have been told by the old residents, whose ranks are now so rapidly thinning. The lady who was the subject of our present notice was much loved and respected for her kindly nature and charitable disposition, evidences of which were abundant in the days gone by. She leaves to mourn her loss four sons and three daughters, all grown up.

Moses Campbell and Jessie Cameron also had six more children after they arrived in New Zealand:

- William Patrick Campbell, born in 1841, died in 1925, married Annie Edith Powell in 1881.
- Ewen Alexander Campbell, born in 1843, died in 1934, married (1) Helen Barbara McDonald in 1873, (2) Alice Jane Stedman in 1878.
- Isabella Elizabeth Campbell, born in 1845, died in 1931, married John Tyleston Wicksteed jnr in 1866.
- Helen Ann Campbell, born in 1847, died in 1932, married Samuel Roland Garrett in 1873.
- Robert Andrew Campbell, born in 1850, died in 1904, married Sarah Annie (Daisy) Stedman in 1880.
- Mary Susan Campbell, born in 1852, died in 1940, married Andrew Cunningham Bruce in 1888.

John Cameron Campbell

The Old Parish Register for Kilmonivaig recorded that John Cameron, son of Capt. Moses Campbell, Achandall, and of Jessy Cameron, was born on 18 September 1832, and baptised on 22 October 1832.

John Cameron Campbell died in 1887, aged 56. The *Wanganui Herald* of 24 August 1887 carried the Death Notice: "Campbell.— On the 24th instant, at Wilson Street, John Cameron Campbell, oldest son of the late Captain Campbell, of Wiritoa, aged 66 years. Friends are informed that the Funeral will leave the residence of Mr Robt. A. Campbell, Wilson Street, to morrow (Thursday) afternoon, at 2 30 o'clock."

Colin Macmillan Campbell

The Old Parish Register for Kilmonivaig recorded that Colin Macmillan, son of Capt. Moses Campbell of 72nd, Achandell and Jessy Cameron, was born on 3 July and baptised on 14 July 1834.

Colin McMillan Campbell died in 1879.

Louisa Margaret Campbell

The Old Parish Register for Kilmonivaig recorded that Louisa Margaret, lawful daughter of Captain Moses Campbell and Jessie Cameron, Achnadall, was born on March 19th and baptized on 12 April 1836.

Louisa Margaret Campbell married Richard Thomas Sheild in 1864.

Louisa and Richard had at least four children:

- Marmaduke Campbell Sheild, born in 1867, died in 1868.
- Caroline Isabel Sheild, born in 1869, died in 1942. married (1) William Dabbs in 1893, (2) Hugh Stewart in 1899.
- Rosamunda Louisa Sheild, born in 1874, died in 1969, married Robert Lilburn in 1898 (their youngest child was Douglas Lilburn, composer).
- Helen Barbara Sheild, born in 1876, died in 1877 (or Bertha Florence?).



Louisa Margaret (Campbell) Sheild

Isabella Eliza Campbell and Susan Ann Campbell

The Old Parish Register for Kilmonivaig recorded that Isabella Eliza and Susan Ann, twin daughters of Capt, Moses Campbell of the 72nd foot, Achnadell, and of Jessy Cameron, were born 24th September 1838 and recorded on 23 October 1838.

Isabella died on board the *Blenheim*, while Susan died in Wanganui in 1847, apparently of whooping cough.

DR NEIL CAMPBELL

Dr Neil Campbell was the Surgeon Superintendent on the *Blenheim* and was not an emigrant passenger as were the others. The *Glasgow Herald* of 28 August 1840 noted that Dr Campbell, the surgeon of the ship, from Mull, was a cabin passenger departing on the *Blenheim*, while the *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 9 January 1841 reported that Dr Campbell was an arriving passenger.

The surgeon-superintendents on New Zealand Company ships were responsible for the emigrants' health on the voyage, and with the master of the ship were responsible for discipline. The surgeon had free cabin passage and was paid 8s per head for each emigrant, with a limit of £60, and 20s for each child born alive on the journey. The surgeon-superintendent would choose an assistant from among the passengers.

Dr Neil Campbell

In her Journal entry for 13 December 1840 Jessie Campbell wrote:

Dr Campbell may be a good doctor, but you never would think so from his manner, he speaks with such a highland accent and expresses himself so ill, you would think he had not spoken English till he was at least twenty. I must say he is most attentive to his duties and most obliging: we have always found him particularly so at all events we have not a very polished party, we have what is better a very merry and social one. I forgot to say Dr Campbell tho not so little as Dr S is very small likewise and plain looking.

However, it appears that Dr Campbell may not have stayed long in Wellington. A number of colonists, possibly including Dr Sinclair Sutherland and several others from the *Blenheim*, departed for Tasmania on the *Lord Sidmouth*, within a few weeks of their arrival in New Zealand.

The *Colonial Times* (Hobart), reported on 23 February 1841:

FEB. 19.-Arrived the barque Lord Sidmouth, Marr master, from Port Nicholson 4th inst. Passengers – Mr. Hind, Mr. W. Blyth, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Sutherland, Miss M. Rankin, H. Goodwin, wife, .and 6 children, G. Boonger and wife, G. Murray and wife, J. Blyth and wife, C. Morris, wife, and 6 children, P. Shields, S. Wilson, J. Gordon, M. Briton, R. Whitewood, J. Cromworth, – Walker and wife, T. Bonnie, J. Stephens and wife, – Kilgrove, wife, and 5 children, H. M'Kinnon, J M'Kinnon, J. Hichman, wife, and child, J. Lockwood, J. Simmons, J. Chisom, M. M'Eachan, – Eago, P. Lanachar, and Mrs. O'Brien.

Information on Dr Neil Campbell's subsequent movements has not been found.

JOHN CHISHOLM

John Chisholm appears at the end of the initial list of passenger on the *Blenheim*, in a group that included some crossed out earlier in the list or put there as late additions.

In the initial list John Chisholm was described as a labourer of 40, and in the other lists as an agriculturalist.

John Chisholm

Although John Chisholm arrived on the *Blenheim*, he did not stay long in Wellington. Apparently disenchanted with the conditions he found there and the delays that would affect his ability to take up land, he succumbed to promises of better conditions in Tasmania, and left for Hobart on the *Lord Sidmouth* on 4 February 1841, barely six weeks after arrival.

The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 16 January 1841 stated:

The Lord Sidmouth was sent down to relieve us, not by supplying us with food, but by carrying away our population. A very mean spirit has been exhibited in the attacks made upon this settlement. It might have been expected that a community acting for itself, without any of that extraneous aid generally liberally bestowed by the Government, would have been deemed interesting, and worthy of all the support which could be extended by neighbouring communities of the same parent stock. But though unaided even by sympathy, this settlement has succeeded, is now securely planted, and may treat with contempt the imbecile efforts which have been made, and are making, to injure us.

The *Colonial Times* of Hobart, in its edition of 23 February 1841, noted that:

The passengers arrived by the Lord Sidmouth, who are about sixty in number, amongst other unfavourable reports state, that, in consequence of the frequency of earthquakes, of which several shocks had been experienced by the settlers since their arrival, they dare not build stone buildings of any size. We were not before aware that the Colony was visited by such a calamity, and we trust the report will turn out to be unfounded. We give it, however, as we received it; and shall be most happy to have it in our power to contradict the assertion.

The newspaper also published the list of passengers who arrived on the *Lord Sidmouth* on 19 February, who included "J Chisom" (and also Dr Campbell, Dr Sutherland, and others who may also have been *Blenheim* passengers).

The New Zealand Clan Chisholm Society, in its Newsletter #47, August 2009, noted that John Chisholm never returned to New Zealand, ending his days on the goldfields of Ballarat.

MATHEW AND MARGARET DUNNET

In the *Blenheim* embarkation and subsequent lists, the family was described as follows:

- Mathew Dunnet, 36, Paisley, labourer, 36
- Margaret Dunnet, 33, Paisley
- John Dunnet 7½, Paisley
- Janet Dunnet, 4, Paisley
- plus Ellen Thomson Dunnet, born at sea

An Andrew Dunnet, 22, Pulteney, cartwright, was included in the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* but the name was crossed out and did not appear on subsequent lists.

Note on spelling: In different records spellings used include “Mathew” or “Matthew”, “Dunnet” or “Dunnett” and “Barbour” or “Barber”. The text below generally follows the document used.

Matthew Dunnet and Margaret Barbour

The Old Parish Register for the Paisley parish of Abbey, Renfrew, recorded that Matthew Dunnet, son of John Dunnet and Sarah Sinklar [*Sinclair*], was born on 3 February and baptized on 19 February 1804.

Margaret Barbour was also born in Paisley in about 1808.

Family trees on Ancestry.com suggest that in addition to their children John and Janet, there was also a son David, who died before the departure of the *Blenheim*.

The marriage of Matthew Dunnet and Margaret Barbour was recorded on 8 December 1832 in the parish of Paisley Burgh or Low, and on 9 December 1832 in the parish of Paisley Middle.

In 1840 Matthew and Margaret sailed to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* with their two surviving children John and Janet. A child, Ellen Thomson Dunnet, was born at sea on the *Blenheim*.

The family lived in Wellington for 10-11 years, during which time further children were born – Annie (19 April 1843), Sarah (1846), and Margaret (1848-1850).

Annie’s birth registration gave her name as Anne, born 19 April 1843 at Wellington; father Matthew Dunnett, labourer, born at Paisley, High Church parish; mother Margaret Barbour.

The *Wellington Independent* of 6 April 1850 carried the following item: “Died on Tuesday, April 2, Margaret, daughter of Matthew and Margaret Dunnet, aged 20 months.” Also, the *New Zealand Spectator and Cook’s Strait Guardian* of 6 April 1850 had the following: “At Wellington, of croup, on the 2nd inst., Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs Dunnett, of Tinakore road, aged 20 months.”

The family moved to Victoria, Australia, sometime around 1851, where Matthew worked as a miner.

Matthew Dunnett died on 2 October 1871 at Dunolly Hospital, Dunolly, Victoria. He was a miner aged 67, born in Paisley Scotland, 12 years in New Zealand, 20 years in Victoria, married 25 years to Margaret Barber, who he married when he was 28. His

issue included John 37, David deceased, Janet 35?, Ellen deceased, Annie 27, Sarah 25 and Margaret deceased. The cause of death was inflammation and suppuration of the brain, debility, 6 weeks. Mathew was buried at Dunolly Cemetery.

Margaret Dunnett died on 8 April 1882. She was a widow of 74, born in Paisley Scotland, her father being David Barber, chair manufacturer. Margaret was 13 years in New Zealand, 29 in Victoria, and was married in Paisley, being married for 25 years to Matthew Dunnet, and was 25 when she married him. Issue included John 48, Janet 44, Ann 40 and Sarah 38. The cause of death was old age, 5 months. The informant was John Dunnet, son, Ararat. Margaret was buried at Ararat Cemetery, Victoria.

Annie Dunnet married James Gardner Welsh, a miner, in Inglewood, Victoria, and died in Collingwood, Melbourne on 20 February 1907. She had 13 children.

No records relating to Sarah Dunnet have been traced, apart from the references in her parents' death registrations.

John Dunnet

John Dunnet was born on 9 August 1833 and baptized on 26 December 1833, as recorded in the Old Parish Register for Paisley High Church, Renfrew, Scotland. His parents were Matthew Dunnet and Margaret Barbour.

John Dunnet married Mary Anne Lemin in 1868.

John Dunnett died in 1901 in Ararat, Victoria, Australia, aged 68. His parents were given as Matthew Dunnett and Margaret Barbour.

Janet Dunnet

Janet Dunnet was born, probably in Paisley, around 1836 and was still living in Australia at the time of her mother's death in 1882.

A Janet Dunnet married a William McAlpine in Victoria in 1866, and they may have had at least five children.

Ellen Thomson Dunnet

Ellen Thomson Dunnett was born at sea on the *Blenheim* on 28 October 1840 – Jessie Campbell's Journal for 28 October 1840 notes, "A Paisley woman delivered of a daughter, the woman do not seem to suffer much as home. Lat. 33-9S Long 9-59." New Zealand BDM records confirm the birth and date.

It appears that Ellen died before 1871 when her father died.

GEORGE AND MARY EASTON

The entry for the Eastons in the *Blenheim* embarkation list describes George as 22, a baker from Paisley, and his wife Mary as 21.

George Easton and Mary Wood

George Easton and Mary Wood were married in Glasgow on 24 August 1840, the day before the departure of the *Blenheim*. The Old Parish Record for Edinburgh noted that George was a baker living at No 4 Howe Street, St Stephen's parish, and Mary, who resided at the same place and parish, was the daughter of Lieutenant James Monypenny Wood of the Royal Navy. The celebrant was the Rev Dr James Henderson of St Enoch's, Glasgow. Although the wedding was in Glasgow, the registration was in Edinburgh.

It appears that George and Mary did not stay long in Wellington, moving to Auckland in 1841 where he continued his career as a baker, before moving to Pukekohe in 1862 to take up a farm at Cabbage Tree Swamp. After arriving in New Zealand they had one son, James Hume Easton, in 1842.

George, Mary and James appear to have had a busy time breaking in their farm in Pukekohe East. In 1863 during the Maori Wars, George and James were part of a small group of militia and settlers besieged in the local church. The action was described in *The New Zealand Wars: A History of the Maori Campaigns and the Pioneering Period: Volume 1: 1845-1864*, by James Cowan.

The *New Zealand Herald* of 10 July 1876 records a serious accident at Pukekohe East when George Easton suffered a broken leg while felling trees.

James Hume Easton married Mary Elizabeth McHayle on 19 July 1870. According to the Marriage Notice in the *New Zealand Herald* of 22 July 1870 the wedding was at her father's residence in Pukekohe East, with the celebrant being the Rev Thomas Norrie. Both bride and groom were their parents' only child. James and Mary went on to have nine children, including Annie (1870), George (1871), Elizabeth (1873), Mary Jane (1875), William James (1877), Sarah (1878), Alfred (1881), Walter (1884), Eleanor (1888).

George Easton died on 31 August 1894. The Press Association Telegram, carried in a number of newspapers on 7 September 1894, provided the following obituary:

AUCKLAND, September 6. The death is announced of Mr George Easton, an old settler at Pukekohe East, aged 75. The deceased came to Wellington from Glasgow in 1840 by the ship Blenheim, and in 1841 arrived in Auckland. In 1865 he removed to Pukekohe district with a few other settlers, and fought for his homestead, successfully resisting attacks of the Natives. In commendation for this event he was awarded a medal.

Mary Easton continued to live in Pukekohe East with her son and daughter-in-law, who both pre-deceased her, and died on 17 November 1917 in her 99th year. The *Pukekohe & Waiuku Times* of 20 November 1917 included an obituary:

DEATH OF MRS MARY EASTON ALMOST A CENTENARIAN. In the death that took place at her residence at Pukekohe East on Saturday last of Mrs Mary Easton, wife of the late Mr George Easton, the district of Pukekohe loses another of the few remaining of its earliest settlers. The deceased lady, who was in her 99th year of age, was born in Scotland and in company with her husband, who died some 24 years ago, came out to New Zealand in 1841. They first lived in Wellington and

then in Auckland, the late Mr Easton following his trade as a baker. Farming, however, duly engaged his attention and he next took up a section at Cabbage Tree Swamp. In 1862 Mr and Mrs Easton made their way to Pukekohe East where they acquired a bush farm. When the Maori war was in progress in 1863 Mrs Easton went for safety to Drury but her husband and only son, the late Mr James Easton, who died some three years ago, formed part of the small knot of settlers that were gathered together in the Pukekohe East Church when it was besieged by the natives. On the conclusion of the war Mrs Easton returned to Pukekohe East and has resided there ever since. Despite her advanced age and the trials and vicissitudes of life she naturally went through in the early days the late Mrs Easton retained her faculties up to the very last. She is survived by nine grandchildren, including Private Alfred Easton, who is at the front and who also took part in the Boer war, and Privates Walter and William Easton, both of whom are in camp, and eleven great-grandchildren. The funeral took place yesterday at Pukekohe East Cemetery, Mr R. Begbie (Church of Christ) officiating, in the presence of a large assembly of settlers from all around the district.

George and Mary Easton are buried together at the Pukekohe East Church.

DONALD AND MARY FERGUSON

The *Blenheim* embarkation and subsequent passenger lists included the family of Donald and Mary Ferguson:

- Donald Ferguson, 36, miller
- Mary Ferguson, 35
- Marion Ferguson, 9
- Donald Ferguson, 7

A John Ferguson from Skye, 50, miller and wright, with his wife of 46 and 2 children, were included on the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, but this family was not on the embarkation or subsequent lists.

Spelling: The name has been spelled both "Ferguson" and "Fergusson" in the sources used.

Donald Ferguson and Mary McLean

Donald Ferguson was described as a miller of 36 in the *Blenheim* passenger list, while his wife Mary's age was given as 35.

Donald and Mary came from Skye.

From the death registration of their son Alexander, it can be confirmed that Mary's maiden name was McLean.

In *Early Rangitikei*, Sir James Wilson, noted (pp 85-86):

The Fergussons, whose land joined his [Mr Paulin] on the north, came out in the same vessel as the Frasers. They came from Skye. Donald and Sarah came with their people in the Blenheim, and Alexander was born in Wellington. Donald and Alexander Fergusson were very good settlers and much respected: Donald has departed, and all their descendants have left the district, but Alexander Fergusson still lives in the neighbourhood.

Lists of persons qualified to serve as jurors for the district of Port Nicholson, published between 1845 and 1850, included Donald Ferguson, Kai warra Road, cartwright, and in 1850, wheelwright. In 1847, Donald Ferguson, cartwright, published a notice in the *Wellington Independent* of 24 February advising that he would not be accountable for any debts contracted by his wife.

It is possible that Mary Ferguson died before the family moved to the Rangitikei district.

The *Wanganui Herald* of 15 February 1888 published, as an historical document, an 1864 petition from the electors of Wanganui and Rangitikei to the Governor, Sir George Grey, seeking to establish a separate province. The petition had 273 names attached to it, including Donald Ferguson, senior, farmer, and Donald Ferguson, junior, farmer.

Donald Ferguson died on 15 April 1880, aged 75. The *Wanganui Herald* of 22 April 1880, reported: "The funeral of an old identity (Donald Ferguson) passed along the principal streets to the Clifton cemetery on Monday. As I noticed many old and toilworn pioneers in the cavalcade, it is to be presumed that he was one of the early emigrants to the Colony. He had been bedridden for many years prior to his death, so he was deprived the enjoyment of participating in or even witnessing the progress

his adopted country had made in telegraphs, railways, and steamboats during his location in it."

Donald and Mary had a further child, Alexander, with some question as to whether he was the sixth child born on board the *Blenheim* on its voyage.

In her Journal, Jessie Campbell wrote, on 15 December 1840, "A woman delivered of a son last night, this makes the sixth child born on board and all very fine, thriving children, this woman with all her former confinements had long and difficult labours, yesterday evening she did not feel herself very well, the Dr. desired her to go into the hospital, she thought they would have plenty of time to remove after she was taken ill, however matters came so quick upon her that the child was born before she could be removed: Dr C was very angry at her and no wonder, think how unpleasant for him going about her before so many women and married men who sleep in the same place. To crown all not one stitch had she prepared for the child, it was rolled in an old petticoat of the mother's. She is a carpenter's wife from Skye. All the other women had their baby things so neat and tidy particularly the low country woman."

In a letter to the *Rangitikei Advocate*, published in the *Manawatu Standard* of 31 December 1912, Donald Fraser, in listing the surviving *Blenheim* passengers, said. "...and Mr Alexander Ferguson, of the Upper Tutaenui, was also born on the voyage..."

However, Sir James Wilson, in *Early Rangitikei*, as quoted above, suggests that Alexander was born in Wellington, and the age and place of birth given for him in his death registration would appear to confirm this. One possibility could be that the Alexander born on the voyage died, and the name was given to the next born.

Electoral Rolls show that Alexander Ferguson was in the Rangitikei district with his father and brother in 1875-76, and was a farmer at Silverhope, north-east of Marton, in 1905-06, and at Calico Line, Marton in 1911 and 1914.

Alexander Ferguson died on 7 August 1917 at Marton, with his age given as 73. His parents were Donald Ferguson and Mary McLean, he was born in Wellington and he was not married.

Marion (Sarah) Ferguson

Marion Ferguson was 9 when she boarded the *Blenheim*, putting her birth year around 1831. Sarah is the anglicized form of Marion.

From the reference in *Early Rangitikei* it seems likely that Sarah Ferguson went to the Rangitikei district with her father and brother.

There is a record of a Sarah Ferguson marrying George Douglas in 1853 in Christchurch. George Douglas had settled in Canterbury in 1850 and managed several runs before purchasing his own at Broomfield. George and Sarah had at least three children before she died in 1867 aged 36, so the birth year is about right. However, it has not been possible, to date, to confirm whether or not this is the Marion (Sarah) Ferguson who travelled on the *Blenheim*.

Donald Ferguson

Donald Ferguson was 7 years old when he travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* with his family.

The *Wellington Independent* of 3 May 1864 carried the Wedding Notice: "Ferguson-Sutherland – At Lyall's bay, April 22, by the Rev John Moir, Mr Donald Ferguson, of Rangitikei, to Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Sutherland, Esq."

Elizabeth Sutherland was born around 1845, the daughter of Alexander Sutherland and Elizabeth MacKay who arrived in Wellington on 31 January 1840 on the *Oriental*. As outlined in *The Streets of My City*, Elizabeth's father, Alexander Sutherland, was allotted his one hundred acres at Lyall Bay, and subsequently bought more land from absentee owners as well as from adjoining neighbours. He obtained sheep from Australia, and farmed at Lyall Bay successfully for some years, but felt the need for more pasture, and in the late 1850s purchased a block in the Pahaua Valley of Wairarapa (Ngaipu).

The *Wanganui Chronicle* in June and July 1876 in a number of items from their Bulls correspondent, reported on the death of the eldest daughter of Mr Donald Ferguson from diphtheria, and shortly afterwards the death of his little boy, aged 10, from the same cause. They are buried at Bulls with their grandfather.

Donald Ferguson died on 4 October 1894, aged 59. The *Feilding Star* of 6 October 1894 reported, "The death is announced of an old and respected Rangitikei settler, Mr Donald Ferguson, of Upper Tutaenui. He had been resident in New Zealand for 53 years."

Elizabeth (Sutherland) Ferguson died on 25 June 1929, aged 84. The *Evening Post* of 29 June 1929 carried the Death Notice: "Ferguson – On the 25th June, 1929, at the residence of her daughter (Mrs D. Matheson, Wanganui) (late of Stanley street, Wellington), Elizabeth, relict of the late Dr. Ferguson, and last surviving daughter of the late Alexander Sutherland of Lyall Bay, Wellington; aged 84 years. Deeply regretted."

Donald and Elizabeth had at least five children:

- Katherine McLean Ferguson, born in 1865, died in 1876.
- Donald Ferguson, born in 1866, died in 1876.
- Elizabeth Jane Ferguson, born in 1869, died in 1939, married Joseph Warring in 1892.
- John Douglas Ferguson, born in 1872, died in 1963, married Catherine Matheson in 1897.
- Marion Alice Ferguson, born in 1874, died in 1943, married Dugald Matheson in 1895.

JOHN FERGUSON

John Ferguson, 22, joiner, was included on the embarkation and arrival lists for the *Blenheim*.

A John Ferguson from Skye, 50, miller and wright, with his (unnamed) wife of 46 and 2 children, was included in the additions to initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, but this family was not on the subsequent lists. Also on the embarkation and arrival lists was the family of Donald Ferguson, origin not identified.

John Ferguson

John Ferguson was 22 when he emigrated on the *Blenheim*, giving a birth year of around 1818.

A John Ferguson, Te Aro, carpenter, appeared on the Burgess Rolls for Wellington in 1842.

No further information has been confirmed for John Ferguson.

DUNCAN AND MARJORY FRASER

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* included the family of Duncan Fraser, his wife and nine children, with the note from Donald McDonald, "Has been long known to me and has excellent certificates."

The initial list included entries for Simon and John Fraser from Kumachroch which were crossed out, as was a Francis Fraser, 22, a housemaid from Fort William, noted as "Niece to D Fraser Smith Corran and will be a member of his family." The embarkation list also included a Jane Fraser, 20, housemaid, along with this family, but the next lists including the arrival list had Jane Fraser located separately from the family. Her age indicates that she was not a daughter of Duncan and Margaret.

The Fraser family on the *Blenheim* included:

- Duncan Fraser, 40, Corran, blacksmith
- Margaret Fraser, his wife, 36
- John Fraser, his son, 17, blacksmith
- Catherine Fraser, his daughter, 16, sempstress
- Isabella Fraser, his daughter, 15, housemaid
- Margaret Fraser, his daughter, 14, housemaid
- Elizabeth Fraser, his daughter, 13, housemaid
- Ann Fraser, his daughter, 12
- Alexander Fraser, his son, 8
- Donald Fraser, his son, 7
- Duncan Fraser, his son, 4
- Thomas Fraser, born at sea.

Spelling: The embarkation passenger list for the *Blenheim* used "Frazer" but the initial list, other documents and subsequent usage have "Fraser".

Duncan Fraser and Margaret (Marjory) Fraser

Duncan Fraser was born around 1795 in Dalcataig, near Invermoriston in Invernesshire to Donald Fraser and Katherine McDonell, and at a young age moved to Fort Augustus where he worked as a blacksmith. Apparently his father was 107 years 7 months and 7 days old when he died.

Marjory Fraser was from the Lovat family of Frasers, her grandfather being a Captain in the 42nd Highlanders (the Black Watch). Her father was Alexander Fraser and her mother was Elizabeth McDonell. Marjory's younger sister, Jane Fraser, also emigrated on the *Blenheim*.

Duncan Fraser and Margaret (Marjory) Fraser were married on 24 November 1821 at Fort Augustus, Inverness. After five years they moved to Corran, on Loch Linnhe, where they managed a small trading store and post office.

Duncan and Margaret had one child who died in Scotland in infancy. The Old Parish Register for Ballachulish and Corran of Ardgour, recorded that Thomas, son of Duncan Fraser and Marjory Fraser, Corran, was born on 12 October 1839. This Thomas died 26 days after his birth.

In 1840 the Fraser family sold up their business and emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*.

In Wellington, Duncan Fraser established a farm at Wadestown on his country section, and on his town section built the Highlander Inn, a smithy and related buildings. His home was built at the top of what is now Hanover Street towards Wadestown Road.

The Highlander Inn was one of Duncan Fraser's commercial activities, and in 1849 the *Wellington Independent* of 23 June reported that he was fined 40 shillings for "having supplied liquors and suffered the same to be drunk on the premises, between the hours of 10 o'clock of the night of the 13th, and 6 o'clock of the morning of the 14th instant, contrary to the provisions of the Licensing Ordinance."

In 1849 Duncan Fraser had purchased land in Rangitikei which formed the basis for the property called "Pukehou". Initially John and Alexander Fraser settled the property in 1851, then Duncan and Marjory followed later. Sir James Wilson, in *Early Rangitikei*, wrote, "The family which, undoubtedly, had the greatest effect upon the settlement in Rangitikei was that of Duncan Fraser and his wife Marjorie."

Duncan and Marjory had more children after they arrived in New Zealand:

- Hugh Fraser, born in 1843 (twin), died in 1934, married Christina Ann McDonnell (descendant of a *Blenheim* passenger) in 1874.
- Margery Fraser, born in 1843 (twin), died in 1868, married Francis Morris Deighton in 1868.
- Catherine (Kate) Fraser, born in 1846, died in 1935.
- Jane Crosby Fraser, born in 1848, died in 1886, married James Richardson (younger brother of Thomas Furner Richardson) in 1871.

Duncan Fraser died on 6 August 1879, aged 84, at Parewanui. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 11 August 1879 published an obituary:

Death of an old Settler – Referring to the death of Mr Duncan Fraser, of Lower Rangitikei, who died on Tuesday and was buried on Saturday last, the Advocate says: We are not aware of his exact age, but should say his years must have numbered considerably over four score. He was one of the first settlers in the lower district, which is now to a great extent peopled by his descendants. The old gentleman lived to see his grand-children and great-grand-children, many of the latter being well-grown young men and women. It is doubtful if there is another settler in the North Island whose direct descendants are so numerous – not to speak of the connections by marriage which altogether represent almost a young colony. The late Mr Fraser was one of the hardy type of colonists, who settled down in the unknown country, and made his home in his adopted land. Courageous, persevering and industrious, reclamation of wilderness was to him the daily work of his life as a colonist. That he and his prospered, and spread themselves over the land, is not matter for surprise, when the stern stuff of which they were composed is remembered. Till comparatively recently, the late Mr Fraser was a vigorous, hale, hearty, old man; but a long life brought with it declining health and strength, and finally dissolution. It makes one melancholy to have to pen these notices on the passing away of one and another of the old colonists – the men and women who had resided for forty years and upwards in the district, and who had been associated with it from the first days of settlement. Soon none, of the sterling old colonists of half a century ago will be held in reverence by the succeeding generations. The funeral, which, we expect, will compose a very numerous assemblage of mourners, will leave Parawanui at 1 o'clock on Saturday.

Marjory Fraser died on 30 January 1893, aged 89. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 3 February 1893 carried the Death Notice: "Fraser – On January 30th, at her residence, Fraser Field Cottage, Pukekoe, Lower Rangitikei, Marjorie, relict of the late Duncan

Fraser, and mother of Mr Donald Fraser, aged 80 years." The *Manawatu Herald* of 2 February 1893 published an obituary:

Death of Mrs Duncan Fraser: Another link in the chain that binds the days of first settlement of the colony to the present was broken on Monday evening, by the death, at her residence, Fraserfield, Parewanui, of Mrs Marjorie Fraser, relict of the late Duncan Fraser, and mother of John, Donald, Thomas and Hugh Fraser. The deceased lady was born at Inverness, in Scotland, on the 30th of October 1803, and died, as we have said, on Monday evening at the ripe old age of 89 years. The late Mr and Mrs Fraser arrived at Port Nicholson on the 27th December, 1840, with a family of 10 children, one of whom was born in the Bay of Biscay on the voyage to the colony. After a residence in Wellington of 12 years, Mr and Mrs Fraser came to Rangitikei in 1852, and took up their abode. At that time the settlers in the district, or rather the European male inhabitants of Rangitikei were Thos. Scott, at the ferry; James McDonnell at the Hoe; Adam Keir, the first owner of McKelvie's property on the Rangitikei side of the river; Andrew Green (father of Mr William Green of Bulls), who owned the land where Mr Pitt's house stands; Thomas Tiley, who owned the place on which now stands the residence of Messrs Keiller Bros; Laurie Daniell and a manager of Killymoon; James Bell, on what is now Woodendean, then the property of Mr Skipworth, for whom Bell had brought up some sheep. In the upper portion of the district the only settlers were Wm. Swainson, on Tututotara, and Mr H. Ross, father of Mr Alfred Ross, of Marton. These settlers had come to Rangitikei in 1850 and 1851. During 1851 Hugh and Donald Fraser came up, and Donald, who arrived six months after his brother, had been here six months before the arrival of his father and mother. From this it will be seen that the settlement was almost in its infancy when Mr and Mrs Fraser cast in their lot with it, and for over 40 years the deceased lady has watched its rise and progress. Mrs Fraser was a lady who was devoted to her Church, and attended with great regularity until a short time before her death. She was a very well read woman, and possessed a most retentive memory being able to relate with great accuracy incidents connected with her childhood's days. One of these, and one which she was very fond of telling, was of the stratagems to which the residents of Inverness resorted in order to evade the press gangs who traversed the country in the days of George III for the purpose of pressing men into the service to fight for their country against Napoleon. In addition to incidents of her early Scottish life, Mrs Fraser could rehearse as correctly as if reading from a book the genealogy of nearly the whole of the leading Highland families. Just prior to her death Mrs Fraser spoke with great clearness and distinctness of many incidents in her early history. In the early days of Rangitikei, when no houses of accommodation existed, the kindly and generous nature of the now departed lady was shown by the liberal hospitality which she so freely extended to travellers. This gained for her the esteem and regard of all with whom she came in contact, and everywhere she was spoken of in terms of the highest praise. After their arrival, the family increased to 14, of whom six daughters and three sons were married in the colony. The deceased's grandchildren now number 92, her great grandchildren 201, and her great great grandchildren 6. On the day of the Auckland Jubilee a rather remarkable incident happened at deceased's residence, Fraserfield, Pukehoe, when some of the numerous older relatives paid her a visit. When seated at dinner, it was discovered that there were present Mrs Fraser, her eldest son, a daughter, a granddaughter and a grandson, a great grandson, and a great great grandson and daughter five generations all dining around the one table. Mrs Fraser's death was by no means unexpected, her health having been in a very precarious state for some time past. At a few minutes past seven on Monday night she passed peacefully away. Very general sympathy is expressed for the relatives in their bereavement, in which we sincerely join.

In his memoir, Alexander McDonald, writing around 1905, said, "The family of Mr Duncan Fraser and his wife who came out with us must now number fully one thousand souls...I do think it will be very remiss on the part of Mr Donald Fraser

and his brothers and sisters, if they do not before it is too late construct a proper Whakapapa, or family tree of the descendants of Duncan Fraser and his wife who came out to New Zealand in the year 1840." The book *Pukehou: The Frasers of the Lower Rangitikei*, published in 1996, does just that.

John Fraser

John Fraser was born on 1 November 1822 at Fort Augustus, and was described as a blacksmith of 17 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

In Wellington, John worked with his father at the blacksmith's shop they established on their town section, near where Tinakori Road now starts from the Hutt Road. John left to join the armed police under Major Durie. In 1851 John and his brother Alexander went up to the Rangitikei district to work on the land their father had purchased.

John Fraser died on 21 January 1898 at Bulls. The *Feilding Star* of 25 January carried the Death Notice: "Fraser – At Karaka Terrace, Matahiwi, on 21st January, 1898, John, eldest son of the late Duncan and Marjory Fraser, aged 77." The *Manawatu Herald* of 27 January 1898 reported, "Mr John Fraser, 77 years of age, who was one of the pioneers of the Rangitikei district, died on Friday last at Matahiwi."

Catherine Fraser

The Old Parish Register for Boleskine and Abertarff or Fort Augustus recorded that Catherine was born on 2 December 1823, the daughter of Duncan Fraser, smith, Fort Augustus, and of Marjory Fraser his wife.

Catherine Fraser was a sempstress of 16 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

Catherine Fraser married Gregor McGregor, a fellow-passenger on the *Blenheim*, on 6 December 1841, when she was just turned 18.

Further details of their life can be found at the chapter for [Gregor McGregor](#), while the following lists their children:

- Helen McGregor, born in 1842, died in 1876, married Isaac Sargeant in 1865.
- John McGregor, born in 1844, died in 1916, married (1) Christian McDonald McGregor in 1871, (2) Florence Ann Beaver in 1896.
- Duncan McGregor, born in 1845 in NSW, Australia, died in 1923, married Annie Norah Smith in 1869.
- James McGregor, born in 1847 in NSW, Australia, died in 1849 in NSW, Australia.
- Jane McGregor, born in 1849, died in 1943, married Gregor McLeod in 1871.
- Alexander McGregor, born in 1851, died in 1909, married Alice Handley in 1890.
- Catherine McGregor, born in 1853, died in 1920, married Nathaniel Sutherland in 1874.
- Margery McGregor, born in 1855, died in 1940, married Hugh Calders (son of *Blenheim* passengers) in 1873.
- Gregor McGregor, born in 1857, died in 1942, married (1) Te Pura Manihera in 1879, (2) Paurina Haami in 1921.
- James McGregor, born in 1859, died in 1925, married Florence Ellen McIlvride (formerly Maplesden) in 1924.
- Donald McGregor, born in 1861, died in 1864.

- Matilda McGregor, born in 1863, died in 1894, married Angus MacIntosh in 1891.
- Mary McGregor, born in 1866, died in 1936.
- Donald McGregor, born in 1869, died in 1953, married Henrietta Isabella Burr in 1895.

Isabella Fraser

The Old Parish Register for Boleskine and Abertarff or Fort Augustus recorded that Isabella was born on 10 May 1825, the daughter of Duncan Fraser, Smith at Fort Augustus, and of Mary Fraser his wife.

Isabella Fraser was a housemaid of 15 when she embarked on the *Blenheim* with her family in 1840.

Isabella Fraser married James John Hopkins Stevens on 20 July 1847.

James John Hopkins Stevens was born in England, possibly in Bath, Somerset, England, around 1826.

The birth registrations of the children born in Petone give James' occupation as boatman. The family moved to the Rangitikei district in 1855 where, in 1859, they took over the Handley Arms Hotel.

James John Hopkins Stevens died on 18 August 1860 at Parewanui, aged 42. The *Wellington Independent* of 21 August 1860 carried the Death Notice: "On the 12th instant, at Rangitikei, Mr J.H. Stevens, Publican, aged 42 years."

As outlined in *Pukehou*, James' will suggests that Isabella's two oldest children, who were born before the marriage, were not his although they took his name. The will contained, "...and education of my children Robert, Isabella, Amelia, Duncan, Alexander and James as likewise of two natural children begotten of my said wife named Eliza Pain and John Bell..."

Isabella (Fraser) Stevens married Philip Bevan on 11 April 1863.

The *Wellington Independent* of 6 December 1866 noted that the stockyard on the property of Philip Bevan, in the Lower Rangitikei District, had been proclaimed a public pound, and Philip Bevan was appointed the keeper thereof. Philip Bevan died on 10 February 1869. The *Evening Post* of 15 May 1869 noted, "Taranaki boasts of a lady auctioneer, and Lower Rangitikei, not to be outdone, has acquired a lady poundkeeper, his Honour the Superintendent having conferred that office on Mrs Isabella Bevan."

Isabella (Fraser) Bevan, formerly Stevens, married Joseph Watkins on 18 September 1871.

Joseph Watkins was a carpenter, born around 1830 in Lincolnshire, England.

Joseph Watkins died on 8 June 1889, aged 59.

The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 30 September 1901 reported:

RANGITIKEI NEWS: (By Telegraph—Special Daily Times). Bulls, This Day. I am sorry to say that Mrs Watkins, mother of Mr John Stevens, M.H.R., continues in a very low state, and is not expected to recover. Her serious condition has necessitated the absence of Mr Stevens from his Parliamentary duties for a considerable time, Mr James H. Stevens, postmaster Hawera, has also been down to see his mother. Mrs Watkins is related to nearly every settler in the Lower Rangitikei district, of which she and her family, the Frasers, were among the oldest identities.

Isabella (Fraser) Watkins, formerly Bevan, previously Stevens, died on 6 November 1901, aged 76. The *Hawera and Normanby Star* of 11 November 1901 reported:

The Rangitikei Advocate says: The death of Mrs Isabella Watkins, which took place at her son's residence, Bulls, is announced. The deceased lady was the mother of Mr John Stevens, M.H.R., Mr J. H. Stevens, of Hawera, and Mr Robert Stevens, of Palmerston North. She was the daughter of the late Duncan Fraser, of Pukehou, and arrived in Wellington in the Blenheim on Christmas Day, 1840, after a voyage of nearly five months, which was then thought to be fairly good time. Mr Fraser's family settled in Rangitikei about 1849, where they have grown in numbers probably far exceeding that of any family in the country. Mrs Watkins, during some months of suffering, had shown a fortitude and cheeriness which reconciled her friends to the parting.

Isabella had possibly eleven children:

Before her marriage to James John Hopkins Stevens:

- Eliza Stevens (Pain), born in 1843, died in 1878, married (1) Richard Howard in 1863, (2) Malcolm Walker in 1871.
- John Stevens (Bell), born in 1845, died in 1916, married (1) Margaret Campion (cousin) in 1870, and (2) Annie McMaster (daughter of *Blenheim* passengers) in 1880. He was MHR for Rangitikei 1881-1884, 1893-1896, for Manawatu 1896-1902, 1905-1908.

With James John Hopkins Stevens:

- Isabella Stevens, born in 1848, died in 1929, married (1) Frederick Manuel Gilbert Richards in 1865, and (2) William Henry Sly in 1909.
- Robert Richard Stevens, born in 1849, died in 1930, married Marjory Campion (cousin) in 1874.
- Duncan Hopkins Stevens, born in 1851, married Annie Louisa Davy in 1882.
- Amelia Stevens, born in 1854, died in 1876, married Thomas McKay Drummond in 1872.
- James Hopkins Stevens, born in 1856, died in 1946, married Delia Richardson in 1881.
- Alexander Stevens, born in 1858.

With Philip Bevan:

- Philip Bevan, born in 1863, died in 1929, married Elizabeth Leech in 1888.
- Alice Bevan, born in 1864, died in 1946, married Adam Bissett in 1884.
- Margaret (Margery) Bevan, born in 1867, died in 1942, married Arthur Vaughan Wynn Kirkby in 1887.
- George Frederick Bevan, born in 1866, died in 1921 in Sydney, Australia, married Amelia Barnes in 1893 in Sydney, Australia.

Margaret Fraser

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie, listings for Corran, recorded that Margaret, daughter of Duncan Fraser and May Fraser, Corran, was born on 26 September 1826 and baptised on 10 October 1826.

Margaret Fraser was a housemaid of 14 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 6 September 1843 carried the Marriage Notice: "On the 7th August, Thomas M'Kenzie, formerly of Roskeen, Rosshire, farmer, to Margaret, daughter of Mr. Duncan Frazer, blacksmith, Ballahalish."

The story of the family of Thomas McKenzie and Margaret Fraser is told in *Poyntzfield*, by Rob Knight.

Thomas Urquhart McKenzie was born on 6 July 1820 at Arbol, Parish of Tarbet, Black Isle, Ross-shire in Scotland, the son of Robert Bruce Aeneas McKenzie and Harriet Ross. He emigrated to New Zealand on the *Oriental*, arriving in Wellington on 31 January 1840. After working as a shepherd for a year in the Wairarapa he bought a horse and cart and began a carrying business between Wellington and Petone.

The family lived initially in Kaiwarra, then at Porirua in 1849, before moving up the coast to Turakina in 1850. In January 1855 they moved to Parewanui in the Lower Rangitikei district. In 1897, following severe flooding of the Rangitikei River and their Poyntzfield house, Margaret and Thomas moved to Feilding.

Thomas Urquhart McKenzie died on 16 May 1904 aged 83. The *Manawatu Standard* of 17 May 1904 published the following obituary:

T. U. McKenzie: Another old and respected colonist —Mr T. U. McKenzie —has passed away. The late Mr McKenzie, who was one of the earliest settlers on this coast, died at his residence, Feilding, last night, The deceased gentleman arrived in Wellington in 1840 by the ship Oriental, and after having resided at the Upper Hutt, Turakina, and Parawanui (lower Rangitikei), he took up his residence in Feilding a few years ago. Prior to going to Feilding the late Mr McKenzie, who was one of those sturdy pioneer settlers who have made this colony what it is, resided on his estate, known as Poyntsfield, at Parawanui for many years, and he became widely known and highly respected by all those with whom he came in contact, and his demise will be regretted by a wide circle of friends, especially those who are numbered amongst the early settlers of the lower Rangitikei and Manawatu. The end was not unexpected for the deceased gentleman, who was between 83 and 84 years of age, had been in failing health for some time. The deceased leaves a large grownup family of sons and daughters to mourn their loss. The funeral will leave his late residence, Kimbolton road, Feilding, at 11 a.m. to-morrow for the Fraser private cemetery at Parawanui.

Margaret (Fraser) McKenzie died on 9 April 1909, aged 82. The *Feilding Star* of 10 April 1909 published an obituary:

MRS. MARGARET MCKENZIE. The death occurred at her residence, Kimbolton-road, yesterday, of Mrs Margaret McKenzie, relict of Mr T. U. McKenzie, at the age of 82 years. The deceased lady had been gradually sinking for some time, and her relatives were quite prepared for the end. Mrs McKenzie was the daughter of the late Mr Duncan Fraser, of Pukehou, Parawanui, and was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in 1826. She came with her parents to New Zealand in the ship "Blenheim" in 1840, landing at the Hutt. Port Nicholson in those days was nothing but bush and Maori pas. In 1842 she married Mr T. U. Mackenzie, and resided in Wellington till 1849. Mr and Mrs McKenzie then lived for a year at Porirua, and from 1850 to 1853 at Turakina. The family then took up their residence at "Poyntsfield," Lower Rangitikei, where they lived till 1897, when they came to Feilding. Mr McKenzie died here in May, 1904. The deceased lady went through all the experiences of the early settlers, roughing it as only the bush pioneers had to, feeling the terrors of the Maori wars, and braving all the dangers of the vanguard of civilisation. The house at "Poyntsfield" was known far and wide for its hospitality to both the friend and the stranger, and it was no uncommon occurrence for the inmates to be called up in the night to provide for some needy stranger. The garden was also looked on as a mark on the country side. Mr and Mrs McKenzie kept "open house" for the whole district for which they have long been remembered by visitors and old residents of the Rangitikei and adjacent districts. Of a family of twenty-one,

*there are seven sons and seven daughters living, who also have numerous children.
The funeral will take place at 12.15 p.m. on Monday.*

Margaret and Thomas had at least nineteen children!

- Eliza McKenzie, born in 1843, died in 1939, married Gustav August Hermann Rockel in 1866.
- Margaret McKenzie, born in 1844, died in 1921, married William Hair in 1863.
- John Alexander McKenzie, born in 1845, died in 1863.
- Robert Bruce McKenzie, born in 1848, died in 1914, married Grace McAdam Bryce in 1876.
- Duncan Daniel McKenzie, born in 1849, died in 1901, married Alice Eugenia Campbell in 1876.
- Thomas McKenzie, born in 1851, died in 1914, married Caroline Amelia Amon in 1875.
- Harriet Ann McKenzie, born in 1852, died in 1885, married Allan Tamberlain Campbell in 1873.
- Daniel McKenzie, born in 1854, died in 1891.
- Marjorie (Mysie) McKenzie, born in 1856, died in 1892, married Duncan Campion (cousin) in 1877.
- Alexander McKenzie, born in 1857, died in 1941, married Eliza Fox Clouston in 1884.
- William McKenzie, born in 1859, died in 1942, married Elizabeth Bryce in 1882.
- Charles McKenzie, born in 1860, died in 1943, married Amy Aldrich in 1897.
- David Hogg McKenzie, born in 1861, died in 1953, married Eva Redfern-Hardisty in 1911.
- Joan McKenzie, born in 1863, died in 1926, married Charles Edward Levien in 1883.
- Annie McKenzie, born in 1865, died in 1959, married John Deroles in 1891.
- James Alexander McKenzie, born in 1866, died in 1947.
- Mary McKenzie, born in 1868 (twin), died in 1946, married Arthur Hunter in 1897.
- Katherine McKenzie, born in 1868 (twin), died in 1919, married Charles Fitzherbert in 1889.
- Jessie Ross Monro Isabel McKenzie, born in 1871, died in 1855, married Edgar Percy Binns in 1896.

Elizabeth Fraser

Elizabeth Fraser was born on 29 January 1828, at Corran, and on the *Blenheim* passenger list was described as a housemaid of 13.

The *Wellington Independent* of 21 June 1848 carried the Notice: "Married – By license, in the Wesleyan Church, Manners Street, on Tuesday June 20, by the Rev.S. Ironside, Mr Cornelius Campion, to Miss Elizabeth Frazer, all of Wellington."

Cornelius Campion was born in Leinster, Ireland in 1818. In 1837 he enlisted in the 65th Regiment. In 1846 the Regiment provided the guards for a convict shipment to Hobart, was then posted to Sydney, and then to Port Nicholson when disturbances with Maori broke out in the Hutt Valley. In May 1846 Cornelius Campion purchased his own discharge from the Regiment.

Following the marriage, the couple remained in Wellington for three years or so, with Cornelius noted as a licensed victualler in his children's birth registrations. They moved initially to Wanganui, then to the Rangitikei district, eventually purchasing a section later called Raumai. Around 1868 the Campions shifted to Pine Creek at Carnavon.

Cornelius Campion died on 28 March 1872, aged 53. The *Wanganui Herald* of 17 April 1872 carried the Death Notice: "Campion – At his residence, Pine Creek Carnavon, Manawatu, on the 28th March Cornelius Campion, aged 53 years."

Elizabeth remained at Pine Creek until 1904 when she moved to Palmerston North to live with her daughter Elizabeth.

Elizabeth (Fraser) Campion died on 11 October 1904. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 17 October 1904 reported, "A well known Rangitikei, settler, Mrs. Campion, sen., who lived for more than 30 years at Pine Creek, Carnarvon, died on Tuesday at Palmerston, at the residence of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Bryce. Mrs. Campion was the widow of Mr. Cornelius Campion, who held a large tract of land at Parewanui in the early days."

Elizabeth and Cornelius had at least ten children:

- Margaret Campion, born in 1849, died in 1879, married John Stevens (cousin) in 1870.
- Margery Campion, born in 1850, died in 1941, married Robert Richard Stevens (cousin) in 1874.
- James Campion, born in 1853, died in 1936, married Janet McGregor McDonell (daughter of *Blenheim* passenger) in 1883.
- Duncan Campion, born in 1855 (twin), died in 1928, married Margery (Mysie) McKenzie (cousin) in 1877.
- Elizabeth Campion, born in 1855 (twin), died in 1949, married Frederick George Bryce in 1883.
- Cornelius Campion, born in 1858, died in 1879.
- Alexander Campion, born in 1859, died in 1929, married Margaret Gleeson in 1885.
- Mary Campion, born in 1863, died in 1942, married Joseph Penny Hammond in 1884.
- Kate Ellen Campion, born in 1866, died in 1924.
- Evelyn (Eva) Jessie Campion, born in 1869, died in 1951, married John Joseph Bryce in 1893.

Ann Fraser

Ann Fraser was born on 12 September 1829 at Corran, and was 12 years old when she travelled with the family on the *Blenheim* to New Zealand in 1840.

The *Wellington Independent* of 26 December 1849 carried the Marriage Notice: "On Christmas Day at St. Peter's Church, Te Aro, by the Rev. Robert Cole, Mr. T.F. Richardson of Wellington, to Ann, fifth daughter of Mr Duncan Frazer, of Rose Mount, Wade's Town."

Thomas Furner Richardson was born in Hastings, Sussex, England, on 1 April 1825. he accompanied his parents, Thomas and Delia Richardson, on the *Arab*

Thomas Furner Richardson died on 10 October 1904, aged 80.

Ann (Fraser) Richardson died on 8 October 1907, aged 78. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 11 October 1907 provided an obituary:

It is with regret we announce the death of a very old resident of Bulls, in the person of Mrs. Thomas F. Richardson who passed away at her residence, Kanaka Terrace, on Tuesday, at the good old age of 78 years. Deceased was one of the few remaining old colonists. She arrived at Wellington, New Zealand, in the ship Blenheim, in 1840, landing with her parents, the late Duncan and Marjorie Fraser. Mrs. Richardson married at the age of 21 and resided in Wellington for some years, and then came to Rangitikei, in which district she has lived for 47 years. The late Mrs. Richardson (says the "Advocate") leaves a grown-up family of 13 children, three sons and ten daughters, to regret their loss. The sons are Thos. F. Richardson, Mangamahoe; G. W. J Richardson, Manawatu; W. B. Richardson. Karaka Terrace. The daughters are — Mrs. J. M. Broughton, Bulls; Mrs. F. Thomas, Rangitikei; Mrs. S. Bellve, Auckland; Mrs. W. Richards, Manawatu; Mrs. C. Richards, Rangitikei; Mrs. H. Ryder, Petone; Mrs. J. Cockburn, Manawatu; Mrs. F. Simpson, Manawatu; and Miss Richardson, of Karaka Terrace. There are 61 grandchildren living, and 19 greatgrandchildren.

Anne and Thomas had at least fifteen children:

- Delia Sarah Richardson, born in 1850, died in 1883, married Richard Bernard Nolan in 1872.
- Thomas Fraser Richardson, born in 1852, died in 1928, married Unaiki Wairaka Karemihana.
- Caroline Ann Richardson, born in 1853, died in 1934, married John Markwick Broughton in 1876.
- John Alexander Richardson, born in 1856, died in 1898.
- George Wellington Jennings Richardson, born in 1858, died in 1933, married Helena Paul in 1892.
- Margery Elizabeth Richardson, born in 1860, died in 1931, married Frederick Henry Paap in 1885.
- William Burgess Richardson, born in 1862, died in 1913.
- Mercy Olivia Richardson, born in 1864, died in 1950, married Stephen Bellve in 1884.
- Kate Gertrude Richardson, born in 1867, died in 1956, married Walter Joseph Richards in 1891.
- Mary Emma Richardson, born in 1869 (twin), died in 1956, married Henry Edmund Ryder in 1894.
- Magdalene Fraser Richardson, born in 1869 (twin), died in 1944, married Charles Montrose Richards in 1902.
- Jessie Furner Richardson, born in 1870, died in 1966, married George Frederick Yorke in 1909.
- Mabel Minnie Richardson, born in 1872, died in 1963, married Henry William Cawood Henderson in 1894.
- Clara Florence Richardson, born in 1874, died in 1957, married John Cockburn in 1902.
- Beatrice Gordon Richardson, born in 1875, died in 1950, married Fred Thomas Simpson in 1902.

Alexander Fraser

The Old Parish Register for Ballachulish and Corran of Ardgour, listings for Ardgour, recorded that Alexander, son of Duncan Fraser and Marjory Fraser, Corran, was born 22nd September 1833 and baptised on 30 September 1833.

Alexander Fraser was 8 years old when he traveled to New Zealand with his family on the *Blenheim*.

Alexander Fraser died in on 30 December 1858, aged 25, of tuberculosis. The *Wellington Independent* of 1 January 1859 carried the Notice: "Died – At his father's residence, Rangitikei, on the 30th ultimo, Mr Alexander Fraser, aged 25 years, after a long and painful illness."

Donald Fraser

The Old Parish Register for Ballachulish and Corran of Ardgour, listings for Ardgour, recorded that Donald, son of Duncan Fraser and Marjory Fraser, Corran, was born February 28 1835 and baptised on March 1 1835.

Donald Fraser was 7 years old when he sailed to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*.

In 1852 he travelled up to the Rangitikei district, moving stock to the land purchased by his father. Donald Fraser spent some time seeking his fortune at the goldfields of Victoria and Otago, and also spent some time in Hawkes Bay, before returning to Rangitikei to manage Pukehou, and to purchase adjoining properties.

Donald Fraser married Margaret Smith on 11 April 1864.

Margaret Smith was born at Colchester, Essex, England, in 1842, and arrived in Wellington with her family around 1847. Her parents established a general store business on the corner of Molesworth and Hill Streets, and her brother, Francis Wilson Smith, became a friend of Donald Fraser.

Margaret (Smith) Fraser died on 3 December 1888, aged 46.

The *Cyclopedia of New Zealand (Wellington Provincial District)*, 1897, included the following description of Donald Fraser:

Fraser, Donald, Farmer, Pukehoe, Rangitikei. The subject of this sketch was born in Argyllshire Scotland, in 1835, and came to the Colony with his parents in 1840 in the ship "Benbow," [sic] his father having an appointment with the New Zealand Company. Mr. Fraser received his education in Wellington, where he remained until 1851, leaving Wellington for Rangitikei to work on his father's farm. In 1856 he went to the Victorian diggings, and two years later returned to Rangitikei, which he again left early in 1859 for Hawkes Bay, where he remained till August, 1860. Leaving Hawkes Bay he went to the Otago diggings, where he spent six months with better success than on the Victorian diggings, returning to Rangitikei to manage his father's farm. Mr. Fraser subsequently bought land adjoining that of his father, and now possesses a fine estate. He has always taken a keen part in the public matters of his district. As a breeder of blood stock, his name is well known in the North Island. In 1893 Mr. Fraser unsuccessfully contested the Otaki seat with Mr. J. G. Wilson.

The *Manawatu Standard* of 31 December 1912 published a letter from Donald Fraser to the *Rangitikei Advocate*, recalling his memories of Christmas Day 1840:

CHRISTMAS DAY, 1840: Mr Donald Fraser writes to the Rangitikei Advocate as follows, under date December 25th: — With your approval I enclose a few notes that this day brings to my memory of Christmas, 1840, which I spent in Wellington Harbour on board the ship Blenheim. On Boxing day we landed at Kaiwarra. There

were six or seven whares built by the natives at Taita of raupo, and partitioned off in about four rooms each with blue blankets for the doors. The families were allotted one or two rooms according to the number of them. They were principally Highlanders. At that time there must have been some 400 Maoris there in two pahs, one on each side of the stream. The head chief was Taringi Kuri or "Dog's Ear." We lived there for about 1 year and then shifted to Wellington. There were no roads, only foottracks from Wellington to Petone and to Porirua at that time. There must have been at least 5000 natives within an area of 12 or 13 miles of Wellington; now I suppose 100 or less would include all, and there were no half-castes in that 5000. The changes in the short space of 72 years are most wonderful. The ladies of the early 40's when they went to dances had to go in bullock drays as there were no buggies or traps. Mr Thomas Kempton and Mr Peter Hume each had bullock drays and were the principal carriers of goods and passengers. There are still living 10 or 12 of the Blenheim people, myself, my sister, Mrs Gregor McGregor, Mrs James McDonald, of the Lower Rangitikei, her brother, Duncan Cameron, of Greytown, Wairarapa, Mrs Cumberland McDonald, of Wanganui, and her brother, Mr Dugald Cameron. There is also my brother, Thomas Fraser, of Longburn, who was born on the voyage in the Bay of Biscay; and Mr Alexander Ferguson, of the Upper Tutaenui, was also born on the voyage, of whom all are alive; and Mrs Thomas Kebble, of Wellington. She was born in Scotland, and is now, I should think, over 80 years.

The *Feilding Star* of 10 August 1917 recalled an incident from the life of Donald Fraser:

FRASER AND SALISBURY: An incident in the career of the late Mr Donald Fraser is related by a contemporary. In 1897 the late Mr Fraser went to England to attend the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. After a great deal of difficulty he had an interview with Lord Salisbury, then Prime Minister. The latter failed to recognise Mr Fraser till the latter reminded him of an incident which had occurred many years before in New Zealand. It appears that one day Lord Salisbury was walking from Wellington to Rangitikei and in stopping on the way had lunch with a boy (Mr Fraser) on the beach. Lord Salisbury, when reminded of the incident, accorded a hearty welcome to Mr Fraser, in consequence of which the latter had a most enjoyable time, witnessing the jubilee celebrations from the best vantage spots.

Donald Fraser died on 4 August 1917 aged 82. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 6 August 1917 carried the Death Notice: "Fraser — At his residence, Pukehou. Bulls, on August 4, Donald Fraser, aged 82 years. The funeral of the late Mr Donald Fraser will leave his late residence, Pukehou, Bulls, for the private cemetery at Parewanui to-day (Monday)." The same issue published his obituary:

DEATH OF MR. DONALD FRASER: An old, highly esteemed, and widely-known pioneer settler of the Rangitikei district passed to his rest on Saturday morning last, in the person of Mr. Donald Fraser. The deceased gentleman, who had attained the ripe age of 82 years, was born in Coron, Argyle, on Loch Linne, Scotland, in February, 1835. Mr Fraser was wont to describe his father as being "one of a family of fifteen, his mother one of fifteen, and himself one of fifteen." They left Greenock in August, 1840, in the 450 ton barque Blenheim. and arrived in Wellington on Christmas Day of the same year. The passengers were mostly from the Highlands, and landed at Kaiwarra on December 27th. The father, Mr Duncan Fraser, set up as a blacksmith on the beach near Tinakori Road, Wellington. When the Rangitikei block was purchased from the natives he went to look at it, riding on subsequently to Wanganui, where his daughter, Mrs Champion, was living. On his return he purchased 200 acres from the Government at 10s. per acre. The family then went to live in the Rangitikei. Mr Donald Fraser came up in 1852 with some cattle, he and his brother driving them all the way from Wellington, and travelling on foot themselves, The family had the greatest influence upon the settlement of the Rangitikei, its descendents some years ago numbering well over a thousand, and

embracing the McGregors, the McKenzies, the Stevenses, the Campions, and the Richardsons, besides those bearing the name of the clan itself. Mr. Donald Fraser lived at Pukehou ever since he went there in 1852, with the exception of brief intervals when he caught the spirit of the goldfields, and made trips to the diggings in Victoria and Otago. He became widely known throughout the surrounding districts as a farmer on a large scale, though taking little part in public affairs. He was best known, perhaps, for his connection with the turf, which extended right back to the early days. His first recollections of racing were of rough and ready meetings on Petone beach and Te Aro flat, in Wellington. He had a vivid memory of such old-time champions as Figaro, Riddlesworth, and Sharkie. Mr Fraser used to do some long tides at different times before the days of trains, and on several occasions rode from Wellington to Pukehou by the old beach road from Paekakariki in 15 or 16 hours. He had a favourite horse by Peter Flat called Cracker, a wonderful horse with easy paces. He bred and owned many good animals, and raced horses for over forty years. Among some of those he bred were Fifeshire, Don Juan, St. Albans, Armourer, Barbarian, Gun Cotton, Bay Leaf, Laurel, Daphne, Lorelei, Laurestina, Glory, Flora McDonald, Titokowaru, Plain Bill, Speculation, Ngatuera and Brown Spec. The greatest of all his horses, however, was the champion Advance, by Vanguard—Laurel, who in his day won the finest prizes of the New Zealand turf. Laurel was subsequently owned and raced by Mr T. G. Collins, of Rangitikei Line, and Plain Bill was raced by Mr Tom Scott of Parewanui. For many years Mr Fraser had held the position of elected patron of the Rangitikei Racing Club. One of the first horses he raced was Fifeshire, who ran at Wanganui in 1864, so that for over forty years he has been the owner of racing stock. Mr Fraser had only been ill for a fortnight before his death, and previously had scarcely a day's illness in the course of his long life. Up till a month ago he was attending the stock sales and buying and selling with as much keenness and acumen as he had ever done. A family of nine are left to mourn their loss. The sons are Mr Duncan Fraser and Mr Alexander Fraser (who left New Zealand with the 23rd Reinforcements), and the daughters Mrs Thomas Scott (Wanganui), Mrs D. H. Guthrie (Feilding), Mrs Frank Gorringer (Palmerston N.). Mrs Mervyn Gorringer (Wellington), and three single daughters — Misses Marjorie, Kate and Sidney Fraser. The funeral will take place this afternoon, when the remains of the sturdy pioneer will be laid to rest in the family burial-ground of the Fraser Clan at Parewanui.

The *Feilding Star* of 8 August 1917 reported on the funeral:

BURIAL OF DONALD FRASER: Settlers for many miles round attended the funeral of Mr Donald Fraser on Monday at Parawanui. Over 60 motor-cars left the house, and others assembled at the cemetery. Kawana Ropiha, on behalf of the Ngatiapa tribe, gave the ancient Maori chant for the departure of the chieftain. The Maori women wore wreaths of green leaves, and six young Maori lads bore the coffin on their shoulders. A number of valuable Maori mats were buried with the coffin. These were offerings of the tribe, to whom he had been a friend for 60 years. Sir James Carroll, Sir James Wilson, Mr James Colvin. M.P. and Mr D. H. Guthrie. M.P. (son-in-law) were present.

Donald and Margaret had eleven children:

- Margery Fraser, born in 1868, died in 1950.
- Susan Fraser, born in 1869, died in 1957, married Thomas Scott in 1894.
- Duncan Fraser, born in 1871, died in 1921.
- Agnes Fraser, born in 1872, died in 1966, married David John Henry Guthrie in 1907.
- Kate Fraser, born in 1874, died in 1942.
- Alexander Fraser, born in 1876, died in 1917 (WW1).
- Margaret Fraser, born in 1878, died in 1967, married Mervyn Hugh Egerton Gorringer in 1904.

- Alice Fraser, born in 1880, died in 1880.
- Edith Fraser, born in 1881, died in 1980.
- Helen Fraser, born in 1883, died in 1971, married Frank Herbert Rollins Gorringer in 1909.
- Frances Sydney Fraser, born in 1884, died in 1964.

Duncan Fraser

The Old Parish Register for Ballachulish and Corran of Ardgour, listings for Corran of Ardgour, recorded that Duncan, son of Duncan Fraser and Marjory Fraser, Corran, was baptised on 27 September 1836.

Duncan Fraser was a child of 4 when he accompanied his family on the voyage to New Zealand in the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Duncan Fraser died on 26 August 1863, aged 26, of tuberculosis.

Thomas Fraser

Thomas Fraser was born at sea on the *Blenheim*, somewhere in the Bay of Biscay.

On 3 September 1840, Jessie Campbell wrote in her Journal, "First thing we heard in the morning that Mrs Fraser the smith's wife from Ardgour had been brought to bed of a fine stout boy, both doing well as possible. Capt. Gray said she must have had a rolling time of it. Child gets no other name than *Blenheim*."

The birth was recorded in New Zealand BDM records as Thomas Frazer on 3 September 1840, to Duncan and Marjory Frazer.

Thomas Fraser married Elizabeth Jane Gardiner on 16 November 1875.

Elizabeth Jane Gardiner was born in Kent, England, in 1855, and emigrated to New Zealand in 1870 with her parents on the *Star of India*. The family settled at Campbelltown, later called Rongotea, in the Manawatu district.

Thomas and Elizabeth farmed initially at Carnavon, then in 1880 moved to Awahuri, and in 1888 to Stoney Creek, near Palmerston North. Thomas later moved to Longburn where he built a hotel.

Thomas Fraser died on 9 December 1915. The *Manawatu Times* of 10 December 1915 carried the Death Notice: "Fraser – At a private hospital, Palmerston North, on Thursday, December 9, 1915, Thomas Fraser, of Longburn, aged 76 years." The *Manawatu Standard* of 13 December 1915 published the following obituary:

*THE LATE MR THOMAS FRASER: The funeral of the late Mr Thomas Fraser took place yesterday, the interment being at the Fraser burial ground at Parawanui. There was a large attendance of friends and relatives to pay their last tribute to his memory. The Rev. Mr Nicholson, of Bulls, was the officiating minister, and the pallbearers were deceased's three sons, two nephews (Messrs Duncan and Alex Fraser) and Mr Duncan Campion. The late Mr Fraser was one of the Fraser clan of Rangitikei, a family which has taken a prominent part in the settlement and development of this coast. Their progenitors were Mr and Mrs Duncan Fraser who came from Fort Augustus, on the Caledonian Canal, Scotland. They made the voyage to New Zealand in the barque *Blenheim*, 450 tons. She sailed from Greenock and after a voyage of four months and ten days arrived in Wellington harbour on Christmas Day, 1840. Their children numbered fourteen, and there are over a thousand descendants from them. The late Mr Thomas Fraser was born in the Bay of Biscay, on the voyage to New Zealand. He lived for a number of years at Wellington, and then removed to Rangitikei with the family. He followed farming pursuits for a number of years at Rangitikei, Awahuri and Stony Creek, afterwards*

taking up hotelkeeping at Petone and Longburn, and finally living in retirement at Longburn. He is survived by two brothers and one sister, viz., Messrs Donald Fraser (Pukehoe, Bulls) and Hugh Fraser (late of Pohangina) and Miss Kate Fraser (of Palmerston North). He is also survived by his wife, daughter and three sons, Miss Kate Fraser, Mr W. G. Fraser (of Duthie and Co., Wellington), Mr C. D. Fraser (of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Co., of Wanganui) and Mr J. D. Fraser (of the clerical branch of the Railway Stores Department, Dunedin). The late Mr Fraser saw many stirring times in connection with the early days, and many times he made the journey from Rangitikei to Wellington and back on foot through the hostile Maori tribes. He also had some exciting experiences hunting wild cattle in the Lower Rangitikei, at which dangerous pastime two of his brothers were killed. He took a keen interest in volunteering and was a member of the old Rangitikei Cavalry, which was famous for its proficiency in those days. In his prime he was a man of prodigious strength and performed some extraordinary feats of lifting before block and tackle was imported.

Following Thomas' death, Elizabeth moved to Petone to live with her son William and daughter Kate. Elizabeth Jane (Gardiner) Fraser died on 7 September 1936. The *Evening Post* of 8 September 1936 carried the Death Notice: "Fraser – On September 7, 1936, at 114 Hutt Road, Petone, Elizabeth Jane Fraser, relict of the late Thomas Fraser; aged 81 years."

Thomas and Elizabeth had four children:

- Kate Fraser, born in 1876, died in 1946.
- William Gardiner Fraser, born in 1878, died in 1941.
- Cornelius Duncan Fraser, born in 1880, died in 1940, married Emma Catherine Voss in 1906.
- John Douglas Fraser, born in 1882, died in 1963, married Mary Maud Stubbs in 1912.

JANE FRASER

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* included a Francis Fraser, 22, housemaid from Fort William, who was noted as being “Niece to D Fraser Smith Corran and will be a member of his family,” but the entry was crossed out.

In the subsequent lists there was a Jane Fraser, 20, listed separately in the interim list and arrival lists, but with the family of Duncan Fraser in the embarkation list.

Some compilations of *Blenheim* passenger lists identify Jane Fraser as “a sister of Mrs Duncan Fraser” (e.g. *Pukehou*). While this description does not appear in any of the contemporary lists prepared by the New Zealand Company, *Pukehou* and supporting information confirms that Jane was the sister of Marjory Fraser.

Jane Fraser

Jane Fraser was born around 1819 to Alexander Fraser and Elizabeth MacDonell.

Jane Fraser was 20 when she emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Jane Fraser was the younger sister of Marjory Fraser, wife of Duncan Fraser (see [Duncan and Marjory Fraser](#)).

Jane Fraser married Thomas Crosbie on 7 February 1842 in Wanganui.

Thomas Crosbie was a shoemaker, a widower who had emigrated in 1841 from Scotland, but his wife and newborn daughter died on the voyage. They travelled on the *Lord William Bentinck*, which left Gravesend on 8 January 1841 and arrived in Wellington on 24 May 1841. The passenger list included Thomas and Isabella Crosbie and two children, but Isabella died on 8 February 1841 aged 28, and Janet Crosbie died on 4 March 1841 aged 6 months. Thomas and Isabella’s son William, born in 1836, survived the voyage. Thomas Crosbie was born on 15 October 1811 at Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, Scotland.

Jane and Thomas had seven children between 1844 and 1853, but then Thomas and his eldest son William went to the goldfields at Ballarat. Jane and six children followed them not long afterwards, travelling on the *Penyard Park* in October 1853, and another child was born in Ballarat in 1855.

Jane Fraser died at Ballarat on 10 June 1856, aged 36, of typhus fever. The registration record noted that she was the daughter of Alexander Fraser, publican, Fort Augustus, Inverness, Scotland, and Elizabeth Fraser; she was born at Fort Augustus, and had been in Victoria for 2 years and 9 months; and she was married at “Peatire, Wangui” [*Petre, Wanganui*], New Zealand at the age of 22 to Thomas Crosbie. Jane’s living children were Thomas, 10; John, 9; Gordon, 7; James, 6; Alexander, 4; Isabella, 3; and Alexandrina, 14 months. The informant was Thomas Crosbie, miner, Ballarat.

Thomas returned to New Zealand with some of the children and died in Dunedin on 3 January 1865. Donald Fraser went to Ballarat, possibly in the late 1870s and brought back one of the daughters, possibly Isabella Jane, who is buried at the Fraser Cemetery.

William Crosbie remained in Victoria, and married Margaret Speedy in Ballarat in 1868. He died in Ballarat in 1886.

Jane and Thomas had at least nine children, including:

- Alexander Crosbie, born in 1844, died in 1844.

- Thomas Crosbie, born in 1846, died in 1883, married Emma Louisa Hillyer, previously Lovegrove, in 1880.
- John Hugh Crosbie, born in 1847, died in 1914 in Ballarat, Victoria, married Eliza McElwee, formerly Nicoll, previously Mullin, previously Williams, in 1883 in Victoria.
- Bernard Gordon Crosbie, born in 1848, died in 1896, married Fanny Gell [*Hill?*] in 1883.
- James Crosbie, born in 1849.
- Alexander Crosbie, born in 1851, died in 1898 in New South Wales, married Emma Collier in 1890 in Victoria.
- Isabella Jane Crosbie, born in 1853, died in 1943.
- Alexandrina Forbes Crosbie, born in 1855 in Ballarat, Victoria, died in 1863 [*possibly under the name of Elizabeth Crosbie*].

ALEXANDER GRANT AND MARY CAMERON

Alexander Grant was not on the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, but was on the embarkation list as a mason of 30, and the arrival list as a quarrier of 30.

Alexander Grant and Mary Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Urquhart and Glenmoriston in Inverness, records that on August 12th 1808 John Grant and Catherine Grant, Balnacarn, had a male child born and baptized this day called Alexander.

Alexander Grant was 31 when he emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

According to New Zealand BDM records, Alexander Grant and Mary Cameron were married on 29 January 1841, barely a month after the *Blenheim's* arrival in New Zealand.

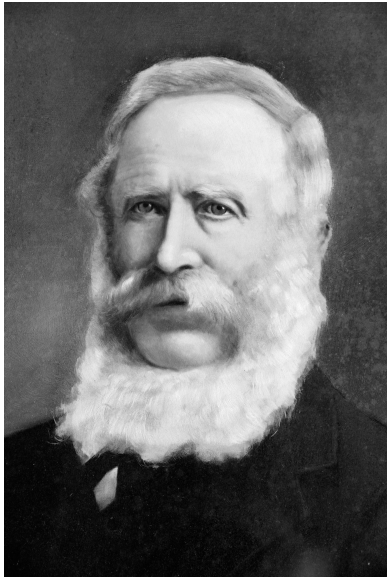
Mary Cameron was the daughter of Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson, sister of Jane Cameron (see Dugald McLachlan and Jane Cameron) and of Annie Cameron (see Donald McDonald and Anne Cummings).

Alexander Grant worked initially as a surveyor for the New Zealand Company, which included a move to New Plymouth for a period, then undertook an exhausting trip to the Wairarapa with the Kettle survey team in 1842. In 1850, the family headed to the Rangitikei district where they purchased land and established a farm called Tullochgorum. The property continues to be farmed by the Grant family today.

The *Cyclopedia of New Zealand (Wellington Provincial District)*, 1897, included the following in its section on Turakina:

Grant, Alexander, Sheepfarmer, Turakina. At the time of writing—1896 this old colonist was in his eighty-ninth year, having been born on the 12th of August, 1808, at Glen Morison, Inverness, Scotland. He landed in Wellington per ship "Blenheim" in 1840, and ten years later settled in Turakina, purchasing 700 acres of land, on which he resided for the best part of fifty years. Mr. Grant considered New Zealand the best country in the world and held the opinion that all who have health, and are careful and industrious, may make a fair living in the Colony. He enjoyed robust health till just before his death, and in 1894 paid a visit to a married daughter in Gippsland, Victoria, with whom he remained three months. Mr. Grant was married in February, 1844, to a daughter of Mr. D. Cameron, of Argyllshire, Scotland, and left three sons and four daughters, a great many grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. (Mr. Grant died in January 1897).

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 4 February 1891 reported, "Mr and Mrs Alexander Grant, of Tullachgorum, Turakina, celebrated their golden wedding on Thursday last, when a large number of children and grandchildren, as well as a host of friends were present to do honour to the occasion. We are glad to hear that Mr and Mrs Grant are in the best of health and likely to enjoy a good many more years of a happy contented life."



Alexander Grant



Mary (Cameron) Grant

Mary (Cameron) Grant died on 21 April 1895, aged 82. The *Feilding Star* of 23 April 1895 contained the Death Notice: "Grant – On the 21st instant, Mary (Cameron) Grant, beloved wife of Alexander Grant, of Tullochgorum, aged 82 years."

Alexander Grant died on 10 January 1897, aged 88. The *Feilding Star* of 12 January 1897 contained the Death Notice: "Grant – At his residence, Tullochgorum, Turakina, on the 10th of January, 1897: Alexander Grant, aged 88." The newspaper also reported, "Mr Alexander Grant, whose figure has for many years been one of the best known in Rangitikei, died on Sunday at his residence, Tullochgorum, near Turakina. Death was due to old age and failure of the heart's action. Mr Grant took an interest in public affairs to the last, and was Mr Bruce's seconder at the recent election for Manawatu." The *Evening Post* of 12 January 1897 included the following report:

ANOTHER OF THE PIONEER BAND GONE: Marton, This Day. Mr. Alexander Grant, of Tullochgorum, Turakina, who died on Sunday at the age of 88, was one of the earliest settlers in the Provincial District. He arrived in Wellington in 1840, and was for some time inspector of works for the New Zealand Company. Mr. Grant led an exploring party through the Manawatu Gorge, and after an absence of ten weeks returned to Wellington via the Hutt River, he and his followers being in a half-naked state. One of the incidents of the journey was an attack by Maoris, who fled wildly in terror on Mr. Grant feigning uncontrollable madness. The deceased has lived on his estate at Turakina for 50 years.

Alexander and Mary had nine children, not all survived infancy:

- John Grant, born in 1841, died in 1843.
- Catherine Grant, born in 1843, died in 1918, married Robert Kirkpatrick Simpson in 1863.
- John Archibald Grant, born in 1845, died in 1845.
- Ewen Grant, born in 1846, died in 1920.
- Mary Cameron Grant, born in 1848, died in 1938, married James McDonald in 1874.
- John Grant, born in 1850, died in 1942, married Mary Shove in 1885.
- Elizabeth Grant, born in 1851, died in 1878.

- Duncan Donald Grant, born in 1853, died in 1900.
- Betsy Grant, born in 1857, died in 1947 in Australia, married Alexander Fraser McRae in 1891.

WILLIAM HARVIE

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, did not include William Harvie. He was, however, included in the embarkation and subsequent lists as William Harvie, 15, labourer.

William Harvey

Based on his age given in the *Blenheim* passenger list, William Harvie was born around 1825.

No further information has been confirmed for William Harvie.

ALEXANDER KEITH

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* included Alexander Keith, 24, in an additional list at the end. The embarkation and subsequent lists included Alexander Keith, 24, shepherd.

Alexander Keith

Based on his age of 24 in the *Blenheim* passenger list, Alexander Keith was born around 1816.

The only references to an Alexander Keith in the early years of the colony are in court reports. The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 20 April 1842, recorded that Alexander Keith was convicted of stealing a watch from his employer, Mr Robert Sturgeon, a watchmaker in Wellington. In mitigation of punishment he put in a statement confessing his guilt, which he attributed first to disappointment in not obtaining money he expected on his arrival, and next to the bad habit of drinking. The Judge passed sentence of six months imprisonment and hard labour, remarking that the prisoner was receiving pay from Mr. Sturgeon, and therefore could not have been in want.

A few months later, as reported in some detail in the *New Zealand Colonist and Port Nicholson Advertiser* of 18 November 1842, Alexander Keith, presumably just out of his sentence, was indicted for stealing two Maori mats, one pair "trowsers", one piece of soap, and other article, the property of an aboriginal native of the name of Ohiro or George, on the 18th of October. Ohiro, Benjamin Eglinton, constable, and others gave evidence to the effect that Alexander Keith had sold some of the articles, most of which were recovered. Alexander Keith was found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment for six calendar months to hard labour.

No further information has been confirmed for Alexander Keith.

DANIEL MCCOLLSTY

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, did not include a Daniel McCollsty. The embarkation and subsequent lists included Daniel McCollsty, 27 stonemason, although the arrival list had his age as 30, along with some others, with the comment "What is the worth the ages are not given here."

Daniel McCollsty

No further information has been confirmed for Daniel McCollsty.

WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH MCCONNEL

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, did not include the McConnels. They did appear in the embarkation and subsequent lists. There was also a child born at sea:

- William McConnel, 22, Paisley, baker
- Elizabeth McConnel, 21, Paisley
- Helen McConnel, born at sea

William and Elizabeth McConnel

No further information has been established for the McConnel family.

Helen McConnel

Jessie Campbell's Journal entry for 28 October 1840 noted, "A Paisley woman delivered of a daughter, the woman do not seem to suffer much as home. Lat 33°9 S Long 9°59 W." This puts the location in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean. The date of birth for Helen McConnell, mother Elizabeth, father William, is confirmed by New Zealand BDM records.

No further information has been confirmed for Helen McConnel.

DONALD MCDONALD AND ANNE CUMMINGS

The *Caledonian Mercury* of 29 August 1840, in reporting on the departure of the *Blenheim*, noted, "The ship is commanded by Captain Gray, and the emigrants amount to betwixt 150 and 200. They are all from Lochaber, Morvern and Skye, with a few Lowlanders. The families consist of the parents, and from six to ten children each, and they are all under the kindly and fatherly care of Mr M'Donald of Drimintoran, a genuine and highly respectable Highlander, who, to prove his confidence in the benefits to be derived from emigration, and the trust that might be put in his sincerity, goes out along with his family and friends to the land of hope, which we understand, is Wellington, Port Nicholson."

Because they were cabin passengers the family was not on the passenger lists of those receiving free passage. From newspaper reports the family included:

- Donald MacDonald, Esq., 51
- Mrs MacDonald,
- Catherine MacDonald, 17
- Donald MacDonald, 16
- Adam MacDonald, 15
- Flora MacDonald, 13
- Alexander MacDonald, 12
- Campbell MacDonald, 10
- Thomas MacDonald, 5
- Duncan MacDonald, 18 mths

Spelling: The variations used in documents and other sources include "MacDonald", "Macdonald", "M'Donald", and McDonald". In this book "McDonald" has been used unless the source indicated otherwise.

Donald McDonald and Anne Cummings

Donald McDonald was described in the *New Zealand Journal* of Saturday August 29 1840 as "a large landholder in the colony, and nearly the whole body of emigrants by the *Blenheim* was composed of his own and the neighbouring clans, near Fort William, in Inverness-shire."

Alexander McDonald wrote a memoir which included some of the history of his family. He noted that he had documentary evidence sufficiently conclusive to himself, that he belonged to the Glencoe branch of the MacDonald Clan.

Alexander's grandfather's name was Donald MacDonald, and while he was too young to join the clan in the rising of 1745, he ran after and overtook the Glencoe men and marched with them to Culloden. After Culloden, this Donald McDonald escaped with others to France, but returned to Scotland while he was still a young man and took to farming. His son Donald (Alexander's father) followed in the same pursuit, and was presented with a silver cup in 1829 by the Highland Agricultural Society in testimony of the best managed farm in the West Highlands (this cup, and another awarded to the senior Donald MacDonald, have been recovered by descendants of Alexander MacDonald and are their treasured possessions). Donald MacDonald was in the Commission of the Peace, and Deputy Lieutenant of Argyleshire for 22 years. The cup was not the only recognition received by Donald McDonald. The *Caledonian Mercury* of 31 January 1828, in its publication

of premiums adjudged by the Highland Society of Scotland, reported that Mr Donald MacDonald, Tenant in Drimintoran, Sunart, received five Sovereigns for the best two Quays [*heifers*] of two years old in the District of Morvern, Ardnamurchan etc, and in 1833 the *Caledonian Mercury* of 31 January reported that he received eight sovereigns for the best bull exhibited at the Competition held in Strontian in August 1832.

Donald McDonald was born around 1781.

Donald McDonald had an early marriage to Jane Kennedy, who died a few years after the marriage. It seems unlikely that there were any children. The *Caledonian Mercury* of 19 February 1814 carried the Marriage Notice: "At Keppoch, on the 3rd current, Donald McDonald, Esq., of Drimintoran, to Miss Jane Kennedy, only daughter of the late Rev. Mr John Kennedy, of Auchterer."

A few years later, Donald McDonald married Anne Cummings. The Old Parish Register for Coldstream in the county of Berwick recorded that Donald McDonald of the parish of Ardnamurchan, and Ann Cummings of this parish, were registered for proclamation on the 23rd September and married the 9th October 1820.

The New Zealand Company employed Donald MacDonald to arrange with a number of Scottish families to emigrate to New Zealand, and a large number from the West Highlands agreed to make the trip. There were some late withdrawals and the ship could take more, so several families of Paisley weavers were also enlisted for the voyage.

Jessie Campbell's Journal includes many references to the McDonald family, given that they lived cheek by jowl for several months on the voyage to New Zealand. Not all of the remarks were charitable.

In talking of the McDonald's plans, Jessie wrote, "Capt. Gray told Capt. C today that he knew all Mr Macdonald's history, that he had failed for £10,000 and of his intemperate habits. Mr Macdonald told Capt. C that he has hopes of getting a situation from the company as he had letters from some of the Directors to Col. Wakefield; he says it will be useless for him to go to his land as he has no subject to stock it or improve it. (Of course we are very doubtful however time will soon shew). His wife and daughter are to keep school he says in Port Nicholson. Catherine is fit to teach none but mere beginners, what her mother means to teach I cannot fancy."

Before leaving Scotland Donald McDonald, and others, had bought land at Wanganui from the New Zealand Company, but remained in Wellington at Kaiwarra where he had charge of the road-making from Wellington to Petone, Porirua and Karori. The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 3 March 1841 noted, "We walked out on the Porirua road a few days since, and were much gratified with the rapid progress which had been made. About three miles of the road are now as good as need be for the present. Mr. M'Donald has shown great judgment in the management of this important undertaking, and the colonists may consider themselves fortunate in having among them a gentleman so evidently well qualified to perform the task he has in hand."

Jessie Campbell's letters home included much gossip about the McDonalds, including Donald McDonald's reversion to intemperence and the effect it had on his health. In a letter of 4 December 1842, she wrote, "I wrote to my mother about Drimintoran having lost his situation, alas miserable man, the accounts we had a few days ago are still more wretched, he is a ruined man. Everything he has was seized for debt. His son Adam, saved him from being sent to jail by giving up the little pittance he had saved. God help his poor wife, I feel deeply for her, with all her

faults she is well principled. He, poor wretch, is lying dangerously ill, scarcely expected to recover, I think his death would be a happy release to his family, he has brought such disgrace upon them. Adam is very steady and a sensible lad. Donald's death was blessing, he was as drunken as his father without his abilities when sober. Catherine's intended has not returned from Auckland, all this blow up has occurred during his absence. I wonder what he will feel about it when he hears of McDonald's disgrace. The Capt. and John Cameron were thankful to be at such a distance from him, they would not like to have intercourse with a man spoken of as he is."

As outlined by Alexander McDonald in his memoir, his father, once a first-class farmer and magistrate, fell "victim to the intemperate use of intoxicants," which broke him down but not irretrievably before leaving Scotland, but after a year or two in New Zealand he gave way to the habit.

Donald McDonald died on 26 July 1849. The *Wellington Independent* of 28 July 1849 carried the Death Notice: "At Glengower near Wellington, on Thursday Evening the 26th inst., Donald M'Donald, Esq., late of Drimintoran, Argyleshire, and Deputy Lieutenant of the same County, Aged 68 years."

Anne (Cummings) McDonald died on 7 April 1870 at Christchurch under the name of Agnes McDonald. The death registration noted that she was 70 years old and died of "general vital failure consequent on old age", with the informant being Llewellyn Powell MD, Christchurch, but with no other information. It is likely that she was living with her daughter Catherine at the time. The *Press* of 8 April 1870 carried the Death Notice: "McDonald—At Christchurch, on the 7th April, Agnes, widow of the late Donald McDonald, Esq. Drimintoran, Argyleshire, and of Wellington, N Z, aged 74."

Catherine McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian records the baptism on 27 October 1823 of Catherine, daughter to Donald MacDonald, tacksman of Drimintoran, and Anne Cummings.

Catherine was 16 when she boarded the *Blenheim* in August 1840. She appears to have given lessons to the younger children, occasioning Jessie Campbell to remark that she had a very good method with young children.

In a letter of 27 June 1843 Jessie Campbell wrote, "...but my servant, who was with them for some time, says Catherine was quite the fine lady, did nothing to assist her mother. Her intended has not yet returned from Auckland, she hears from him regularly. From a reduction of the surveying staff he lost his situation, he has been wanting the acting Governor to fulfil his promise of giving him another place, by the last accounts he was on the eve of being appointed Protector of the Aborigines either here or at Kafia, a place further down the coast. I do not know what his salary will be, probably 200 pounds a year. Catherine has been very fortunate. Mr. Campbell has been highly spoken of by all. Mr. Spain told me he was a most honourable well principled young man."

The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* for 14 October 1843 carried the following Marriage Notice: "At 'Kai Wara Wara, on the 10th October, by the Rev. J. Macfarlane, first minister of the Scotch Church, N.Z., John Campbell, Esq., formerly of Edinburgh, now Protector of Aborigines at Taranaki, to Catherine, daughter of D. M'Donald, Esq., formerly of Druim-an-Soran, Argyleshire, N.B."

However, the *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 15 November 1843 reported:

Died. At Wellington, on the 2nd instant, John Campbell, Esq., formerly of Edinburgh, aged 29. Mr. Campbell was originally bred to the profession of the Law, but having emigrated to New Zealand, he was employed as a Surveyor by the Local Government, for which his scientific acquirements particularly fitted him. Subsequently he was appointed Protector of the Aborigines at Taranaki, and it is much to be regretted that the liberal and enlightened views which he entertained as to the relative position of the European's and Natives, and his anxious wish to promote the interest of both, have been frustrated by his premature death. He was much respected by all who knew him his funeral was attended by most of the officials connected with the Government and the New Zealand Company, and upwards of a hundred Natives.

Catherine (McDonald) Campbell remarried, to Robert Waitt on 5 June 1844.

Jessie Campbell wrote on 9 September 1845, "Catherine seems quite wrapped up in her baby and Grandmama not less so." and in another letter, "The last time I heard from Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. [Waitt] was so ill with rheumatism she was preparing to go to Sydney in hopes of the warm climate benefiting her, her baby is a very fine child, Catherine is so thin and haggard John C, says I would hardly know her."

The family moved to Christchurch in 1854 where Robert Waitt carried on business as a merchant in Lyttelton and leased a sheep station at Double Corner at Motunau. By 1857 he had purchased the Casterton Estate in the Heathcote Valley.

Robert Waitt died on 14 September 1866. The *Lyttelton Times* carried the Death Notice: "Waitt – Sept. 14, at Opawa, Robert Waitt, aged 50 years."

Catherine (McDonald) Waitt died on 23 December 1877. The *Press* carried the Death Notice: "Waitt – On the 23rd December, Catherine, widow of the late Robert Waitt, Esq., aged fifty-four years."

Catherine and Robert had at least five children:

- Mary Douglas Waitt, born in 1845, died in 1865, married Llewelyn Price Traherne in 1863.
- Robert McDonald Waitt, born in 1847, died in 1879, married Janie Emerald White in 1876.
- Agnes Isabella Waitt, born in 1850, died in 1882, married Andrew Jameson in 1869.
- Flora Margaret Waitt, born in 1851, died in 1885, married Thomas Dyke Acland in 1874.
- George Caverhill Waitt, born in 1855, died in 1867.

Donald McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian records that Donald, son of Donald MacDonald, tacksman of Drimintoran, and Anne Cummings, was born the 26th September was baptized the 1st October 1824.

Donald McDonald was 16 when he travelled to New Zealand in 1840.

It appears from Jessie Campbell's letters that Donald McDonald died before December 1842, but details have not been found.

Adam Cummings McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian records that Alexander, son of Donald MacDonald, tacksman of Drimintoran, and Anne Cummings, was born 27th March, baptized the 5th April 1829.

Adam Cummings McDonald and Margaret Wallace were married in Wellington on 10 June 1852.

Adam Cummings McDonald died in Wellington on 20 September 1858 at the age of 35.

In his memoirs, Alexander McDonald wrote that after his father's death:

His place was nobly filled by my elder brother, Adam Cummings McDonald, who at the time of my father's death was a valued clerk in the Union Bank of Australia. It pleased God however, that he should also be taken from us. He died very suddenly in 1858, leaving a widow and two sons, and two daughters. He was then Manager of the Wellington Branch of the Union Bank of Australia. On his sudden death the directors of the Bank wrote a letter of sympathy to his widow, enclosing also a whole year's salary £400 of their late Manager in testimony of their appreciation of his worth. The Directors also expressed a wish that the two boys of their late Manager would be kept at school, with a view to commercial life, and that a place would always be open to them in their Bank when of suitable age. In due time the eldest boy Adam was taken into the Bank, and the youngest, George, went into the office of Messrs. Turnbull.

Let me say here to you young people that there never was in this world two young men who gave greater promise of a beautiful, useful, Christian life. And yet it pleased God to take both these fine young men before they reached the prime of life. They both died of typhoid fever within a fortnight of each other. It had been found impossible to prevent the younger from nursing the elder brother, who was first taken ill, and the former caught the infection and they were both taken. The youngest sister Amelia, without exception the most delightful child I ever saw in my life, also caught the infection and died within a few weeks of her brothers.

[The reference to the date of Amelia's death is not consistent with BDM information.]

Adam and Margaret McDonald had four children:

- Adam Campbell McDonald, born in 1853, died in 1879.
- George Robertson McDonald, born in 1854, died in 1879.
- Agnes Jane McDonald, born in 1856, died in 1924.
- Amelia Jessie McDonald, born in 1858, died in 1875

Flora McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian records that Flory, daughter of Donald McDonald, tacksman of Drimintoran, and Anne Cummings, was born the 6th and baptized the 17th day of March 1828.

Flora McDonald was 13 when she emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*.

Flora McDonald married Thomas Kebbell on 8 November 1848. The couple moved to the Manawatu district, where Thomas Kebbell and his brother John built the first steam sawmill. After returning to Wellington following the 1855 earthquake, Thomas Kebbell carried out duties as a J.P. and was active in business.

Thomas Kebbell died in 1890 by drowning during a yacht race on Wellington Harbour. The incident was reported by the *Feilding Star* of 23 January 1890:

Terrible Drowning Accidents: It is with deep regret that we record the death by drowning of Mr Thomas Kebbell, a well known citizen, which occurred during the progress of the First Class Yacht Race at the Regatta yesterday. Mr Kebbell, who has taken great interest in yachting for many years, was engaged in sailing the Florence, which was owned by him, when the accident occurred. The yacht, which was leading, had completed her second journey round the course, and shortly after passing the flagship Mr Kebbell took the tiller from Dr Fell, who formed one of

the party, remarking, strangely enough, "that this would be the last race he would ever sail." He was sitting on the weather gunwale of the boat holding on to the tiller lines, when he was observed by the doctor to suddenly fall backwards into the water. The yacht, which was travelling at a great rate, was put about as speedily as possible, and in the meantime Mr Cecil Kebbell jumped overboard with the intention of assisting his father. A small rowing boat, manned by two boys, which had been cruising about, had been brought up alongside Mr Kebbell, and the lads succeeded in holding his head above water until the Florence was brought up alongside. The unfortunate gentleman was then hauled into the boat as speedily as possible. Mr Kebbell had evidently been dead some time before he was taken out of the water.

The deceased gentleman was 71 years of age, arrived in New Zealand by the ship Mandarin in 1841. In co-operation with his brother he built a steam sawmill (afterward a flour mill) in the Manawatu, from which place he was driven by the earthquake of 1855, which destroyed the mill. He leaves a widow and six children. Three sons are living in the Wairarapa. and the three daughters are Mesdames H. P. Higginson, A. de B. Brandon, and Tilley (Wanganui). Inspector Thomson received the following telegram from Otaki last night Catherine Mary and Dora Ann Kebbell, 10 and 8 years respectively daughters of Mr J. Kebbell, J.P., Ohau, were drowned while bathing in the Ohau river at 11 a.m. to-day." Mr J. Kebbell, father of the two children who have thus met with a terrible death, is a nephew of Mr T. Kebbell who was drowned yesterday. We feel sure that the people of Wellington generally will sympathise with the members of a highly esteemed family in their severe bereavement.

Flora (McDonald) Kebbell died on 20 December 1919, aged 91. The *Dominion* of 22 December 1919 carried the Death Notice: "Kebbell – On December 20, 1919, at her residence, No [...] Hobson Street, Flora, widow of the late Thomas Kebbell, Esq., in her 92nd year." The *Wairarapa Age* of 24 December 1919 noted:

Many people will regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Flora Kebbell, widow of the late Mr. Thomas Kebbell, both being much respected and popular pioneer residents of Wellington, Mrs. Kebbell passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday morning early, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Tilly, of Hobson Street. She was in her 92nd year, and had enjoyed wonderfully good health, considering her advanced age. Mrs. Kebbell leaves three daughters, Mrs. Higginson, who is resident in England, Mrs. A. de B. Brandon, and Mrs. Tilly, both of Wellington. Her sons are Messrs William, Richard, and Cecil Kebbell.

The *Dominion* of 24 December 1919 published the following obituary:

AN INTERESTING MEMOIR: THE LATE MRS. THOMAS KEBBELL. On January 22 next it will be 80 years since the pioneers of the New Zealand Company landed at Petone, and laid the foundation of the settlement of New Zealand. Ship after ship followed in succession' laden with immigrants and stores, and among them was the Blenheim, which cast anchor in Port Nicholson on December 27, 1840, welcomed by bright sunshine. Among her passengers was a girl twelve years of age accompanying her father, mother, brothers, and sister, who had left the home of their ancestors to found a new home in a new land, M'Donalds of Druimantorran, in Scotland, they sought a favourable turn of fortune's wheel in New Zealand. The people of to-day cannot really form any conception of travel as it was in those days. The Blenheim was a ship of 378 tons burthen, and on that voyage carried 197 passengers, besides officers and crew. Salt meat and biscuits were the staple food, and the voyage lasted four months.

The excitement of the child on waking one morning and finding the, ship at anchor may be imagined, and her joy at seeing the beautiful harbour of Port Nicholson surrounded by hills, bush-clad to the water's edge and alive with singing birds, created an impression which lasted her lifetime. For eight years she saw forest disappear to give place to dwellings and pasture during the infancy of the city of

Wellington. Towards the end of 1848 she married Mr. Thomas Kebbell, who was then a pioneer settler on the banks of the Manawatu River, but in the meantime she had experienced the awful earthquake of that year. That convulsion so disturbed the peace of mind of some of the settlers that they chartered a schooner to take themselves and their goods and chattels to Sydney. They set sail at the earliest moment, and among them was one of three men prominent in the call for constitutional government, and who were known as "The Three F's." The wreck of the schooner at the heads put an end to the desire of Dr. William Fitzherbert to cast the dust of New Zealand from off his feet, and he subsequently did great service to the colony in helping to adjust the differences between Downing Street and its distant protege, ending in the launching of the "self-reliant" policy which quickly brought an end to the Native troubles that hitherto, under the Imperial control had seemed interminable.

The bride accompanied her husband to the Manawatu, making the journey on horseback, which at that time was the only alternative to walking. Riding along the Old Porirua Road, and passing the Porirua Harbour on the west side, they swam their horses across the entrance to the harbour at the ferry east of where Plimmerton now stands. Following the Maori track through the bush over the Pukerua hill and down to the seashore, they rode along the coast to the Manawatu River, and thence to their home.

Few nowadays know of the difficulties which then beset travellers on that coast – high spring tides, the rivers Waikanae, Otaki, Manakau, and Ohau each liable to flood, and each with a deep channel running back into sandhills. Many a traveller had been compelled to wait for hours or even days until the flood had subsided or the tide had ebbed sufficiently to allow of a passage in comparatively shallow water near the line of the breaking waves; or in the case of the Otaki the traveller might have made a laboured journey inland and sought, the assistance of a friendly Maori who would take him across the river in canoe and tow the horse behind. In those days the beach was the main road northward from Paekakariki as far as Scott's Ferry on the Rangitikei River.

The earthquake of 1856 and unprecedented floods in the river ended the Manawatu venture, and the bride of '48, with three children out of four (one having met the "New Zealand death" – drowned in the river) were brought to Wellington, where she saw further great changes in the development of the city. She had already seen forest removed for dwellings and pastures: later she saw shops and stores replace dwellings, and still later she saw dwellings displace horses and cows.

Nurtured in times when "woman rights" were motherhood and home management, home life was the life of the late Mrs. Kebbell. With all her faculties clear to within a few hours of death, she lived loved by children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. With her death it might almost be said that the foundation of this Dominion has now passed from the ken of the eye-witness into the domain of tradition.

Flora and Thomas Kebbell had at least seven children:

- William McDonald Kebbell, born in 1850, died in 1933, married (1) Charlotte Ellen Willock in 1882, (2) Annie Hassell Liddle in 1902.
- Ann Kebbell, born in 1852, died in 1854 (drowned in the Manawatu River).
- Florence Kebbell, born in 1853, married Harry Pasley Higginson in 1874.
- Louisa Kebbell, born in 1858, died in 1941, married Alfred de Bathe Brandon jun. in 1879.
- Edith Kebbell, born in 1861, died in 1929, married Henry Johnston Robinson Tilly in 1883.
- Cecil Kebbell, born in 1866, died in 1938, married Mary Christina Cameron (daughter of *Blenheim* passenger) in 1896.
- Richard Cummings Kebbell, born in 1868, died in 1940.

Alexander McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian records that Alexander, son of Donald MacDonald, tacksman of Drimintoran, and Anne Cummings, was born 27th March baptized on the 5th April 1829.

In a letter of 2 August 1843, Jessie Campbell wrote, "I think I mentioned in former letter that one of Drimantoran's sons had gone to be herdboys with his old servant, Angus McMaster, is not this terrible?"

In his memoir, Alexander MacDonald wrote:

In some respects I was a precocious boy, in other respects I was extremely slow in assimilating wisdom, of which I fear I have not a very large stock even now. As an example of my best qualities I will mention that coming out on the "Blenheim" I made the acquaintance of a Highland lassie of about my own age. We forthwith became sweethearts and agreed that when our respective parents would permit, or we became of age to act for ourselves, we certainly would marry. Well through thick and thin we stuck to that agreement, until I was a little over 22 years of age, and then my little sweetheart was foolish enough to become my wife. This is the only act of my life in which I showed absolutely just discrimination.

Alexander MacDonald and Annie Cameron were married on 13 January 1852. Annie was the daughter of Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson, sister of Jane (see Dugald McLachlan and Jane Cameron), and Mary (see Alexander Grant and Mary Cameron).

In *Poyntzfield*, Eliza McKenzie's memories of the wedding day are recorded:

Though this was Mr Hogg's first there, it was not the first Turakina marriage, because our beloved 'Little Annie' and Alick had gone to Wanganui before Mr Hogg had arrived. I think it was by 'Missionary Taylor' so well known and liked – but it might have been Mr Nicholl. I remember her coming to our house, accompanied by Mysie who introduced her as 'Mrs MacDonald' at which everyone laughed, and Annie blushed, looking lovelier than ever. Both ladies were bewildering in the beauty of their attire, culminating in the wreath of 'orange blossom' round the vivacious face of the bride, and some sprays on the outside of the bonnet mixed with 'blond' lace. Annie carried a nice little kit in her hand from which she presently took a parcel of wedding cake saying to Mother "This is something for you, somebody gave it to me and I have a bit for Mrs McGregor" with which they went on to 'Annbank', a vision of brightness to us.

Alexander McDonald's memoirs provide an informed assessment of the issues arising in first few decades of settlement in New Zealand, and in particular his views and engagement in issues relating to Maori land purchases and the relationship with Maori. The memoir also provided a history of the various places he lived in and the people there, and was quoted extensively by his friend Sir James Wilson in his book *Early Rangitikei*.

It was as a result of his support for the rights of some Maori in relation to purchases that Alexander McDonald was imprisoned after shooting a horse pulling a mail coach to prevent it crossing Ngatikauwhata land. The iwi supported Alexander and his family with land and money during his imprisonment.

Ann Christian (Cameron) McDonald died on 26 February 1898. The *Feilding Star* of 1 March 1898 carried the following obituary:

Mrs A Macdonald: On Saturday night, at Shannon, there died one of the best-natured and truest-hearted women it is the lot of human beings to meet, Mrs Macdonald, wife of Alexander Macdonald, at the age of 69. Few women have had a more stirring life, and few have retained their natural kindness and love for their

fellow-creatures to the same extent as Mrs Macdonald. As Miss Cameron, she came to the colony when quite a child, in the '40's, and both before and after marrying Mr Macdonald lived at Kaiwarra. From thence they went to the Wanganui district, subsequently removing to Turakina, Bulls, Kopani, Awahuri and Shannon. Coming to the bush districts years in advance of settlement, Mrs Macdonald had every opportunity of displaying that hospitality for which she was so well known, and very many can testify to her kindness even to those who had not the slightest claim to consideration. Her death leaves a good wife, a loving mother, and a kind friend the less in the world, and her relatives have our heartfelt sympathy in their loss. Mrs Macdonald had five married daughters (Mesdames Dundas, Scott, Lyons, Macintyre, and Nethercliffe), one single daughter, two sons (Adam and Donald), and a number of grandchildren. The funeral took place yesterday and was very largely attended.

Alexander McDonald died on 25 March 1905 at Shannon, aged 76.

The *Manawatu Standard* of 27 March 1905, contained the Death Notice: "McDonald – At his late residence, Shannon, Alexander McDonald, late of Rangitikei and Turakina, aged 76 years." The newspaper also included the following obituary:

On Saturday last at Shannon, Mr Alexander McDonald, one of the best known settlers on this coast, died at the age of 76 years. Mr McDonald, who descended from the McDonalds of Glencoe, of historic fame, was born at Drimmentoran, in Argyleshire, in 1829. He came to the colony in the early forties, and after his marriage with Mrs McDonald (nee Miss Cameron), who predeceased him eight years ago, lived at Kaiwarra. From there he removed to Turakina and, subsequently, at different stages of his life, lived at Bulls, Kopani, Awahuri and Shannon. From his earliest days Mr McDonald was an authority in all native matters. He was created a chieftain by the Awahuri natives and dowered with a large acreage of land just adjacent to the township. Mr McDonald lived there for several years but, subsequently, owing to legal informalities at the time of the gift from the natives, had to re-transfer the property to the natives. He then removed to Shannon, where he has resided for the past ten years. There was, probably, no better Maori linguist in the colony, and for years the deceased gentleman acted as Native Assessor for the Government and Maori Interpreter. In the latter capacity he was engaged in several of the most important subdivisions of native property that have taken place on this coast. He was a keen friend of the natives, and possessed their confidence in a high degree. His life in the early days of the colony, during war time, was particularly adventurous, much more so than the average colonist of that time, and many a stirring tale the deceased gentleman could tell of the trials, tribulations and adventures of those historic days. As stated, his wife predeceased him eight years ago, but he is survived by five married daughters, Mesdames Dundas, Scott, Macintire, Lyons, and Nethercliffe, one unmarried daughter and two sons, Adam and Donald. Deceased was a man of splendid physique and bore his years remarkably well up to the last twelve months, when he aged considerably, and showed signs of failure of the heart. On Saturday he complained of feeling unwell and went to lie down. His son going to his room a few minutes later was just in time to be with him in the closing moment. The funeral will take place to-morrow, the 76th anniversary of his birth.

Annie and Alexander had eight children [details require confirmation and completion]:

- Mary McDonald, born in 1854, died in 1939, married Alexander Dundas in 1878.
- Annie McDonald, born in 1855, married (1) Henry Seegers Palmerson, (2) George Latta Rodaway Scott in 1891.
- Donald McDonald, born in 1857.

- Adam Alexander McDonald, born in 1860, died in 1940, married Mary Helen Sarah Dundas in 1898.
- Ada McDonald, born in 1863, married John Henry Lee Macintyre in 1887.
- Catherine McDonald.
- Georgina McDonald, born in 1866, died in 1945, married Alfred Richard Lyons in 1889.
- Margaret McDonald, born in 1869, died in 1924, married Edward Cyril Morley Netherclift in 1897.

Campbell Riddell McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian records that Campbell Riddell, son of Mr Donald MacDonald of Drimintoran, was born 22nd July and baptized 30th ditto 1830.

Campbell McDonald was 10 years old when he embarked on the *Blenheim*.

In 1845 Jessie Campbell wrote in a letter, "Campbell Macdonald has determined on going to sea and is bound apprentice to Capt. Dawson of the *Skiro Castle* when his contract with the Government expires, she is to go home and will be at least 5 months at Home. Campbell is to spend that time with his friends in the Highlands, he is at present with the ship in Auckland, he is a very steady boy."

Campbell Riddell MacDonald died on 11 January 1853 aged 22. The *Wellington Independent* of 12 January 1853 carried the Death Notice: "On Tuesday, the 11th instant, at Wellington, Mr Campbell Riddell McDonald, aged 22 years."

Thomas McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan and Strontian recorded that Thomas, son of Donald MacDonald and Anne Cumming, was born September 9th 1835.

Thomas McDonald was 5 years old on the voyage of the *Blenheim*.

Thomas McDonald moved to North Canterbury and worked on a number of farms before moving to Waikuku. He was active in community affairs, especially the Waikuku School Committee.

Thomas McDonald married Annie Ford, formerly Adams, in 1864.

The *Cyclopedia of New Zealand [Canterbury Provincial District]*, 1903, carried the following entry:

McDonald, Thomas, Woolscourer and Farmer, Waikuku Woolworks, Waikuku. These works were established in 1869, by Mr. W. Bailey, the present proprietor having acquired them in 1872. Mr. McDonald was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, in 1835, and arrived in Wellington with his parents in 1840, by the ship "Blenheim." As soon as he was old enough he became a cadet on a station. Having qualified as a manager, Mr. McDonald was in charge of Horsley Downs estate for about eighteen years, and settled at Waikuku in 1872. He has for many years served on the Waikuku school committee, and for a long period held the position of chairman. Mr. McDonald is a member of the committee of the Northern Agricultural and Pastoral Association. He was married, in 1864, to the widow of the late Mr. T. K. Adams, and has four sons and four daughters.

Thomas McDonald died on 2 August 1907. The *Press* of 3 August 1907 published the following obituary:

DEATH OF AN OLD COLONIST: MR T. McDONALD, The many friends of Mr T. McDonald, of Waikuku, will learn with regret of his death, which occurred at an

early hour yesterday morning. He had been ill three weeks, and a few days ago underwent a serious operation, which afforded temporary relief. Mr McDonald was a native of Argyleshire, Scotland, and arrived, with his parents by the ship *Blenheim*, at Wellington, in 1840. Shortly afterwards Mr McDonald came to Canterbury, and, as a cadet, was well known. For some years he was at Motonau, and took charge of Cheviot when that country was first taken up by Mr J. S. Caverhill. He became manager for Messrs J. W. Mallock and J. D. Lance at Horsley Downs, on which large run he remained for about eighteen years. About 1872 Mr McDonald took over the Waikuku wool scouring works, which had been started by Mr Joseph Bailey, of Christchurch. Mr McDonald was chairman of the Waikuku School Committee and manifested a very keen interest in the education of the children of his district for twenty-five years. He likewise held a position as a warden of the Woodend Church, and was foremost in matters intended for the benefit of the district. He was a most valuable supporter of the local Agricultural Show, and one of the earliest members of the North Canterbury Racing Club, being an admirer of good honest sport. He was a gentleman of thoroughly genial and open-hearted disposition, and through life won the highest respect and loyalty from all whom he employed. His business transactions were characterised by irreproachable methods in conducting the same. He married in the early sixties, and leaves a widow, four sons, and four daughters. His sons are: – Messrs H. McDonald (Pyne and Co.), J. McDonald (North Canterbury Stores), R. McDonald (Waikuku), and G. McDonald (Hawarden). Flags were flown at half-mast in Rangiora yesterday, and at the horse fair general regret was expressed on all sides on hearing of Mr McDonald's death.

Thomas and Annie had nine children:

- Flora Agnes McDonald, born in 1865, died in 1950.
- Harry Donald McDonald, born in 1867, died in 1924, married Mary Agnes Buss in 1895.
- John Glencoe McDonald, born in [1869, died in 1938, married Edith Nora Steele in 1902].
- Thomas Campbell McDonald, born in 1870, died in 1877.
- Catherine Annie McDonald, born in 1872, died in 1934, married John Pratt Andrews in 1902.
- Constance May McDonald, born in 1873, died in 1946, married Joshua Henshaw in 1897.
- Ronald McDonald, born in 1875, married Alexandrina Agnes Palmerson in 1903.
- Isabel Margaret McDonald, born in 1876, married William Charles Frank Lukis in 1906.
- Duncan George McDonald, born in 1878, died in 1953, married Elsie Annie Archer in 1903.

Duncan Campbell McDonald

The Old Parish Register for Ballachulish and Corran of Ardgour recorded that Duncan Campbell, son of Donald McDonald Esq., and Ann Cumming, Calchenna, was born 3rd July 1839 and baptized on 9 August 1838.

The electoral roll for Kaiapoi in 1890 listed Duncan Campbell McDonald, Waikuku, accountant.

The *Feilding Star* of 20 July 1900 carried the following Death Notice: "McDonald — On July 16th, at Waikuku, Canterbury, at the residence of his brother, Duncan Campbell McDonald, youngest son of the late Donald McDonald of Druimintorran, Argyleshire, Scotland aged 60 years."



Cairn erected on the Hutt Road at the entrance to Kaiwharawhara Park in 1990 to mark the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Blenheim



2015 View of Kaiwharawhara and Wellington from the top of Kaiwharawhara (Odells Reserve)

MICHAEL MCEACHNIE

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, did not include a Michael McEachnie. The embarkation list included Michael McEachnie, 36, twice, once as a labourer and once as a shepherd, with the later entry describing him as a shepherd crossed out. In the later lists he is described as a shepherd.

Michael McEachnie

No further information has been confirmed for Michael McEachnie.

There is a possibility that the "M McEachan" listed as arriving in Hobart on the *Lord Sidmouth* on 19 February 1841, may have been Michael McEachnie. A number of other *Blenheim* passengers were aboard, including John Chisholm, spelled "Chisom".

JOHN MACFARLANE

John MacFarlane was a cabin passenger on the *Blenheim*.

The *Glasgow Herald* account of the departure of the *Blenheim* in its issue of 28 August 1840 noted that Mr John M'Farlane of Paisley was one of the cabin passengers.

John MacFarlane

In Jessie Campbell's Journal of the voyage, John MacFarlane was described as "very stout", and "a great, vulgar, harmless beast of a man." On 18 November 1840 she noted, "Mr Macfarlane absent again today I hear his illness is occasioned by his being quite drunk in his cabin last night," and two days later, "Mr Macfarlane obliged to go to bed before dinner again, his mind they say is not quite right. Dr Campbell says it is a slight attack of delirium tremens." Over the next few days she reported on John MacFarlane's paranoia over losing his land deeds, and claims of theft of his clothes, and thereafter the Journal notes his progress or lack of it in regaining good health.

At one point in her Journal, Jessie Campbell notes that J.B.S. (Mrs MacDonald) took a great deal of interest in John MacFarlane because he was "the only other lowlander on board", apart from the captain. On 6 December 1840 Jessie Campbell reported, "Poor Macfarlane consulting Capt Gray what he could advise him to do on arriving in N Zealand; thought himself his best plan would be to marry some decent well-behaved woman that would take care of him, he was afraid he could have no choice but to take one of the emigrants, a great deal of laughing and joking about this after dinner today."

No further information has been established for John MacFarlane.

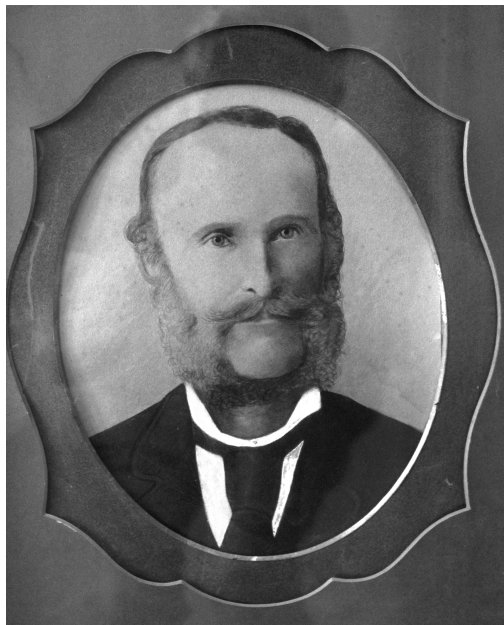
GREGOR MCGREGOR

In the initial list of prospective emigrants for the *Blenheim* Gregor MacGregor was described as a tailor aged 21, from Borline, recommended by Tallasker, but he is crossed out. In the embarkation and arrival lists he was listed as an agriculturalist aged 21.

Gregor McGregor and Catherine Fraser

Gregor McGregor was born on the island of North Uist in the Outer Hebrides in 1818, and was 21 when he emigrated on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Gregor McGregor married Catherine Fraser, daughter of Duncan and Marjory Fraser, who had also been on the *Blenheim*, on 6 December 1841 in Wellington.



Gregor McGregor



Catherine (Fraser) McGregor

In 1845, concerned by the disturbances with Maori, Gregor and his family moved to New South Wales, where he worked as a stock overseer. They returned to Wellington in March 1849, then in 1851 moved to Turakina.

Gregor became manager and shareholder of 'Annbank' with James Wilson. In 1858 he purchased land in the Matarawa Valley nearer Whanganu. In 1865 the family moved to a new farm in the Matarawa Valley they called 'Aird'. In 1870 Gregor and Catherine moved to 'Smithfield' a 100-acre farm near the Wanganui racecourse.

Gregor McGregor died on 19 May 1876 aged 58, at his residence at Wilton Street, Wanganui.

The *Cyclopedia of New Zealand (Wellington Provincial District)* for 1897 carried the following entry for Gregor McGregor:

McGregor, Gregor. Settler, Wanganui. Among the early colonists of New Zealand, now passed away, must be numbered Mr. Gregor McGregor. Born in the Island of Uist in 1818, he received a sound grammar school education, and was afterwards apprenticed as a carpenter and boatbuilder. In 1840 he came to New Zealand in the ship "Blenheim," and had the honour of being one of the first colonists to land in

Wellington, where he worked for several years. Upon the breaking out of the Maori war, in 1845, he left New Zealand for New South Wales, taking his wife and family, whose lives were in danger, with him. In 1849 he returned to New Zealand, and entered into partnership with Mr. Wilson, taking up a block of 2000 acres in the Turakina Valley, to which other properties were afterwards added. Mr. McGregor was the first sheep inspector appointed in the district. In 1871 he divided his properties among his family, and went to reside in Wanganui, where he remained till his death, in 1876. Mr. McGregor was married in 1841 to a daughter of Mr. D. Fraser, and left eight sons and six daughters, who are settled in the district. He was a man of strict integrity, whose influence for good was always felt, taking a prominent part in any deserving work, and a consistent upholder of the church. His wife also took a leading part in any charitable or christian work.

The Wanganui Chronicle of 20 May 1876 published the following obituary:

DEATH OF MR GREGOR MCGREGOR: A few days ago we referred to the feeble health of Mr Gregor McGregor, and now it is our painful duty to record his death, which took place at his late residence yesterday evening. The deceased gentleman has lately been suffering from a throat complaint, and a few weeks ago left Wanganui en route for Australia, in the hope that the change of air, climate, and scene might prove beneficial. On his arrival in Wellington he consulted the best medical advice procurable, and was recommended to return home, and to adopt a variety of precautions, with regard to the maintenance of a regular and equable temperature, and a careful avoidance of chills and drafts, by close attention to which it was hoped that he would ultimately be restored to health. But Providence had ruled it otherwise, and a large circle of friends and relatives now mourn his departure from their midst. The cold, chilly, wintry weather doubtless exercised a more or less injurious effect upon his already debilitated system, notwithstanding all the counteracting influences with which, he was so carefully surrounded, which, nevertheless, could scarcely wholly avert the potently penetrating effects of the temperature outside. The deceased gradually sank after his return to Wanganui, and several days ago his friends had abandoned all hope of his recovery. Mr Gregor McGregor was one of the earliest settlers who came to reside in the district, and was one of the pioneers of the olden time, the number of which is being so rapidly thinned of late. As a colonist, Mr McGregor was enterprising and progressive, and as a citizen he was a conscientious and high principled member of the community, by whom he was universally respected for his unwavering integrity, and for his many Christian virtues. He had almost reached the allotted term, and has now passed away to join those near and dear to him when on earth, who are gone before. With respectful sympathy we sincerely join in our condolences with those whose loved and esteemed relative and friend is now cold in death, but whose mournings are of those who look beyond the tomb, where the weary are at rest. Right well has Mr McGregor borne the heat and burthen of the day, in days of yore, when the colonist's career was liable to sudden and dangerous vicissitudes, of which the settler of to day knows but little, except from the story of the past. But the battle of life for him is now over, and he has gone to receive the reward promised to good and faithful servants. Those who stood around his death bed, previous to his spirit taking its flight, best know how literally fulfilled was the prayer, which so many have breathed as they felt that the night was far spent and the day was at hand, and that for them the impenetrable future had no dread alarms.

The hour of my departure's near, I hear the voice that calls me home, At last,

Oh Lord, let trouble cease, Let thy servant die in peace.

In conclusion, we may append the following brief biographical sketch:- Mr McGregor was, at the time of his death, in his 58th year, having been born in North Uist, Invernesshire, in the year 1818. He left Scotland for New Zealand in 1840, in which year he arrived in the colony. He was one of the first elders of the Presbyterian Church for Wellington, and was appointed for Wanganui over 20 years ago. Of this Church he has been a staunch and liberal supporter, and has now

departed steadfast in that faith which he professed and adhered to throughout his life with undeviating constancy and consistency.

Catherine (Fraser) McGregor died on 3 January 1914, aged 90. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 5 January 1914 carried the following obituary:

Another of our sterling pioneers passed away yesterday in the person, of Mrs Gregor McGregor, senior. The deceased lady was born in Inverness-shire in 1823, and came out to New Zealand in the ship Blenheim, landing at Wellington on December 27th, 1840. Mr. Gregor McGregor, to whom she was married in Wellington two years later, accompanied her on the voyage out. When the Maori war broke out in 1845 Mr Gregor McGregor took his wife and then two children to New South Wales for safety, returning to Wellington in 1849 when the country became more settled. In 1851 Mr McGregor, with the late Mr Wilson and. Captain Daniels, left Wellington on foot. The two latter held scrip from the New Zealand Company, and selected suitable areas at Bulls and at Turakina respectively. Mr McGregor remained some years with Mr Wilson at Turakina and then came on to the Matarawa Valley, where he purchased a farm and settled with his wife and family, subsequently adding to the Matarawa property and acquiring other properties in the Wanganui district. Mr McGregor, who was also a native of Inverness-shire, where he was born in 1818, predeceased his wife, passing away in 1876. For some years past the late Mrs McGregor had resided in Wanganui, spending in peace and quietude the latter years of a strenuous and useful life. A family of five sons and four daughters survive.

Gregor and Catherine had fourteen children:

- Helen McGregor, born in 1842, died in 1876, married Isaac Sargeant in 1865.
- John McGregor, born in 1844, died in 1916, married (1) Christian McDonald McGregor in 1871, (2) Florence Ann Beaver in 1896.
- Duncan McGregor, born in 1845 (NSW, Australia), died in 1923, married Annie Norah Smith in 1869.
- James McGregor, born in 1847, died in 1849 (NSW, Australia).
- Jane McGregor, born in 1849, died in 1943, married Gregor McLeod in 1871.
- Alexander McGregor, born in 1851, died in 1909, married Alice Handley in 1890.
- Catherine McGregor, born in 1853, died in 1920, married Nathaniel Sutherland in 1874.
- Margery McGregor, born in 1855, died in 1940, married Hugh Calders in 1873.
- Gregor McGregor, born in 1857, died in 1942, married (1) Te Pura Manihera in 1879, (2) Paurina Haami in 1921.
- James McGregor, born in 1859, died in 1945, married Florence Ellen McIlvride (previously Maplesden) in 1924.
- Donald McGregor, born in 1861, died in 1864.
- Matilda McGregor, born in 1863, died in 1894, married Angus MacIntosh in 1891.
- Mary McGregor, born in 1866, died in 1936.
- Donald McGregor, born in 1869, died in 1953, married Henrietta Isabella Burr in 1895.

MACKAY FAMILY

John MacKay, aged 52, and six younger MacKays were included together at the end of the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* and in the subsequent lists. It has been assumed that they were a family:

- John MacKay, 52, shepherd
- John MacKay, 28, shepherd
- Donald MacKay, 25, shepherd
- Sarah MacKay, 19, dairymaid
- Lachlan MacKay, 16, cowherd
- Hector MacKay, 14, cowherd
- Colin MacKay, 10

Little information has been found about this family apart from John MacKay junior. The family came from Skye.

In *Poyntzfield*, Margaret McKenzie's reminiscences include references to the McKays living at Kaiwarra in the late 1840s – a playmate named Flora McKay, and “the death of Hector McKay's little half-caste boy...”

Lists of persons qualified to serve as jurors in the district of Port Nicholson in 1845, 1848-1850 include Donald McKay, Kai Warra Road, carpenter and labourer (1848), and John McKay, Kai Warra Road (Porirua Rd in 1849), labourer, up to 1849, with Lachlan McKay, Kai Warra Road, labourer, also listed for 1848-1849.

John MacKay Snr

John McKay, senior, was described as a shepherd of 52 on the *Blenheim* passenger list, and is likely to have come from the Isle of Egg, to the south of Skye.

No further information has been established for John MacKay.

John McKay Jnr

John McKay was described as a shepherd of 28 on the *Blenheim* passenger list, indicating a birth year of around 1812.

John McKay married Rachael McQuarrie, also a passenger on the *Blenheim* (see [Donald McQuarrie](#) and [Margaret McEachern](#)). In a letter to her sister Isabella, written from Petone on 8 November 1841, Jessie Campbell says, “My Skye servant has got married, she was so plain looking I thought I was sure to have her for some time. Her husband is a smart good looking young man who came out in the *Blenheim* from Skye.”

On the *Blenheim* passenger list Rachael McQuarrie was described as a housemaid and cook, aged 27, and featured frequently in Jessie Campbell's Journal as “my Skye servant”.

New Zealand BDM registration records that John McKay, agricultural labourer, formerly of the island of Egg, and Rachael McQuarrie, daughter of Donald McQuarrie parish of Bracadale, Isle of Skye, now of Port Nicholson, were married on 11 August 1841. The celebrant was John McFarlane, Minister.

New Zealand BDM records indicate that a Christian MacKay was born on 9 October 1849 to Rachel and John MacKay.

It seems likely that John and Rachael McKay moved to Turakina at some point.

According to New Zealand BDM records, a Rachael MacKay died on 17 August 1855, although the registration year was 1848 and her age was given as 36.

No additional information has been established for John MacKay and Rachael (McQuarrie) Mackay.

Donald MacKay

Donald Mackay was a shepherd of 25 when he embarked on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

A Donald McKay, Kai Warra Road, carpenter and labourer, was listed as a prospective juror in 1848.

No further information has been established for Donald MacKay.

Sarah MacKay

Sarah MacKay was described as a dairymaid of 19 in the *Blenheim* passenger list.

No further information has been established for Sarah MacKay.

Lachlan MacKay

The *Blenheim* passenger list showed Lachlan MacKay as a cowherd of 16.

A Lachlin McKay, Kai Warra Road, labourer, was listed as a prospective juror for 1848-1849.

No further information has been established for Lachlan MacKay.

Hector MacKay

Hector MacKay was a cowherd of 14 when he sailed to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

As noted above, in *Poyntzfield*, Margaret McKenzie refers, in the late 1840s, to "the death of Hector McKay's little half-caste boy..."

No further information has been established for Hector MacKay.

Colin MacKay

Colin MacKay was noted as being 10 years old on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

No further information has been established for Colin MacKay.

HUGH MCKENZIE AND CATHERINE MCDONALD

In the initial *Blenheim* passenger list Donald McDonald noted that this family came from Achatany and "This family have been known to me all my life and have mostly been in my own and my Brothers service". The family was:

- Hugh MacKenzie, 50, labourer
- Catherine McDonald, 46, his wife
- Jane, 24, housemaid, his daughter
- Peggy, 21, housemaid, his daughter
- Mary, 17, housemaid, his daughter
- Flora, 15, his daughter
- Janet, 12, his daughter
- John, 10, his son

Also on the initial list, but crossed out, was Donald MacKenzie, 27, engineer, noted as "his natural son".

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan records the births and baptisms of several children who did not travel to New Zealand, and most likely died in infancy. These include the baptisms of two daughters named Catherine, who likely died in infancy – Hugh McKenzie, crofter, Achtenny, and Catherine McDonald, had a daughter, Catherine, born 10th April 1833, baptized 19th May 1833, witnesses John Stuart, Braynault and Allan McKenzie, Beadle; and in 1835 Ewen McKenzie crofter Achtenny and Catherine McDonald his wife, had a daughter Catherine, born 12th May 1835 baptized 15th May 1855, witnesses Niel McPhail, Kilmory, and John Stuart, Braynault. There may also have been another daughter, Anna in 1831.

Spelling: The *Blenheim* passenger list used "MacKenzie" but most other sources have "McKenzie".

Hugh McKenzie and Catherine McDonald

Hugh McKenzie was recorded as being 50 years old on the *Blenheim* passenger list, but his Death Notice (and New Zealand BDM records) which put him at 96 in 1877 suggests that his birth year may have been around 1781, which would have made him 59 in 1840.

A McKenzie Family 1840-1990 includes information that Hugh McKenzie was born at Buarbleg, Moidart, in 1781, the son of Malcolm McKenzie and Aleen Stewart. If this is correct then it is unusual not to find the name Malcolm given to any of his sons.

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan, recorded that Hugh MacKenzie, tenant, Ockill, and Catherine McDonald, Drimintorran, were married on 9 September 1814.

From the birthplaces of the children, it appears that the family moved around the Ardnamurchan Peninsular. Ockill/Ockle/Ochdal, Braynault/Braenault, Achtenny/Achateny, Swordalmore/Sourdals – are all localities on the north-western coast of the Ardnamurchan peninsular of Argyll. Buarblaig/Borblaig, is on the southern side of the peninsular.

Hugh McKenzie and his family emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840, arriving in Wellington on 27 December 1840. The family lived at Kaiwharawhara in Wellington, but also farmed land in the Wairarapa.

Hugh McKenzie worked on the Kaiwarra road building as the paymaster, but in 1848-49 took up farming at Tupurupuru in the Wairarapa, and in 1854 purchased a block at Te Whiti, which he worked on with his son John.

In 1855, it appears that Hugh McKenzie had decided to sell his freehold property of 3 acres in Wadestown, advertising it in the *Wellington Independent* of 20 January 1855:

For sale: FREEHOLD PROPERTY delightfully situate in Wade's Town, commanding a fine view of the harbor, and within an easy distance of Te Aro. There are three acres of land, having a house on each, with a byer, calf house, barn, &c. There is also a beautiful stream of water running through the property. The above presents an eligible opportunity for investment; and is well worthy the attention of the capitalist, as the ground is most suitable for building villa residences on. Parties can view the property, and learn further particulars, on application to Hugh M'Kenzie, Wade's Town, or James Calder, Kaiwarra.

By 1866 Hugh McKenzie had returned to Wellington to live on his property in Thorndon, between Grant Road and Tinakori Road.

Hugh McKenzie died on 31 August 1877. The *Evening Post* of 1 September 1877 included the Death Notice: "M'Kenzie – On the 31st August at Kaiwarra, Hugh M'Kenzie, aged 96 years."

Catherine (McDonald) McKenzie died on 10 August 1879, aged 87. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 14 August 1879, carried the following Death Notice: "McKenzie – On the 10th August, at her residence, Kaiwarra, Katherine McKenzie, relict of the late Hugh McKenzie, aged 87 years." The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 15 August 1879 published the following obituary:

Another old colonist has passed away from amongst us, in the person of Mrs McKenzie, relict of the late Mr Hugh McKenzie, formerly of the Tuhitu Station, Wairarapa, who died at her residence early on Sunday morning, at the advanced age of 87. Mrs McKenzie came to the colony with her husband during the year 1840, in the ship Blenheim, one of the first passenger vessels sent out by the New Zealand Company. The deceased lady leaves a large number of relatives and friends, and only survived her late husband about twelve or fifteen months. The late Mr McKenzie also lived to a very advanced age.

Jane McKenzie

Jane McKenzie was listed as a housemaid aged 24 in the *Blenheim* passenger list, so was born around 1816.

Jane McKenzie married James Calder on 18 September 1844. The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 12 October 1844 included the Notice: "On the 18th ult., James Calder, licensed Pilot, formerly of Cathesshire, to Jane, daughter of Hugh M'Kenzie, formerly of Adnamurchan, Argyleshire."

In 1848, following an inquiry into the wreck of the barque *Subraon* at the entrance to Wellington harbour, James Calder was removed from his appointment as Pilot. He then established the Rainbow Hotel in Kaiwharawhara, before moving to the Rangitikei district.

James Calder died in 1858 near Otaki. The *Wellington Independent* of 24 November 1858 carried the following report:

Information was brought into town yesterday morning, that a pocket book and papers belonging to Mr. James Calder, had been found in the Ohau River. Upon enquiry, it was found that he was missing from his residence, and it is therefore presumed that he has been unfortunately drowned. Mr. Calder was formerly pilot at Wellington, and afterwards built the Rainbow Inn, Kai Warra and removed to the West coast a year or two ago.

It appears that Jane continued to run the Rainbow Hotel in Kaiwharawhara for a number of years. Records indicate that she held the licence in 1861 and 1871, when she transferred the licence to her son David Calder. It appears that Jane Calder was still the owner of the hotel in 1895, but not the holder of the publican's licence.

Jane (McKenzie) Calder died on 23 December 1900. The *Colonist* of 27 December 1900 carried the Death Notice: "Calders – On December 23rd at the residence of her son, Hugh Calders, Stoke, Jane, relict of the late Captain James Calders, formerly of Wellington, aged 86 years." The *Colonist* also carried the following obituary:

Obituary — On Sunday last there passed away in the person of Mrs Calders, senior, one of the early colonists, the deceased lady's residence in New Zealand extending to within a few days of sixty years. Mrs Calders landed in Wellington on 25th December, 1840, from the ship Blenheim, together with her father, the late Mr Hugh McKenzie, and the rest of his family, and a large number of Highland passengers. Mr McKenzie was the first superintendent of road construction on the road from Wellington to the Hutt, and two years after his arrival his daughter married Captain James Calders, who was then pilot and in charge of Wellington harbor, and took a prominent part in the early settlement of Wellington. Captain Calders later entered upon farming in the Rangitikei district, and was in 1859 drowned in the Otaki river. For the last 20 years Mrs Calders has resided with her son Hugh, the present Chief Postmaster of Nelson, and one other son and a daughter survive their mother, who attained the age of 86 years, her father, by-the-way, living to the great age of 98, retaining his faculties to the last. Allusion was made in the Presbyterian Church on Sunday by the Rev. J. H. MacKenzie to Mrs Calders' death, she having, as far as her years permitted, taken a keen interest in the Church.

It is not clear when the name came to be "Calders".

Jane and James appear to have had at least four children:

- David Calders, born in 1846, died in 1880.
- Hugh Calders, born in 1848, died in 1904, married Marjory McGregor (daughter of *Blenheim* passengers) in 1873.
- James Calders, born in 1850, died in 1926, married Florence Emily Cockerell in 1879.
- Margaret Calders, born in 1852, died in 1902 in Australia, married Henry Tucker in 1866.

Peggy (Margaret) McKenzie

The Old Parish Register for Western Ardnamurchan records the baptism on 8 February 1819 of Peggy, daughter of Hugh MacKenzie, tenant, Ockill, and of Catherine McDonald, his wife.

Peggy was 21 in 1840 when she sailed to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*.

Margaret McKenzie married James Gee on 8 January 1844. In the marriage registration James Gee described himself as "formerly boot and shoemaker", but was at the time a member of the Grenadier Company of the 96th Regiment of Foot. He was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, and joined the regiment in 1839, being posted to

Australia then, by 1845, to Port Nicholson. The Regiment was sent to Tasmania, where James Gee was discharged in 1847, returned to Wellington, and settled in Kaiwarra as a shoemaker. By 1855 the family had moved to the Wairau district of Marlborough, but in 1863 James enlisted in the 3rd Waikato Regiment that engaged in action against Maori forces. In 1865 he was discharged and the family settled in Renwick in Marlborough, where Margaret practised as a midwife.

James Gee died on 15 September 1885, aged 63. The *Marlborough Express* of 17 September 1885 published the following obituary:

An Old Colonist.— In the late Mr James Gee, who died at Renwick on Tuesday, aged 63, the colony loses one of its early settlers. He was the second son of the late Sergeant Major George Gee, of the Kilkenny Staff, Ireland. He arrived in the Colony in 1841 with the Grenadier Company of the 96th Regiment of Foot (chief officers, Major Richmond and Captain Eyton), to assist in preventing the Maori outrages taking place at that time at the Hutt. He served through the first and second Maori campaigns. Mr Gee leaves a wife and three children — two sons and a daughter — to mourn their loss. He had been a resident in Renwick for a number of years, and was greatly respected by all that knew him.

Following James' death the family moved to Wellington, and Margaret (McKenzie) Gee died at Kaiwarra on 14 May 1896. The *Evening Post* of 15 May 1896 Death Notice said: "Gee – On the 14th instant, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr E. Coleman, Kaiwarra, Margaret Gee, aged 76 years."

Margaret and James had five children:

- George Gee, born in 1845, died in 1914, married Emma Louise Harford in 1867.
- Hugh Gee, born in 1849, died in 1920, married Emma Henrietta Grace Ricketts, formerly Sedgwick, in 1877.
- Catherine Gee, born in 1851, died in 1879, married Donald Munro in 1870.
- Jessie Gee, born in 1854, died in 1856.
- Margaret L'Estrange Gee, born in 1857, died in 1923, married Ewen Colman (cousin) in 1888.

Mary McKenzie

In the Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan there was a Mary McKenzie, daughter of Ewen McKenzie, tenant Buarblaig and of Kate McDonald, his wife, baptized on 10 December 1821, who would have been 18 when the initial *Blenheim* passenger list was compiled. This Mary may have died and a daughter born in 1823 given the name Mary.

In the passenger lists of the *Blenheim*, Mary was recorded in the family of Hugh McKenzie, as a housemaid aged 17.

Mary McKenzie married Angus McMaster another of the *Blenheim* passengers. For details of their life see [Angus McMaster and Mary McKenzie](#).

Angus and Mary had nine children, and then sadly she died in 1864 as the result of a miscarriage when pregnant with their tenth child.

Angus and Mary's children included:

- Hugh McMaster, born in 1846, died in 1902.
- Duncan McMaster, born in 1848, died in 1896, married Dolina Catherine Drummond in 1874.
- Donald McMaster, born in 1849, died in 1919.

- Ann McMaster, born in 1851, died in 1893, married John Stevens (son of *Blenheim* passenger) in 1880.
- Bethiah (Bessie) McMaster, born in 1854, died in 1898.
- Sarah McMaster, born in 1856, died in 1927.
- John McMaster, born in 1858, died in 1935, married Mary Colman (cousin) in 1895.
- Jessie McMaster, born in 1860, died in 1884.
- Mary McMaster, born in 1862, died in 1892.

Flora McKenzie

Flora McKenzie was born on 29 September 1825 in Ardnamurchan, Argyll, and was 15 when she emigrated to New Zealand with her family on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

A McKenzie Family 1840-1990 notes that Flora was married twice, the first time to a Mr Betts, with a son, John Betts, being born in Wellington on 9 March 1852. Presumably Mr Betts died, but no records are available.

- John Betts, born in 1852, died in 1920.

The New Zealand BDM records show that Flora McKenzie (not Betts) married Thomas Coleman on 8 February 1854. They both signed the marriage register with their marks "X", and the witnesses were John McKenzie and James Calder.

Thomas Colman was born in Kent, England, in 1819, and is believed to have brought the first shipment of horses to New Zealand from Sydney in 1842.

Flora and Thomas settled first in the Rangitikei district but had returned to Wellington by 1873.

Thomas Colman died on 5 July 1889, aged 69.

Flora Colman died on 4 June 1898 aged 73. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 6 June 1898 reported, "Mrs Colman, mother of Mrs J. McMaster, of Tuhitarata, Martinborough, died at Tuhitarata on Saturday.."

Flora and Thomas had at least six children:

- Thomas Colman, born in 1855, died in 1919, married Alma Greer in 1887.
- Ewen Colman, born in 1857, died in 1916, married Margaret L'Estrange Gee (cousin), in 1888.
- Jessie Colman, born in 1859, died in 1891, married Jerome Sinclair in 1884.
- William Colman, born in 1861, died in 1949, married Bridget Ruane in 1896.
- Mary Ann Colman, born in 1864, died in 1927, married John McMaster (cousin) in 1895.
- Catherine Margaret Colman, born in 1868, died in Australia

Janet (Jessie) McKenzie

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan records the baptism on 20 May 1827 of Janet, daughter of Hugh MacKenzie, tenant, Swordalmor, and of Catherine McDonald, his wife.

Janet was 12 when she emigrated to New Zealand with her family on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

According to New Zealand BDM records, Jessey McKenzie died on 18 July 1857, aged 29. The cause of death on her death certificate was "liver complaint".

John McKenzie

The Old Parish Register for Ardnamurchan recorded that John, son of Hugh McKenzie, resident, Achatennie, and Cath McDonald, his wife, was baptised on 27 December 1829.

John McKenzie was 10 years old when he travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

John McKenzie moved to the Wairarapa by 1850, initially to work on Angus McMaster's property at Tupurupuru, and then on the property at Te Whiti, purchased by his father in 1854. John also served as a Maori interpreter.

John McKenzie and Isabella McKenzie were married on 19 February 1857 at Te Whiti.

Isabella McKenzie (no relation) was born on 2 May 1837 in Urray, Ross-shire, the daughter of Alexander McKenzie and Mary Gollan, who emigrated initially to Australia, then to New Zealand in 1854, and became early settlers in the Wairarapa at Masterton.

In the *Wellington Independent* of 26 March 1863 there is a report of court proceedings which notes that there was a case of Hugh McKenzie, senior, v John McKenzie, junior, of assault, fined 10s and costs 7s 6d.

Isabella McKenzie died on 5 April 1915, aged 78. The *Wairarapa Age* of 6 April 1915 carried the following obituary:

MRS JOHN McKENZIE. It is with deep regret we have to record the death of one of the early pioneers of the Wairarapa, in the person of Mrs John McKenzie, of Masterton, which occurred at the residence of her son, Mr James McKenzie, Te Whiti. The deceased lady, who had attained the ripe age of 78 years, had been a resident of Masterton for over 60 years. When, just a girl, she came with her parents from the Hutt, and their first residence here was on the Upper Plain. With her husband, she bravely shared the trials of the early pioneering days, and although she reared a family of 18 children (nine sons and nine daughters), she still found time to assist those in trouble, and her many acts of kindness and devotion will long be remembered. Those who are left to mourn their loss are Messrs Malcolm, Alex. James, Donald, Kenny, Joshua, J.M., Colin, and Hugh McKenzie. The daughters are Mrs Cade (Pahiatua), Mrs J.G. McDonald (Carterton), Mrs J. Daysh (Newman), Mrs Meenkin (Carterton). The funeral will leave Te Whiti at noon to-morrow (Wednesday) for the Masterton cemetery.

John McKenzie died just over two weeks later on 23 April 1915, aged 86. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 24 April 1915 carried the following obituary:

*MR JOHN McKENZIE, An old and highly respected resident of this district, Mr John McKenzie, of Te Whiti, passed away last night, at the ripe age of 86 years. Mr McKenzie, who came to New Zealand in the ship *Blenheim Castle* [sic] in the year 1840, has resided at Te Whiti for sixty years. The old gentleman had been in poor health for some time, and for the past two years was confined to his home. His wife died about a fortnight ago. The late Mr McKenzie's family numbered eighteen, thirteen of whom are living. These are Mr Malcolm McKenzie, Taueru; Mr James McKenzie, Te Whiti; Mr Angus D. McKenzie, Dalefield; Mr H. D. McKenzie, Wairoa; Mr K. D. McKenzie, Matahiwi; Mr Josh McKenzie, Poroporo; Mr J. M. McKenzie, Te Rangitumau; Mr Colin McKenzie, Te Whiti; Mrs R. Cade, Pahiatua; Mrs J. G. McDonald, Carterton; Mrs J. Daysh, Newman; Mrs Baggaley, Hamilton; and Mrs Minton, Carterton. The family will have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends in their bereavement. The funeral will leave Te Whiti at 1 o'clock on Monday, arriving at Masterton at 2.30 p.m.*

John and Isabella had eighteen children:

- Malcolm McKenzie, born in 1857, died in 1952, married Sarah Ann Bland in 1882.
- Alexander McKenzie, born in 1859, died in 1893.
- James McKenzie, born in 1860, died in 1945.
- Catherine McKenzie, born in 1861, died in 1942, married Robert Barney Cade in 1877.
- Mary McKenzie, born in 1862, died in 1910, married Robert John Baker in 1882.
- Annie McKenzie, born in 1864, died in 1954, married John George McDonald in 1885.
- Jessie McKenzie, born in 1865, died in 1913, married Francis John Court in 1885.
- Jane McKenzie, born in 1867, died in 1952, married James Alfred Daysh in 1890.
- Angus McDonald McKenzie, born in 1868, died in 1948, married Elizabeth Jane Mulvay in 1890.
- Isabella Flora McKenzie, born in 1870, died in 1910, married Charles Augustus Alexander McColl in 1909.
- Johanna Margaret McKenzie, born in 1871, died in 1963, married Samuel Harold Baggarley in 1896.
- Hugh Donald McKenzie, born in 1873, died in 1964, married Sarah Jane Anderson in 1902.
- Roderick Colin McKenzie, born in 1874, died in 1966.
- Kenneth Duncan McKenzie, born in 1876, died in 1916, married Hannah Bella McKay in 1905.
- Joshua McKenzie, born in 1878, died in 1965, married Minnie Rebecca Bagley in 1908.
- John Murdoch McKenzie, born in 1879, died in 1916 (WW1), married Ivy Winifred Pilcher in 1915.
- Jemima Elizabeth McKenzie, born in 1880, died in 1908.
- Lillian Hannah McKenzie, born in 1882, died in 1928, married John Herbert Minton in 1913.

LACHLAN MCKINNIS

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, did not include a Lachlan McKinnis. The embarkation and other lists included Lachlan McKinnis, 21, shepherd.

Lachlan McKinnis

The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 8 February 1845 and 10 February 1847 published lists of persons qualified to serve as jurors for the district of Port Nicholson, which included Laughlan M'Innis, Kaiwarra Road, labourer, while the 1849 and 1850 lists had Laclan McInnes, Wade's Town, labourer.

No further information has been confirmed for Lachlan McKinnis.

JOHN MCKINNON

A John McKinnon, 20, labourer from Borline, Skye, recommended by Tallasker, appeared on the initial list of passengers on the *Blenheim*, with his name crossed out, but then added again at the end of the list. He was also included on subsequent lists.

John McKinnon

John McKinnon may not have stayed long in Wellington. Along with 50-60 settlers, including several from the *Blenheim*, a John McKinnon left for Hobart on the *Lord Sidmouth* on 4 February 1841, barely six weeks after arrival.

The *Colonial Times* of Hobart, in its edition of 23 February 1841, noted that:

The passengers arrived by the Lord Sidmouth, who are about sixty in number, amongst other unfavourable reports state, that, in consequence of the frequency of earthquakes, of which several shocks had been experienced by the settlers since their arrival, they dare not build stone buildings of any size. We were not before aware that the Colony was visited by such a calamity, and we trust the report will turn out to be unfounded. We give it, however, as we received it; and shall be most happy to have it in our power to contradict the assertion.

The same issue of the newspaper also published the list of passengers who arrived on the *Lord Sidmouth* on 19 February,

FEB. 19.-Arrived the barque Lord Sidmouth, Marr master, from Port Nicholson 4th inst. Passengers – Mr. Hind, Mr. W. Blyth, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Sutherland, Miss M. Rankin, H. Goodwin, wife, .and 6 children, G. Boonger and wife, G. Murray and 'wife, J. Blyth and wife, C. Morris, wife, and 6 children, P. Shields, S. Wilson, J. Gordon, M. Briton, R. Whitewood, J. Cromworth, – Walker and wife, T. Bonnie, J. Stephens and wife, – Kilgrove, wife, and 5 children, H. M'Kinnon, J M'Kinnon, J. Hichman, wife, and child, J. Lockwood, J. Simmons, J. Chisom, M. M'Eachan, – Eago, P. Lanachar, and Mrs. O'Brien.

There is no further information established for John McKinnon.

DUGALD MCLACHLAN AND JANE CAMERON

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* included the McLachlan children – Catherine, 13, housemaid, Alexander 11, Hugh, 8, and Duncan 3 – in the names added at the end, but no parent. The embarkation list included an additional line for a Jane McLachlan, 13, Hugh’s age given as 10 and Duncan’s age given as 4, and with Dugald, 40, and Jane, 35, on the same line, with a later line for them both crossed out, including Dugald’s occupation, possibly “weaver”. The next list had Jane McLachlan, 32, wife of Dugald, several pages away from the others, while the arrival list had them all together again, except for Catherine, who was separated by several lines from the rest of them. Jane’s age was given as 30.

The initial list also included a Janet Cameron, 26, dairymaid, as the daughter of Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson. First versions of this list may have been prepared as early as January 1840, and Jane Cameron and Dugald McLachlan were not married until 11 February 1840 (second marriages for both of them).

In summary, the family was as follows, bearing in mind that Jane was not the mother of the four older children:

- Dugald McLachlan, 40
- Jane McLachlan, 30
- Catherine McLachlan, 15
- Alexander McLachlan, 11
- Hugh McLachlan, 10
- Duncan McLachlan, 4
- Isabella McIntyre McLachlan, born at sea.

Dugald McLachlan

Dugald McLachlan was born on 27 November 1793 in Corpach to Louis McLachlan, a weaver, and Isabella McIntyre.

Based on information contained in Dugald’s Family Bible, Dugald married Ann Abercromby Cleghorn on 31 January 1816. She was born on 11 January 1797. Their first child was John Cameron McLachlan, born on 27 April 1817, who did not travel to New Zealand. A son, Ewen, was born in 1820 but probably died before 1831. There were a number of other sons who did not live beyond infancy. The other surviving children travelled with their father on the *Blenheim*.

From family tree information on Ancestry.com, Mary Ann Abercrombie Cleghorn died in 1838.

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Inverness), recorded that Dugald McLachlan, weaver, Fort William, and Jane Cameron, Trishlaig, were married on 11 February 1840.

The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook’s Strait Guardian* of 8 February 1845 and 10 February 1847 published lists of persons qualified to serve as jurors for the district of Port Nicholson, which included Dugald M’Lachlan, Thorndon Quay, labourer.

In April 1852, Dugald McLachlan, landholder, was one of many signatories to a Memorial sent to the Governor, George Grey, expressing concern about the passing of legislation affecting the price and availability of land.

The *Wellington Independent* of 8 April 1854 in reporting on the inquest into the death by drowning of Private John Dunn, noted that Dugald McLachlan had found the body.

A few weeks later Dugald McLachlan was himself drowned at Wellington on 24 May 1854. The *Wellington Independent* of 27 May 1854 carried a report of the inquest:

On Wednesday afternoon, an inquest was held at the Crown and Anchor Inn, Lambton Quay, touching the death of Dugald M'Lachlan, who had been found lying dead on the sand above the low water mark, opposite the above Inn, about seven o'clock that morning, by a native policeman. From the evidence produced, which was very meagre, it would appear that the deceased was seen to leave the Queen's Head, Thorndon, about half past nine o'clock, the preceding evening, and that he was the worse for liquor; and that the sentry on duty at the Colonial Treasury, about eleven o'clock, heard a person walk rapidly by the Government House Guard House, and straight down into the sea. It was too dark for him to distinguish who it was and he supposed it to be some maori; not having seen him return, he related the circumstances to a policeman, who obtained a lamp and proceeded to the spot, but found nothing. There was no evidence to show that the person heard going into the water was the deceased. After some deliberation, the Jury returned a verdict to the effect, that the deceased was found lying dead on the beach that morning, apparently drowned; but how he came by his death there was no evidence before the jury to show.

Jane Cameron

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Inverness) recorded that Jean, daughter to Donald Cameron and Mary McPherson, Inverscaddie, was born on 21 December 1808.

Jane Cameron's death registration in New Zealand indicates that her first husband was a John McPherson, and they were married when she was 25, i.e. around 1834. No other record is available nor is it known if there were any children from this marriage.

As noted above, Jane Cameron married Dugald McLachlan on 11 February 1840, and they emigrated to New Zealand in August 1840 with Dugald's children. It seems likely that Jane had planned to emigrate on the *Blenheim* with her parents and siblings anyway.

Jessie Campbell's Journal entry for 27 October 1840 notes, "An addition made to our number by the birth of a daughter to MacLachlan from Portobello, it is the poor woman's first child, both doing well." [In fact, McLachlan was not from Portobello but from Fort William, and the child may not have been Jane's first (at 31).]

In addition to the birth at sea, Dugald and Jane had at least five children after their arrival in New Zealand:

- Mary McLachlan, born in 1841, died in 1932, married William Crawford in 1863.
- Female infant, born and died in 1842.
- Annie McLachlan, born in 1843, died in 1925, married James Coombe in 1864.
- Dugald McLachlan, born in 1848, died in 1918, married Christina McPherson in 1883.
- Louis McLachlan, born in 1849, died in 1906, married Alice Cameron in 1877.



Grannie Brabazon - Jane (Cameron) Brabazon, formerly McLachlan, previously McPherson

After Dugald's death in 1854, Jane and the children moved to Turakina where her parents lived. Jane married her third husband, Robert Brabazon, on 25 June 1856 and lived at Turakina until her death on 6 August 1897 at Fern Flats, Marton. The *Feilding Star* of 9 August 1897 carried the Death Notice: "Brabazon - At Fern Flats, on Friday 6th August, at the residence of her son-in-law (James Coombs), Jane Brabazon, relict of the late Robert Brabazon, Turakina, Aged 88 years."

Jane's death registration noted that at the time of her death her daughters were 50 and 48, and her sons were 57, 54 and 52, although this is an error and the sexes of the children were the other way around.

Robert Brabazon died on 9 March 1879. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 17-24 November 1879 carried an advertisement inviting tenders "for the lease or purchase of the property of the late Robert Brabazon, of Turakina, consisting of five acres of excellent land, with

house thereon, excellently situated, midway between the township and the railway station."

Margaret Perry's Diaries include references to the Brabazons and McLachlans - "So almost our only friend was old Mrs Brabazon her and Auntie used to talk Gaelic together, which I did not like..." [*Mrs Brabazon and Auntie (Marjory Cameron, m John McQuarrie) were first cousins*]; "Old Mr and Mrs Brabazon lived next door to Chapmans. Mr Brabazon was Lewis McLachlans step-father; I used very often to go there of an evening after tea, generally the old man would go to bed and Mrs B would sit by the fire and tell me love-tales about the days when she was young..."

Catherine Robertson McLachlan

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) recorded the baptism on 5 December 1825 of Katherine Robertson McLachlan, daughter to Dugald McLachlan, weaver in Correbeg, and Ann Abercromie Cleghorn, born 17 November last. The Family Bible has her birthdate as 16 November.

In 1840 Catherine travelled with her father and step-mother to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*. There is a family story that soon after disembarking, Catherine pulled from a stream a small boy who was in danger of drowning. He grew up to become Archbishop Francis Redwood, New Zealand's first home-reared Catholic Archbishop.

Catherine Robertson McLachlan and William Bell Poppelwell were married on 7 March 1843 at the Wellington Courthouse. William was a seaman from Berwick, and commanded coastal vessels around New Zealand until 1845 when they returned to Scotland for two years, coming back to settle in Otago in 1848, and eventually taking up land at Tokomairiro (now Milton).

The *Bruce Herald* of 31 August 1883 carried the Death Notice: "Poppelwell – On the 29th inst., at The Glen, Fairfax, William Poppelwell, late of Sunwick, Tokomairiro, after a lingering illness; aged 64 years." The same edition carried the following obituary:

DEATH OF AN OTAGO PIONEER. One of the oldest New Zealand identities, Mr William Poppelwell, breathed his last at his residence, the Glen, Fairfax on Wednesday morning, at the age of 64. Mr Poppelwell arrived at Wellington at the latter end of the year 1841, the ship Tyne, of which he was chief officer. He did not return by that ship, but assumed the command of a vessel trading on the coast, which occupation he followed for about four years. In 1843 he married Miss M'Lachlan, who arrived in Wellington by the ship which brought the second survey party. Mr Poppelwell brought the first vessel up the Dunedin Harbor. She was named the Governor Hobson, and he was commissioned by her owners to deliver her to a Native named Toby, but better known as "Bloody Jack," at Black Jack's Point. In 1845, Mr Poppelwell, accompanied by his wife and son, paid a visit Home, taking their passage on the David Malcolm. Among their fellow-passenger's were Governor Fitzroy, and suite. It was found impossible to round Cape Horn, in consequence of the vast quantity of ice, and it was decided to shape a course through the Straits of Magellan. The captain being ignorant of the locality handed over the command of the ship to Governor Fitzroy, who safely navigated her through. They arrived at the Old Country just six months to a day from the date of their departure. After a stay of a couple of years at Home, Mr Poppelwell and family returned to Otago, arriving here on September 23, 1848, by the ship Blundell. During the voyage out he contributed numerous articles to a manuscript newspaper published on board, copies of which are, we believe, in the Dunedin Museum. After residing about five years in North-East Valley, he came to Tokomairiro, and settled upon a farm, which he named Sunwick, after his father's place at Berwick-upon-Tweed, and resided there until six years ago. It may be interesting to state that when Mr Poppelwell first came here, there was only one house on the Tokomairiro plain, that he brought the first dray into the district, which took nine days to bring from Dunedin. It had to be got across the Taierii River in sections, the bullocks swimming. Mr Poppelwell years ago took an active part in public matters, but for a long time past he has been confined to his home through illness. He leaves a family of ten, all of whom are grown up, and of whom three daughters and two sons are married.



Catherine Robertson (McLachlan) Poppelwell

The *Mataura Ensign* of 10 March 1900 carried the Death Notice: "Poppelwell – On the 8th March, at Dunedin, Catherine Robertson, relict of the late William Poppelwell, Milton; aged 74 years. The same edition carried the following obituary:

Concerning the death of Mrs C. R. Popplewell -(mother of Mr D. L. Poppelwell, of Gore), the Bruce Herald states: The deceased lady landed at Wellington in 1840, at

the time of the foundation of the Wellington settlement. Here she was married to the late Mr W. Poppelwell, who at that time was mate of the ship Tyne which he afterwards commanded, trading down the coast, and subsequently returned with Mrs Poppelwell to the Old Country. They, however, came back to the colony in the ship Blundell, which arrived at Port Chalmers in 1848, and took up land in the North-East Valley, where they resided till 1853. Mrs Poppelwell and her husband then came to this district, and settled on the well-known property of Sunnicks. Here they resided for a number of years. The death of Mr Poppelwell, which occurred in 1883, left a big gap in the family, and in 1885, two years later, Mrs Poppelwell returned to Dunedin, where she has since resided. Mrs Poppelwell's hospitable and charitable nature is too well known by all the old residents of Tokomairiro to require reiteration here; indeed, the manner in which any person in poor circumstances was treated was a household word amongst the early settlers, and her death will be deeply regretted by all with whom she was acquainted. It might not be out of place to mention that deceased's husband was the first person to drive a wheeled vehicle from Dunedin to Tokomairiro— a journey which occupied nine days. Mr Poppelwell was also the first chairman of the Tokomairiro Agricultural Society, now the Tokomairiro Farmers' Club. Mrs Poppelwell leaves a family of eleven to mourn her loss.

Catherine and William had twelve children:

- George Matthew Bell Poppelwell (1st), born in 1844, died in 1860.
- Elizabeth Annie Poppelwell, born in 1846 (in Scotland), died in 1929, married James Alexander Henderson in 1871.
- Catherine Mary Poppelwell, born in 1849, died in 1904, married Dr Alexander J Ferguson in 1869.
- William Poppelwell, born in 1850, died in 1934, married Elizabeth Henry in 1861.
- John Poppelwell, born in 1852, died in 1933, married Margaret McCormick in 1879.
- David Poppelwell, born in 1855, died in 1937.
- Ann Abercrombie Poppelwell, born in 1857, died in 1935.
- Charlotte Mary Veronica Poppelwell, born in 1858, married Augustus Henry Syme Mansford in 1882.
- Sebastian George Alexander Poppelwell, born in 1861, died in 1939, married Margaret Dorothea Pearse in 1891.
- Dugald Louis Poppelwell, born in 1863, died in 1939, married Norah Greene in 1894.
- George Matthew Bell Poppelwell (2nd), born in 1864, died in 1910, married Ellen Hartnett in 1892.
- Mary Frances Poppelwell, born in 1866, died in 1916, married (1) Robert Boyle Monkman in 1890, (2) William Dempster in 1906.

Alexander Cleghorn McLachlan

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) recorded the baptism on 10 September 1828 of Alexander son to Dugald McLachlan, weaver in Fort William, and Mary Ann Abercrombie Cleghorn, his wife. According to the Family Bible, he was born on 2 July 1828. Alexander travelled on the *Blenheim* to New Zealand in 1840 with his father and step-mother.

On 13 August 1861, Alexander Cleghorn McLachlan married Mary Argyle Naismith at the Stapleton Registry Office, Coromandel. Mary was the daughter of Henry and

Mary Naysmith, and was born at sea on the *Duchess of Argyle*, which arrived in Auckland from Greenock in October 1842.

Alexander settled in Thames and worked as a sawyer in the Shortland mill. Electoral Roll information has him living at Mackay Street in the Thames electorate from 1875-76 through to 1900. Alexander Cleghorn McLachlan died on 20 March 1902 at Thames.

Mary Argyle Naysmith died on 9 November 1918 in Auckland.

Alexander and Mary had nine children:

- Richard Louis McLachlan, born in 1862.
- Henry Alexander McLachlan, born in 1865, died in 1920, married Bridget Sheehan in 1903.
- Annie Catherine McLachlan, born in 1868, died in 1939, married John Spraggon in 1893.
- John James McLachlan, born in 1870, died in 1948, married Marie Andersen in 1898.
- Elizabeth Mary McLachlan, born in 1873, died in 1939, married Edward Donovan in 1904.
- Janet Isabella McLachlan, born in 1875, died in 1876.
- Mary Christina McLachlan, born in 1876, died in 1955, married Thomas White in 1909.
- Margarita Ewena McLachlan, born in 1879, died in 1937, married (1) Bertram von Rotter in 1897, (2) William Cate in 1910.
- Janet Scott McLachlan, born in 1882, died in 1944, married Charles Henry Stent in 1920.

Hugh (Ewen) McLachlan

The Old Parish Register for Kilmallie (Argyll) records the baptism on 18 December 1831 of Ewen McLachlan, son of Dugald, and Ann Cleghorn, Fort William. The Family Bible records that Ewen McLachlan was born on 4 August 1831.

Ewen McLachlan emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* with his family. He was listed as "Hugh" which is an anglicised version of their common Gaelic origin. Around 1858-59 Ewen went to live at Tokomairiro with his sister Catherine and her husband.

Ewen McLachlan married Margaret Brown on 25 June 1862. They had two daughters surviving infancy:

- Mary McLachlan, born in 1863.
- Catherine McLachlan, born in 1865.

Following Margaret Brown's death, Ewen married Margaret Glancey on 21 November 1877. They had several children, possibly including:

- Lewes [*Lewis Dawson*] McLachlan, born in 1878, died in 1943.
- Ewen McLachlan, born in 1880, died in 1966, married Priscilla Isabel Calvert in 1921.
- Margaret Ann McLachlan, born in 1881, died in 1974, married William Simon Saunders in 1901.
- Dugald McLachlan, born in 1885, died in 1918 (WW1).
- Annie McLachlan, born in 1889.

- Elizabeth McLachlan, born in 1891, died in 1919.
- Linda McLachlan, born in 1894, died in 1970.
- John Cameron McLachlan, born in 1895, died in 1966, married Mary Ellen McDougall in 1922.
- Agnes McLachlan, born in 1897, died in 1944, married Robert George Catherwood in 1927.

Ewen McLachlan died in 1906 at Owaka. In mid-June 1906 a number of newspapers around the country carried the Press Association message that a man named Hugh McLachlan, 74 years of age, was found dead on the railway line near Owaka. Death was believed to be due to natural causes. The *Otago Daily Times* of 20 June 1906 reported, "The late Ewen M'Pherson M'Lachlan, of Owaka, whose body was found on the railway, was one of the first white men to set foot in the North Island. He had been about 70 years in the colony." A letter in the *Otago Daily Times* of 23 June 1906 provided some history of Ewen McLachlan and his family:

"OLD HUGH." TO THE EDITOR. Sir,—I saw a paragraph in yesterday's Daily Times which made reference to the death of an old friend of mine, and I ask permission to correct two mis-statements which it contained. The paragraph says—"The old man Ewan McPherson M'Lachlan, who was found dead on the railway near Owaka, was one of the first white men to set foot in the North Island, He had been about 70 years in the colony." I have known the man intimately since 1863, and I never heard of his name being "Ewan M'Pherson" but always "Hugh." Hundreds of the old man's acquaintances at a distance when they read this remark of mine will be satisfied about the fact of his death—a conclusion they could hardly arrive at when they read of him as "Ewan."

The other mis-statement, which says that he was one of the first white men to come here, corrects itself, to people who know the history of New Zealand, when it adds that "he had been about 70 years in the colony." There were white men in this country long before 1836.

My poor old friend, both from his character and his history, deserves a longer obituary notice than has yet been given him. He came with his father and other members of the family to Wellington by the ship Blenheim in 1840, under the auspices of the old New Zealand Company. Often I have heard him tell with a look of pride in his eye where he came from, for he was a Scottish Celt to the core. "I am a Lochaber man, and left Fort William to come here." the geographical names were music to his ear. He was born in 1831. and was consequently only nine years of age when he arrived in Wellington. The site of the now fine city was then either dense bush or under water, and it had just had its name changed from Britannia to that which it now bears, in compliment to the Duke for services rendered to the New Zealand Company in Parliament. For playmates "old Hughie" as he was called by his friends, had Maori boys. He taught them to spin tops and play marbles, and in the process managed to acquire a knowledge of their language — a knowledge much extended in after years. He used often to speak of the great chiefs he had known in his youth; men whose names have long ago passed into history. Amongst these were the celebrated Ta Rauparaha and his terrible fighting nephew Rangiatea, the leaders in the awful massacre at Wairau, Tamata Waka, and E. Puni, the latter a chief who was mainly instrumental in selling the block on which Wellington now stands. His love for the Maori people was almost a passion up to the day of his death, and his knowledge of them and their ways greater than that of any man I have ever known. The medical adviser of the M'Lachlan family, in those early days, was Dr Knox, one of the two brothers who a decade or so previously had earned an unenviable notoriety through their dealings with the Edinburgh resurrectionists, Burke and Hare.

With pardonable pride Hughie used to tell how he once had a conversation with Sir George Grey. They were each on a pedestrian tour, and met in a disturbed part of

the country – I think in Hawke’s Bay. Sir George had a small escort, Hughie was alone, and carrying a swag. When they met and had exchanged greetings, the Governor put his question – “Are you not afraid to travel alone amongst so many disaffected Natives?” and strongly advised my friend to turn back. “I know the Maoris so well, Sir George, that I have no fear,” was the reply. His journey was accomplished in perfect safety.

In 1858 or ‘9 he came south, in charge of some sheep, landing them at Oamaru, their destination. From there he walked to Tokomairiro, and took service with his brother-in-law, the late Mr Poppelwell. In August, 1861, he was mining in Gabriel’s Gully, and since then has been simply a labouring man. He was twice married, and by his first wife had two daughters born to him. By his second wife he had a large family of sons and daughters nearly all grown up.

Speaking of such a man as this, Carlyle, in a noble passage, says:–“O, hardly entreated brother, thou wer’st our conscript on whom the lot fell; in fighting our battles thou wer’st so marred.” In this sense my old friend was emphatically “a conscript.” From early youth until, at the age of 75, he lay down to die, he was engaged in the struggle for bread. Honour sometimes peereth from under the meanest habit, it has been said. How often have I seen and admired it peering from under the soiled and frayed working dress of Hugh M’Lachlan. Light lie the turf on his breast! I am, etc., N Royal terrace, Caversham, June 21

Duncan McLachlan

Duncan McLachlan was a child of 4 when he travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*. According to the Family Bible, he was born on 15 December 1835.

It appears that in 1852, even before his father’s death, Duncan moved south to Tokomairiro to live with his sister Catherine.

Duncan McLachlan married Honora Lynch on 20 April 1862 at Dunedin.

Duncan and Honora had at least five children, possibly including:

- William McLachlan, born in 1869.
- Annie McLachlan, born in 1871.
- Catherine McLachlan, born in 1875, married John Aloysius Henley in 1912.
- Alice Genevieve McLachlan, died in 1949, married Charles William Henry Chilcott Bremner in 1902.
- Thomas Duncan McLachlan, born in 1878, died in 1957, married Augusta Mary Duffy in 1915.

Honora Lynch died on 24 June 1891.

Duncan McLachlan died on April 1896. The *NZ Tablet* of 1 May 1896 reported, “Duncan McLachlan died recently; resident in Milton; born 15 December 1835; native of Fort William, Inverness, Scotland; an old and highly respected resident of Milton; in 1840 his father and family emigrated to Wellington; most of his life was spent in Otago whither he came in 1852, and where his sister had married the late Mr William Poppelwell; a convert for very many years.” The *Bruce Herald* of 5 May 1896 reported “The funeral of Mr Duncan M’Lachlan took place on Friday afternoon last, the cortege leaving St Mary’s Chapel for Fairfax Cemetery. The late Mr M’Lachlan was a very old resident in Milton and a considerable number of residents attended the funeral. Father Ryan officiated at the grave.”

Isabella McIntyre McLachlan

Isabella McIntyre McLachlan was born on 27 October 1840 on board the *Blenheim* at a point in the middle of the South Atlantic, and named for Dugald’s mother.

Isabella McIntyre married Isaiah Wade Leigh on 15 August 1862.

Isabella Leigh died on 26 September 1914 at Turakina. The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 28 September 1914 carried the death Notice: "Leigh – On the 26th inst., at her residence, Turakina, Isabella, widow of the late Isaiah Leigh, aged 74 years." Isaiah Wade Leigh had died in 1900, aged 84.

Isabella and Isaiah appear to have had at least five children:

- Mary Wade Leigh, born in 1863, married Martin Lee in 1879.
- Charles Ernest Leigh, born in 1865, died in 1942.
- Ann Eliza Leigh, born in 1868, married Charles Alexander Whale in 1891.
- Robert Leigh, born in 1870.
- George Alexander Leigh, born in 1872, died in 1946, married Annie Kennerley in 1895.

ARCHIBALD AND CHRISTINA MCLELLAN

The McLellans were included with the additional names at the end of the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* and were also on the subsequent lists:

- Archibald McLellan, 30, Morvern, labourer
 - Christina McLellan, 27
-

Archibald and Christina McLellan

No information has been found relating to Archibald and Christina McLellan in Wellington. However, family tree information on Ancestry.com suggested that they moved on to Australia and this has been confirmed through BDM registrations.

Archibald McLellan was born in Inverness, Scotland around 1806, and died in Molong, New South Wales, Australia, on 5 December 1867, aged 61.

Christina McLellan was born around 1810 in Inverness Scotland, to Donald McLellan, a fisherman, and Annie McDougal. She died at Judds Creek, Rockley, New South Wales, on 16 June 1895, of influenza, aged 85.

Archibald and Christina were married in Invernesshire, Scotland, around 1840, when Annie was 30, so this would have been shortly before the departure of the *Blenheim*. Christina's death registration also reports that she had lived in New South Wales for 55 years at the time of her death.

Newspaper reports of the death of Archibald and Christina's son John McLellan in 1920 suggest that he was born in New Zealand, came to Australia in his youth, and was for many years a farmer in the Rockley district of New South Wales at Judd Creek. His death registration confirms that he died on 26 October 1920 at Perthville, New South Wales, and was a grazier aged 78; his parents were Archibald McLellan, schoolteacher, and Christina McLellan; and that he was born in New Zealand and had been 70 years in New South Wales.

The death registration information for Isabella (McLellan) Writer, who died on 6 May 1924 aged 76, indicates that she was born in Bathurst, New South Wales. The informant was her grandson Charles E Heath, Bathurst The death registration for Christina (McLellan) Pearce, who died on 22 October 1933, aged 79, gives her place of birth as Wellington, NSW (which is near Molong), and her parents as Archibald McLellan, grazier, and Christina McLellan. The informant was her son-in-law, J W Sharwood, Bathurst.

Archibald and Christina appear to have had five children:

- Annie McLellan, born in 1841.
- John McLellan, born in 1842, died in 1920 in Australia, married Mary Jane Hobbs in 1896.
- Isabella McLellan, born in 1848, died in 1924 in Australia, married John Writer in 1871.
- Mary Josephine McLellan, born in 1849, died in 1939 in Australia, married John H Jones in 1869.
- Christina McLellan, born in 1854, died in 1933 in Australia, married John Pearce in 1875.

ANGUS MCMASTER AND MARY MCKENZIE

The *Blenheim* passenger lists record Angus McMaster aged 36, ploughman. He was on the initial list as a ploughman from Kinlochmoidart, with the comment by Donald McDonald, "Has been 23 years in my service previous to 1839."

Angus McMaster and Mary McKenzie

Information from his descendants suggests that Angus McMaster was born in Strontian parish in Argyll around 1800, with his parents being Archibald McMaster, a labourer and lead miner, and Ann Cameron.

Angus McMaster married Mary McKenzie on 13 December 1842 at the Scotch Church in Wellington. Mary was the daughter of Hugh McKenzie and Catherine McDonald, and had also travelled on the *Blenheim*.

In the passenger lists, Mary was recorded in the family of Hugh McKenzie, as a housemaid aged 17. Donald McDonald's notes on the family say, "This family have been known to me all my life and have mostly been in my own and my Brother's service." Mary McKenzie was born in Ardnamurchan, Argyll, around 1823, to Hugh McKenzie and Catherine McDonald.

After initially living in the Wellington area at Evans Bay (known for a time as McMaster Bay), in 1843 Angus took his family to the Wairarapa, where they settled at Tuhitarata, near Featherston and Martinborough.

The *Dominion* of 26 November 1910 carried an article on the pioneering experiences of Angus McMaster and his family, with some extracts below:

PIONEERING EXPERIENCES: THE WAIRARAPA SIXTY YEARS AGO: MR. ANGUS M'MASTER'S VENTURE: A STORY OF ENTERPRISE REVEALED.

There is probably no better known name in the Wairarapa than that of M'Master, a family which took up its residence in the district some sixty-four years ago. Mr. Angus M'Master, one of the stoutest hearts who ever carved out a home in an untrodden wilderness, was the first of the name to journey to the district. This pioneer found his way over the then trackless Rimutakas, and pitched his whare at Tuhitarata (sweet smelling tree), a section some twenty miles from the town now known as Featherston, but which in the forties had no existence. It was here that Angus M'Master made his home and brought up his family, including his well-known sons, Hugh, Duncan, John, and Donald; it was here he worked, braved many a danger, endured many a hardship, and finally, after he had retired to Greytown, and had paid his debt to Nature, it was Tuhitarata that was selected as his last resting-place, at the ripe age of 87 years...

*Angus: M'Master was born at Fort William, Scotland, about 1820. He came to Wellington in 1840; a grown man, in the good ship *Blenheim*, and for a time he was overseer on the road which was then being constructed between Wellington and the Hutt. His first whare was pitched at a spot near Evans Bay, and which was known for some years as M'Master Bay. It was about 1843 or 1844 that he cut his way over the Rimutakas, and journeying on, camped at Tuhitarata...*

The Te Ara biography of Te Hiko Piata Tama-i-hikoia, a leading Wairarapa chief from the 1840s to 1880s picks up the story:

In the mid 1840s Te Hiko leased land to Angus McMaster and his wife, Mary, settled at Tuhitarata after an 11 day journey on foot from Port Nicholson (Wellington). Thus McMaster became Te Hiko's client, living under the protection of his mana, and known to the Wairarapa people as 'Hiko's Pakeha'. The two men were sometimes at odds, when the one thought the other was encroaching on his

rights, but their close relationship endured and extended to their families. The descendants of the McMasters often called their children by names associated with Te Hiko. Angus's son Hugh was also known as Tuhitarata. After the Pakeha family was established, Te Hiko built his pa at Te Waitapu, not far from their homestead. He lived there for the rest of his life.

Angus and Mary had nine children, and then sadly she died in 1864 as the result of a miscarriage when pregnant with their tenth child.

Angus married again about a year later on 6 July 1866. His second wife was Hannah Jones who had emigrated from Wales. They raised six more children, two sons and four daughters.

The *Evening Post* of 27 February 1888 included the following obituary:

The Late Mr. A. M' Master.

Mr. Angus M' Master, one of the oldest settlers in the Wairarapa, died on Saturday, at 4 p.m., at Greytown. The deceased gentleman was supposed to be 88 years of age at the time of his demise. He came out in the ship Blenheim, in the year 1840, and landed at Kaiwarra on 1st January, 1841. Mr. M' Master was a native of Strontian, Argyleshire, Scotland, and commenced his eventful career in the colony as overseer to a body of men constructing a road from Kaiwarra to the Hutt, mostly his own fellow-passengers. He then commenced a small dairy at Evans' Bay, where he first established his home. He was a man remarkable for his sterling integrity and good qualities, and was on that account selected for many positions of great trust in the early days of the settlement. While at Evans' Bay he once proceeded on foot from thence to Wanganui with a fellow-passenger, in search of suitable land for settlement. About the year 1845 Mr. M' Master took up his abode in the Wairarapa, at Tuhitarata, where he continued to reside until about 1874, when he removed to Greytown, where he died. For some years Mr. M' Master was the owner of the property at Gladstone, now in the possession of Mr. W. C. Buchanan, M.H.R., and known as the Tupurupuru station, which he disposed of in August 1873. He leaves a family consisting of the widow (his second wife), and 14 children, all of whom were, with the exception of one daughter, around his bedside when he passed away. The absent daughter is the wife of Mr. Stevens, late M.H.R. for Rangitikei. He had also lost by death, in addition to his first wife, two sons and a daughter, making in all the large family of 17 children, comprising eight sons and nine daughters. The deceased was always, even in his declining years, of a most active disposition, and had a kind, cheery word for all with whom he came in contact. The remains will be conveyed to-day (Monday) to his late home at Tuhitarata, where it has always been his wish to be interred beside the bodies of his first wife and departed children, and this last sad ceremony will take place to-morrow at 1 p.m. The Wellington friends who may desire to attend will find the Kahautara-road, via Featherston, the most convenient, as arrangements have been made for crossing the river Ruamahunga, near Tuhitarata, and the distance is much shorter from Featherston Railway Station than by any other route.

Angus and Mary's children included:

- Hugh McMaster, born in 1846, died in 1902.
- Duncan McMaster, born in 1848, died in 1896, married Dolina Catherine Drummond in 1874.
- Donald McMaster, born in 1849, died in 1919.
- Ann McMaster, born in 1851, died in 1893, married John Stevens (son of *Blenheim* passenger) in 1880.
- Bethiah (Bessie) McMaster, born in 1854, died in 1898.
- Sarah McMaster, born in 1856, died in 1927.

- John McMaster, born in 1858, died in 1935, married Mary Colman (cousin) in 1895.
- Jessie McMaster, born in 1860, died in 1884.
- Mary McMaster, born in 1862, died in 1892.

Hannah (Jones) McMaster died in 1917.

Angus and Hannah's children included:

- Ellen Jones McMaster, born in 1867, married Ruben Uru Te Miroi in 1892.
- Hannah McMaster, born in 1870,
- Archibald McMaster, born in 1872.
- Angusina Kate McMaster, born in 1874, died in 1931.
- Angus McMaster, born in 1878, died in 1937.

DONALD MCQUARRIE AND MARGARET MCEACHERN

In the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, this family was noted by Donald McDonald as coming from Borline, and were "Recommended by Hugh MacAskil Esq. of Tallasker in whose Family MacQuarrie has ever been – Tallasker is to pay for the children."

In the initial list the family comprised of:

- Donald MacQuarrie, 54, labourer
- Margaret McEachern, 53, his wife
- ~~Mary MacQuarrie, 32, his daughter, dairymaid~~
- Rachael MacQuarrie, 27, his daughter, housemaid and cook
- Jane MacQuarrie, 25, his daughter, housemaid
- Angus MacQuarrie, 23, his son, cooper
- ~~Donald MacQuarrie, 21, his son, sailor~~
- John MacQuarrie, 19, his son, joiner
- Alexander MacQuarrie, 17, his son, labourer
- Hugh MacQuarrie, 14, his son, cowherd
- ~~Isabella MacQuarrie, 3, his granddaughter~~
- Mary MacQuarrie, 7, his granddaughter
- John MacQuarrie, 3, his grandson

Subsequent lists did not include or crossed out daughter Mary, son Donald, and granddaughter Isabella. However, Isabella was probably the McQuarrie child who died on 6 October 1840 while at sea, as noted in Jessie Campbell's Journal, so it may well be the case that she travelled anyway.

The entries for Jane McQuarrie, daughter, and Mary McQuarrie, granddaughter, should probably have been recorded as Jane Fraser and Mary Fraser, since Jane was the widow of a Fraser. Information relating to this family has been drawn from the diary of Margaret Barrett, nee Perry, a daughter of Mary Fraser and granddaughter of Jane McQuarrie.

Donald McQuarrie and Margaret McEachern

Borline, the place where the McQuarrie family lived at the time of the compilation of the initial *Blenheim* passenger list, is in the parish of Bracadale, Isle of Skye.

Donald McQuarrie died on 7 October 1860, aged 85, and is buried in Turakina.

Margaret McQuarrie died on 12 May 1850, aged 70.

In her Diary, Margret Perry notes, "I remember once father taking me out to Turakina to Aunties when she lived with Uncle in a nice large house in the gully; and I have a faint recollection of seeing my great-grandfather, Donald McQuarrie, a greyheaded man sitting in the corner in an arm-chair."

Rachael McQuarrie

Rachael McQuarrie was a housemaid and cook of 27 when she travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

It seems likely that Rachael was Jessie Campbell's Skye servant as described in her Journal. Early in the voyage the Skye servant was often sick and Jessie was not very kind in her descriptions of her, "she is so stupid and heavy she makes herself worse than she really is, wonder Mrs Mac? could recommend such a person even if she is a good cook," and "Capt. Gray said he never saw much a hulk of a woman, if I put jacket and trousers on her she would do better for a sailor than a nurse." Jessie Campbell also noted, "My Skye woman made her appearance in wretched plight, think she is not so ill as she says, told her father I must engage another," so her father was on the ship. Also, an entry on 30 September 1840 noted, "A niece of my Skye maid very ill, threatened with water in the head, she was very sickly when she came on board, she is about 3 years old." Subsequent entries comment on the health of the McQuarrie child and death on 6 October 1840. Once the Skye servant, who is never given a name, improved her health, there were kinder remarks, "My Skye maid has improved very much, she is so careful and interested in the children," and "I forgot to mention that when a sheep is killed my Skye maid is employed to make a haggis, and very good she makes it," although she also records that Captain Grey was "very angry" when the Skye maid refused to make a haggis on Sunday.

In a letter to her sister Isabella, written from Petone on 8 November 1841, Jessie Campbell says, "My Skye servant has got married, she was so plain looking I thought I was sure to have her for some time. Her husband is a smart good looking young man who came out in the *Blenheim* from Skye."

In 1841 Rachael McQuarrie married John MacKay (see [John McKay and Family](#)), who was also a *Blenheim* passenger. New Zealand BDM registration records that John McKay, agricultural labourer, formerly of the island of Egg, and Rachael McQuarrie, daughter of Donald McQuarrie parish of Bracadale, Isle of Sky, now of Port Nicholson, were married on 11 August 1841. The celebrant was John McFarlane, Minister.

According to New Zealand BDM records, a Rachael MacKay died on 17 August 1855, although the registration year was 1848 and her age was 36.

It appears that Rachael and John may have had a daughter, Christina, born on 9 October 1849 in Wellington.

Jane (McQuarrie) Fraser

As noted above, Jane McQuarrie or Fraser, was the widow of a Fraser. In the *Blenheim* passenger list she was listed as a housemaid of 25.

From Margaret Perry's diary, it seems that Jane Fraser lived in Wellington, with occasional trips to Turakina to stay with her daughter.

Jane Fraser died on 6 July 1863, aged 47.

Angus McQuarrie

In the *Blenheim* passenger list, Angus McQuarrie was identified as a cooper, with his age given as 23, meaning he was born around 1817.

In the Electoral Rolls for the Napier district of Hawke's Bay in the 1850s, Angus McQuarrie is listed as a stockholder living at Petane, with his qualification being leasehold property at Petane.

An Angus McQuarrie died in 1859, aged 45. The *Hawkes Bay Herald* of 12 February 1859 carried a report of the inquest into Angus McQuarrie's death by drowning at Petane (now Bay View). It appears that Angus and his companion, William Henry

Thompson, had been drinking. Angus had passed out on the beach and when Thompson and some local Maoris found him in the morning he had drowned.

John McQuarrie

John McQuarrie was listed as a joiner of 19 in the *Blenheim* passenger lists.

John McQuarrie married Marjory (Mysie) Cameron on 1 January 1844. Mysie Cameron was the daughter of Ewen Cameron and Maria Colquhoun, and had also been a passenger on the *Blenheim*. The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 3 January 1844 carried the Notice: "On the 1st inst., by the Rev. John Macfarlane, Mr John M'Quarrie, formerly of Invernessshire, carpenter, to Marjory, daughter of Mr Hugh Cameron, formerly of Ardgone, Argyleshire, now of Wellington."

The list of persons qualifying as jurors for the District of Port Nicholson in 1845, 1847-1848, and 1850 included John McQuarry, Kai Warra, carpenter.

In Electoral Rolls for Wanganui and Rangitikei in the 1850s and 1860s, John McQuarry was listed as a settler at Turakina, owning freehold land there.

John McQuarrie died on 10 December 1865.

After his death Marjory (Cameron) McQuarrie married George Perry in 1867.

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 13 April 1899 reported, "In the Supreme Court (in Chambers) yesterday, before C.C. Kettle, Esq., Registrar, in re John McQuarrie, late of Turakina, farmer, deceased, on the motion of Mr Watt, probate was granted to Margery Perry and Charles Cameron, the executors named in the will. Date of will, 4th February 1860; date of death, 10th December, 1865."

Marjory (Cameron) Perry, formerly McQuarrie died in Devenport on 26 March 1903 aged 87 (see pp 49-50).

Alexander McQuarrie

Alexander McQuarrie was a labourer of 17 when he travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Alexander McQuarrie was a member of the Kettle surveying party to Otago in 1846-47.

The list of persons qualifying as jurors for the District of Port Nicholson in 1845 and 1848 included Alexander McQuarry, Tinakori Road, carpenter, in 1849 listed at Lambton Quay, and in 1850 listed at Kai Warra.

It seems likely that Alexander McQuarrie and his brother Hugh spent some time in the militia. In the Electoral Rolls for Franklyn and Thames in 1870-71 and 1875-76, Alexander and his brother Hugh were listed at Tapu Creek, Thames. In 1890 they were both at Whangaruru in the Bay of Islands and described as carpenters. In 1896 they were at the same place but now described as settlers.

Alexander McQuarrie died in 1907, aged 80.

Hugh McQuarrie

Hugh McQuarrie was listed as a cowherd of 14 in the *Blenheim* passenger lists.

From Electoral Rolls it appears that Hugh lived with his brother Alexander, first in the Thames area, then in Northland.

Hugh McQuarrie died in 1901, aged 73.

Isabella McQuarrie

Isabella McQuarrie, granddaughter of Donald and Margaret McQuarrie, was crossed out in the interim and arrival lists and did not appear on the embarkation list. However, a female McQuarrie child, aged 3, did die at sea on 6 October 1840. In her Journal, Jessie Campbell noted on 30 September 1840, "A niece of my Skye maid very ill, threatened with water in the head, she was sickly when she came aboard, she is about [3] years old." The next day she noted "Macquarrie's child rather better," and four days later "the Macquarrie child better." However, on 6 October she reported, "The Macquarrie's child has just expired, her complaint general debility and latterly water in the head."

On this basis, the assumption must be that although crossed off the list, Isabella did in fact make the voyage. The alternative is that the child who died was John McQuarrie, also 3 years old, but that would assume a significant error by Jessie Campbell that does not seem reasonable.

It is not clear who Isabella's parents were.

Mary [McQuarrie] Fraser

As noted above, Mary was the daughter of Jane McQuarrie and a Mr Fraser. In the Blenheim passenger list her age was given as 7 years old, and she was the granddaughter of Donald McQuarrie.

In 1852, Mary Fraser married Robert Perry, a private in the 65th Regiment.

Mary Perry died on 29 June 1879 at Makirikiri, Turakina.

Mary and Robert may have had 10 children:

- Alexander (Sandy) John Perry, born in 1852, died in 1894, married Maria Hempseed in 1878.
- Margaret (Maggie) Perry, born in 1855, married Edwin Barrett in 1890.
- Jane Perry, born in 1856, died in 1932, married Walter Taylor in 1874.
- Margery Perry, born in 1859, married Thomas Riley Taylor in 1876.
- Mary Perry, born in 1862, married William Gibson in 1882.
- Douglas Robert Rogers Perry, born in 1865, died in 1922, married Mary Mitchell in 1889.
- John Perry.
- George Perry, born in 1868, died in 1918?
- Edward (Ted) Perry, born in 1873.
- Emily Florence Perry, born in 1875, married Edwin Miller in 1896.

John McQuarrie

John McQuarrie, grandson of Donald McQuarrie, was 3 years old when he travelled to Wellington on the *Blenheim* in 1840. It is not clear who his parents were.

No other information has been established for John McQuarrie.

WILLIAM AND MARIA MILLER

The Miller family were included on the embarkation and arrival lists for the *Blenheim* as coming from Glasgow. They were:

- William Miller, 28, labourer (embarkation), weaver (arrival)
- Maria Miller, 27
- Robert Miller, 9
- Janet Miller, 7
- Mary Miller, 5
- Jane Miller, 2
- Margaret Miller, born at sea

William and Maria Miller

After arriving in New Zealand William and Maria had at least one further child:

- James Miller, born in 1845, died in 1926, married Annie Elizabeth Wright Hopkirk in 1879.

Marian [*Maria*] Miller died in 1847 aged 36.

William Miller and Jane Wilson

William Miller married again, to Jane Wilson in 1854. They had further children, possibly including:

- Adam Miller, born in 1857, died in 1886.
- Elizabeth Miller, born in 1859.
- Francis Miller, born in 1861.
- Thomas Miller, born in 1864, died in 1866.

William Miller died on 2 August 1879. His death registration noted that he died at Nelson Street, Wellington, aged 67, with the cause of death being old age and general debility. He was born in Paisley, Scotland and had been in New Zealand for 39 years. There was only the marriage to “- Wilson” listed as taking place in Wellington, NZ. Living issue were five males and five females. The *Evening Post* of 2 August 1879 contained the following obituary:

One by one the “old identities” of Wellington are dropping off from our midst. This morning another old settler passed away, in the person of Mr. W. Miller, father of the City Councillor of that name. Mr. Miller arrived in Wellington on 27th December, 1840, in the ship Blenheim, which left the port of Greenock, Scotland, in the summer of that year. From that time till the day of his death he was a resident in Wellington. About 20 years ago he took the Commercial Hotel, Willis-street, and held the position of host until about four years ago, when he retired from business. Mr. Miller never took any very prominent part in public life, but was for a short period a member of the City Council during the time that Messrs. Borlase and Quin occupied seats as members of that body. Mr. Miller always enjoyed very good health until about two months ago, when he was seized with a serious illness, to which he finally succumbed early this morning at the ripe age of 68. Mr Miller was well known and very generally respected. The news of his death will be received with considerable regret, especially by the old, original settlers still left among us.

Jane (Wilson) Miller, William’s second wife, died on 24 August 1887, aged 64. The *Evening Post* of 25 August 1887 reported, “An inquest was held to-day by Dr.

Johnston, Coroner, on the body of an elderly female patient at the Mount View Asylum, named Jane Miller, who died on Tuesday evening. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes. Deceased, who was an old settler in the district, and formerly kept the Commercial Hotel, had been an inmate of the institution for about a month."

Robert Miller

Robert Miller was 9 years old when he travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Robert Miller and Jane Mitchell were married on 24 June 1859. Jane Mitchell had also been a passenger on the *Blenheim*, as a 3 year old, travelling with her parents [James Mitchell](#) and [Jane Stewart](#).

Robert Miller was a successful baker and businessman, and also served as a City Councillor.

Jane (Mitchell) Miller died on 24 October 1867. The *Wellington Independent* of 26 October 1867 carried the following Death Notice: "Miller – On October 24, at the residence of Mr James Mitchell, Burnside, Porirua, Jane, the beloved wife of Mr Robert Miller, Tauerue Station, Wairarapa, aged 30 years."

Following Jane's death, Robert married Mary Ellen Angell on 22 January 1873.

Robert Miller died on 24 October 1904 aged 73. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 28 October 1904 carried the Death Notice: Miller – On the 24th October, 1904, at his residence "Waiwetu" Tasman street Wellington, Robert Miller, aged 73 years." The *Manawatu Times* of 26 October 1904 reported, "Mr Robert Miller, one of Wellington's early settlers, who came to Port Nicholson in the ship *Blenheim* in 1840, died yesterday." The *Evening Post* of 24 October 1904 published the following obituary:

Mr. Robert Miller, one of Wellington's early settlers, died at his residence in Tasman-street this morning. About a fortnight ago he was seized with a paralytic stroke, from which he did not recover. The deceased gentleman was born at Paisley, Scotland, and came out to Port Nicholson with his parents in the ship Blenheim in December, 1840. The family resided for some time on what is now the site of the Hotel Cecil. Mr. Robert Miller was in business in Wellington for many years, and afterwards went to live in retirement at the Hutt, but for some time before his death he had been a resident of Tasman-street. In years gone by he occupied a seat on the City Council, and he laboured in other ways to advance the interests of the city. He was a director of the Equitable Building and Investment Company, from its formation up till the time of his death, and was also a shareholder in other joint stock concerns. He has left a widow and a family of eleven, the eldest being Mr. W. Miller, of the Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Company. The late Mr. Miller was very highly respected.

Mary Ellen (Angell) Miller died on 20 March 1940 aged 88.

Jane and Robert appear to have had at least five children:

- William Miller, born in 1860, died in 1940, married Susan McLaren in 1883. William Miller was an auctioneer, valuer and accountant, became the last clerk of the Miramar Borough Council and for ten years was Town Clerk at Johnsonville.
- James Miller, born in 1861, died in 1862, aged 3 weeks.
- Jane Miller, born in 1862.
- James Miller, born in 1865.

- Robert Alexander Mitchell Miller, born in 1867, died in 1940, married Evelyn Rose Aitchison in 1925. Farmed at Kopuaranga, Wairarapa with his brother from the early 1900s.

Robert and Mary Ellen appear to have had at least seven children:

- Emily Miller, born in 1873.
- Marion Miller, born in 1875.
- Adam John Miller, born in 1876, died in 1972, married Amelia Alice Helen Nicholls in 1905.
- Walter Robert Miller, born in 1878, died in 1963, carpenter, moved to Canada in 1905, married Mary Ann Lambert.
- Oliver Allen Miller, born in 1880, died in 1962.
- Violet Annie Miller, born in 1881, died in 1965, married Archibald Coulter in 1904.
- Ethel Janet Miller, born in 1883, died in 1967.

Janet Miller

Janet Miller was 7 years old when she travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* with her family.

Janet Miller married John William Laing in 1854.

John William Laing died in 1909. The *Otago Witness* of 6 January 1909 carried the following obituary:

MR JOHN WILLIAM LAING. Another of the fast diminishing band of early settlers passed to his rest on 2nd inst. John W. Laing, a son of the Manse, was born in Crieff, Perthshire, in 1826. His father was minister of the Established Church there, and his grandfather, Mr Wm. Laing, of Edinburgh, was the well-known collector of rich and rare literary productions, and his opportunity came during the Napoleonic wars, when private and public collections of priceless value were scattered over the continent. During one of the brief intervals of peace, Mr Laing crossed to the continent and secured very many books of great value, and thus laid the foundation of a collection which became unique in Scotland. Mr Wm. Laing was one of the founders and first directors of the Commercial Bank of Scotland. On the mother's side, Mr John Wm. Laing was descended from one of the most famous of Scottish families, his mother being a daughter of Professor Gregory, of Edinburgh. Professor Gregory's father also filled the chair of medicine in Edinburgh University, while others of the same family filled the chairs of astronomy and mathematics. His uncle, Dr David Laing, was the well-known librarian of the Advocates Library, Edinburgh, and an antiquarian and scholar, deeply versed in Scottish history and literature. Mr John Wm. Laing was educated at Menzie Boarding School and at the High School and University, Edinburgh. In 1842, he, accompanied by his friend, Mr Wm. Landsborough, sailed in the barque, Duke of Richmond, for Sydney. The young men went to the sheep station of Landsborough's brother in the New England district. Both young men had been sent out to learn colonial farming. Taking a share in the station, Mr Laing remained there six or seven years. His friend took to exploring the back country, especially Queensland, and subsequently became famous as an explorer. Mr Landsborough returned to the Homeland, where he was honoured by Royalty, but Mr Laing came to New Zealand—a move he always regretted. He arrived in Wellington by a trading schooner, and some time afterwards came on to Dunedin to visit his three brothers, who had taken up land in and around Dunedin. Liking the climate of Otago, he went back to New South Wales to wind up his affairs. Having capital, on his return he bought up city and suburban property, and made his home at Brockville, Halfway Bush, where he lived a very retired life until within the last ten years, when he removed to Ramsay

Lodge, Stafford-street, Dunedin. He leaves a widow, and a family of five daughters and four sons, two of the sons being Messrs W. M. Laing, of "Glencrieff," Bideford, and David Laing, of New Plymouth.

Janet (Miller) Laing died in 1915, aged 81.

Janet and John had nine children:

- Jean Gregory Laing, born in 1855, died in 1905.
- Mary Laing, born in 1857, died in 1918, married Arthur Harding Parkinson in 1901.
- William Miller Laing, born in 1859, died in 1938, married Jessie Elizabeth Cameron (cousin) in 1887.
- Helen Laing, born in 1862, died in 1943.
- John Laing, born in 1864, died in 1944.
- Margaret Laing, born in 1866, died in 1950, married Alexander Durrand in 1894.
- Wilhelmina Laing, born in 1868, died in 1962.
- James Miller Laing, born in 1870.
- David Laing, born in 1873.

Mary Miller

Mary Miller travelled with her family on the *Blenheim* as a 5-year old in 1840.

In 1857 Mary Miller married William Oliver, and went to live in Napier.

William Oliver, a bricklayer, died in 1882.

Mary (Miller) Oliver died on 20 September 1927. The *Evening Post* of 27 September 1927 carried the following obituary:

There died at Napier last week Mrs. Mary Oliver, widow of the late William Oliver, at the age of 92. The deceased lady had resided in Napier since 1858. Mrs. Oliver was born in Paisley, Scotland, and was a daughter of the late Mr. William Miller, who landed in Wellington on the ship Blenheim, with a family of six, in 1840. The members of this family have been identified with the Wellington district since the foundation, of the city. Mr. Miller, senior, was well known as the owner of the Commercial Hotel, erected on the present site of the Grand Hotel, Willis street, and was one of the first members of the Wellington City Council, having been elected in 1870. The only remaining member of this family who landed from the ship Blenheim is Mrs. Allan Cameron, now of Pearce street, Seatoun, who was two months old when she was carried ashore at Pipitea Point in December, 1840.

Mary and William appear to have had at least eight children:

- James Oliver, born in 1858, died in 1923, married Fanny Clara Warwick in 1883.
- William Oliver, born in 1860, died in 1916, married Mary Jane Mollet in 1885.
- u/k Oliver, born in 1862, died in 1862.
- Charles Miller Oliver, born in 1866, died in 1938, [married Harriet Bond].
- Mary Oliver, born in 1868, died in 1953.
- Robert Leslie Oliver, born in 1871.
- Ellen Oliver, born in 1873, died in 1959, married Joseph William Beagley in 1902.
- Thomas Oliver, born in 1875, died in 1944, married Catherine Croskery in 1921.

Jane Miller

Jane Miller was only 2 years old when she boarded the *Blenheim* in 1840.

It appears that Jane Miller may have died in 1867, aged 30, and was commemorated at Bolton Street Cemetery, Wellington, with the family of her brother Robert and his in-laws, the Mitchells.

Margaret Miller

Margaret Miller was born on the *Blenheim* on the voyage out to New Zealand. Jessie Campbell's journal entry for Tuesday 13 October notes, "A woman delivered of a daughter today both doing well." The birth registration in New Zealand gave 12 October 1840 as the date of birth.

Margaret Miller and Allan Cameron were married on 17 March 1863. Allan Cameron had also travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* as a 5 year old with his parents Allan Cameron and Janet Grant. The *Wellington Independent* of 26 March 1863 carried the Marriage Notice: "Cameron-Miller – March 17, at Wellington, by the Rev. John Moir, Allan Cameron, Esq., sheepfarmer, Province of Wellington, to Margaret, daughter of William Miller, Esq., proprietor of the Commercial Hotel."

Margaret and Allan had six children:

- Jessie Elizabeth Cameron, born in 1864, died in 1946, married William Miller Laing (cousin) in 1887.
- William Allan Cameron, born in 1866, died in 1902, married Margaret Lang in 1895.
- Charles Archibald Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1943, married Mary Crawford in 1903.
- James Hugh Cameron, born in 1870, died in 1939, married Fanny Alexander Christina Wheeler Ahradsen in 1898.
- Alexander John Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1926, married Helen Gregory Laing in 1899.
- Robert Allan Cameron, born in 1876, died in 1954, married Euphemia Duncan Sutherland in Scotland in 1903.

Allan Cameron died on 23 November 1915. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 24 November 1915 carried the following obituary:

One of the pioneer settlers of New Zealand, in the person of Mr Allan Cameron, died at Masterton yesterday, at the age of 83 years. The deceased arrived in the Dominion from Scotland in the ship Blenheim, which reached Wellington in December, 1840.

After residing in Wellington for some years, and experiencing exciting times, the deceased came to Wairarapa, taking up his residence at Te Whiti. Later he owned Bowlands station, and subsequently Spring Hill and Rewa Rewa. He had resided in Masterton for the past sixteen years.

The late Mr Cameron was held in high esteem by all who met him, on account of his many sterling qualities, and his death will be deeply regretted. He is survived by four sons (Messrs C. A. Cameron, Masterton, J. H. Cameron, Masterton, A. J. Cameron, Makuri, and Dr. R. A. Cameron, Wellington), and one daughter (Mrs W. M. Laing, of Masterton), who will have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends in their bereavement. The funeral will take place on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Margaret (Miller) Cameron died on 7 November 1934. The *Evening Post* of 8 November 1934 reported:

The death occurred yesterday at Seatoun of Mrs. Allan Cameron, an old resident of the Wairarapa. Mrs. Cameron, who was in her 95th year, arrived in Wellington, with her parents, by the sailing ship Blenheim, on December 31, 1840. After her marriage, Mrs. Cameron went to the Wairarapa, and resided successively at Te Whiti, Bideford, and at "Rewa Rewa," near Tinui. The late Mrs. Cameron is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Wm. Laing, Seatoun, and three sons Mr. Charles Cameron, Flat Point, Masterton; Mr. James Cameron, Tinui; and Dr. R. A. Cameron, Paraparaumu. Two sons predeceased her. She is survived by twenty grandchildren and thirty-two great-grandchildren. The interment is taking place, at Masterton.

James Miller

James Miller was born in 1845 in Wellington. In 1879 he married Annie Elizabeth Wright Hopkirk, and they went on to have at least seven children:

- Isabella Agnes Miller, born in 1880, died in 1966.
- Marion Margaret Miller, born in 1881, died in 1913, married Joseph Alfred Renall in 1906.
- Grace Annie Miller, born in 1883, died in 1928, married John William Archibald Falloon in 1908.
- Frederick James Miller, born in 1885, died in 1943.
- Hugh Alexander Miller, born in 1887, died in 1968.
- Ronald Miller, born in 1890, died in 1985.
- Janet Laing Miller, born in 1892, died in 1971, married Clarence Villiers Smith in 1922.

James Miller died on 13 February 1926. The *Evening Post* of 15 February 1926 carried the following report:

The death is reported from Masterton, of Mr. James Miller, of Renall street, a pioneer settler who was closely associated with the welfare and advancement of the district. He took an active part in local politics, notably in connection with the Taueru Road Board and the Masterton County Council, Born in Wellington in 1845, he went to the Wairarapa in the early days of its settlement, and took up land in the Upper Taueru district 55 years ago. He retired twenty years ago to Masterton, The deceased leaves a widow, three sons (Messrs. F. J. Miller, Masterton, and H. A. Miller, Waikato, and Rev. R. Miller, of Te Kuiti), and three, daughters (Miss Isa Miller, Masterton, Mrs. C. V. Smith, Waverley, and Mrs. J. W. Falloon, of Bideford). Another daughter (Mrs. J. A. Renall) died a few years ago.

Annie Elizabeth Wright (Hopkirk) Miller died on 4 February 1928, aged 76. The *Evening Post* of 8 February 1928 carried the Death Notice: "Miller – On the 4th February 1928, at her residence, 114, Renall street, Masterton, Annie, relict of the late James Miller, and eldest daughter of the late Robert Home Hopkirk; aged 76 years."

JAMES MITCHELL AND JANE STEWART

James Mitchell and his family were listed in the embarkation and arrival lists for the *Blenheim* as being as being from Paisley, with details as follows:

- James Mitchell, 29, labourer
 - Jane Mitchell, 28
 - Marion Mitchell, 5
 - Jane Mitchell, 3
-

James Mitchell and Jane Stewart

James Mitchell was born around 1811, while Jean Stewart was born on 19 November 1812.

According to the Old Parish Register for January 1835 for Abbey in Renfrew, James Mitchell, weaver, Silk Street, and Jean Stewart, residing in George Street, both in this parish, were married on the 25th by the Reverend Andrew Symington, Paisley.

The family emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim*, arriving in Wellington in December 1840. After living at Molesworth Street the family moved to Porirua where James purchased land and took up farming. Their homestead was named "Burnside".

Jane died on 10 June 1883 aged 70. The *Manawatu Standard* of 15 June 1883 recorded that "Another old Wellington settler has passed away by the death of Mrs James Mitchell at her residence, Alma lane, off Tory street. The deceased lady was one of the pioneer settlers, having arrived in Wellington by the *Blenheim* in 1840, and was one of the first to settle at Porirua. The funeral, which took place yesterday, was attended by a large number of old settlers."

James Mitchell died on 15 August 1890 aged 79.

James Mitchell's brother John arrived in Wellington on the *Marriner* in 1850, and built a home next to Burnside. In 1853 he married Helen Brown, who had also come out on the *Marriner* with her parents, and was a niece of [James and Mary Brown](#) who emigrated on the *Blenheim* and were the first settlers in Upper Hutt. John Mitchell died three months after the marriage, but their son John succeeded to his uncle's farm in 1875. John Mitchell, the younger, described in the *Cyclopedia of New Zealand* as, "a keen, pushing business man", had the farm at Porirua, another at Longburn in the Manawatu, and promoted two butchery businesses. In 1876 he married Nancy Allen, a daughter of Mr Eli Allen, a farmer at Tawa Flat, whose mother was from an English family of Mitchells. The Burnside property was eventually sold to the government to become part of the Porirua mental asylum.

Marion Mitchell

The Old Parish Register for Paisley High Church in Renfrew for December 1835, records that Marion, lawful daughter of James Mitchell and Jean Stewart was born on 3 ult, and baptized on 6th instant.

Marion travelled with her family to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Marion Mitchell married Andrew Orr on 8 October 1869, but he apparently absconded, leaving Marion with four daughters.

The *Wairarapa Daily* of 28 September 1905 reported that “the death occurred on Monday last, at Wellington, of Mrs M Orr, who arrived in the Colony in 1840 on the ship *Blenheim*, and was the eldest daughter of Mr James Mitchell, who was one of the first to settle in the Porirua district.”

Marion and Andrew had four daughters:

- Jane Orr, born in 1870, married James Jacob Esson in 1891, and died in 1956, aged 86. James Jacob Esson was a telegraphist in Post Office in the 1880s and 90s but during World War 1 became a Lieutenant-Colonel, and from 1922-25 was Secretary to the Treasury.
- Mary Ann Orr, born in 1872, died in 1873, aged 15 months
- Marion Orr, born in 1873, married George Webb in 1899, died in 1938.
- Ann Orr, born in 1878, died in 1945.

Jane Mitchell

Jane Mitchell was born around 1837 in Paisley, and travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840 with her parents.

Jane Mitchell married Robert Miller on 24 June 1859. Robert Miller was also a passenger on the *Blenheim*, as a 9 year old, the son of William and Maria Miller of Glasgow. Robert Miller was a successful baker and businessman, and also served as a City Councillor.

The *Wellington Independent* of 26 October 1867 carried the following Death Notice: “Miller – On October 24, at the residence of Mr James Mitchell, Burnside, Porirua, Jane, the beloved wife of Mr Robert Miller, Tauerue Station, Wairarapa, aged 30 years.”

Following Jane’s death, Robert married Mary Ellen Angell on 22 January 1873.

Robert Miller died on 24 October 1904 aged 73. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 28 October 1904 carried the Death Notice: Miller – On the 24th October, 1904, at his residence “Waiwetu” Tasman street Wellington, Robert Miller, aged 73 years.” The *Manawatu Times* of 26 October 1904 reported, “Mr Robert Miller, one of Wellington’s early settlers, who came to Port Nicholson in the ship *Blenheim* in 1840, died yesterday.” The *Evening Post* of 24 October 1904 published the following obituary:

Mr. Robert Miller, one of Wellington’s early settlers, died at his residence in Tasman-street this morning. About a fortnight ago he was seized with a paralytic stroke, from which he did not recover. The deceased gentleman was born at Paisley, Scotland, and came out to Port Nicholson with his parents in the ship Blenheim in December, 1840. The family resided for some time on what is now the site of the Hotel Cecil. Mr. Robert Miller was in business in Wellington for many years, and afterwards went to live in retirement at the Hutt, but for some time before his death he had been a resident of Tasman-street. In years gone by he occupied a seat on the City Council, and he laboured in other ways to advance the interests of the city. He was a director of the Equitable Building and Investment Company, from its formation up till the time of his death, and was also a shareholder in other joint stock concerns. He has left a widow and a family of eleven, the eldest being Mr. W. Miller, of the Greymouth-Point Elizabeth Company. The late Mr. Miller was very highly respected.

Mary Ellen (Angell) Miller died on 20 March 1940 aged 88.

Jane and Robert appear to have had at least five children:

- William Miller, born in 1860, died in 1940, married Susan McLaren in 1883. William Miller was an auctioneer, valuer and accountant, became the last clerk of the Miramar Borough Council and for ten years was Town Clerk at Johnsonville.
- James Miller, born in 1861, died in 1862, aged 3 weeks.
- Jane Miller, born in 1862
- James Miller, born in 1865
- Robert Alexander Mitchell Miller, born in 1867, died in 1940, married Evelyn Rose Aitchison in 1925. Farmed at Kopuaranga, Wairarapa with his brother from the early 1900s.
- Ethel Janet Miller, born in 1883, died in 1967.

HUGH MORRISON AND ANNE TURNER

Hugh Morrison and Anne Turner were included on the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim* with the comment "Recommended by his late Master Mr McLachlan Laudale and his Parish Minister.":

- Hugh Morrison, 50, Kinlochaline, shepherd
- Anne Turner, his wife, 40
- Hugh Morrison, his son, 18, labourer
- Duncan Morrison, his son, 16, labourer
- Anne Morrison, his daughter, 14, housemaid
- John Morrison, his son, 12, cowherd
- Margaret Morrison, his daughter, 10
- Mary Morrison, his daughter, 8
- Colin Morrison, his son, 6

Spelling: In some records the name is spelled "Morison" in others "Morrison". "Eun" was a form of "Ewen" or "Hugh".

The book *Morvern to Glenmorven*, by Frank Fyfe and Bebe Douglas, contains considerable detail, background and surmise relating to this family. *The Kaiwarra Camerons*, by M J Ulyatt, also covers this family.

Hugh Morrison and Anne Turner

Hugh Morrison was born on 28 May 1782 on the Isle of Mull to John Morison and Jannet Cameron.

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded the marriage on 10 July 1819 of Hugh Morison, labourer, and Anne Turner, by Mr N McLeod, Minister.

Anne Turner was born around 1800.

Hugh Morrison worked as a cattle drover, and the family lived initially in the village of Glencripesdale in Morvern until they were cleared around 1820 to the hamlet of Knock on the Lochaline Estate, then at some time after 1830 they moved to the new village of Lochaline, erected by the landlord John Sinclair. Dugald McLachlan of Laudale and Killiemore (Mull) bought the Laudale estate in 1825. This estate bordered the Glencripesdale estate in the northern part of Morvern.

Old Parish Registers for Morvern indicate that Hugh Morrison and Anne Turner had other children, not on the passenger list. These included Katrine born on 12 March 1820, and an un-named daughter born on 15 October 1821, who both died at birth, and Katherine, born on 24 August 1823, who stayed behind in Scotland.

Following their arrival in Wellington, the Morrisons lived initially at Kaiwarra, then moved to Evans Bay, where Hugh worked on J C Crawford's property on Watts Peninsular, which was managed by Archibald Gillies. They later moved to Mein Street in Newtown.

Anne (Turner) Morrison died on 11 June 1844, following the birth of a daughter. She was aged 44.

In 1846 the family moved to the Wairarapa, and took up their land at Hakeke (later called Glenmorven), near where Greytown now stands.

In *The Kaiwarra Camerons*, there is a quote from the diaries of the missionary William Colenso describing a visit to Hakeke in 1847:

The settler whose name is Morrison, is an aged Xn [Christian] man in humble life. He gave me a brief outline of the trials he had had since his arrival in the country but not in a repining spirit, although he had been tried severely, having lost his wife, a son grown to man's estate and a son-in-law, (but recently married), and all within a short time of each other. He acknowledged, however, the Lord's hand, and all that he did was for good. He still had several sons and daughters about him. He spoke well of the Natives; and of the great injustice to take from them their lands; "which" said he "is doubtless as much theirs, as that of any Scotch laird is his."

According to New Zealand BDM records Hugh Morrison died on 5 September 1872 aged 87. The *Evening Post* of 10 September 1872 contained the following:

Intelligence was received at Greytown, on Thursday, of the death, at eight o'clock that morning, at his residence, Glenmorven, of Hugh Morrison, Esq. one of the earliest colonists of New Zealand, having arrived here in 1840. He was also one of the first settlers in this district, coming here in 1846, where he has ever since resided. The deceased was a worthy man, and universally respected. All persons visiting the Wairarapa were ever sure to receive at his house a warm and hospitable reception. He has left two sons and three daughters all of them married and settled, and a whole host of grand-children and greatgrand-children. Deceased was interred in the Cemetery here yesterday, the funeral procession being very large.

After arriving in New Zealand Hugh and Anne had a child, Annie, in 1844.

The *Lyttelton Times* of 8 May 1858 carried the Death Notice: "On the 6th inst., at Christchurch, Annie Morrison, youngest daughter of Mr Hugh Morrison, of Glenmore, Wairarapa Plains, and sister-in-law of the late Mr William Stewart, Christchurch, aged 14 years."

Hugh Morrison Jnr

Hugh Morrison was 18 and a labourer when he came to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Hugh Morrison died in 1843 at Wellington, aged 22, possibly from a fall from his horse.

Duncan Morrison

The Old Parish Register for Morvern for 1825 recorded that Hugh Morison, crofter, Knock, and Anne Turner, had a legal son Duncan, born 27 March.

Duncan Morrison was recorded as a labourer of 16 in the *Blenheim* passenger list.

Duncan Morison married Mary McPhee on 4 June 1856. Mary was the sister of Hugh McPhee, Ann Morrison's second husband. The McPhee family also came from Knock in Morvern.

Mary (McPhee) Morrison died on 1 November 1883, aged 57. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 3 November 1883 published the following:

The many friends of Mrs. Duncan Morrison, of Glenmorven, Morrison's Bush, near Greytown, writes the Standard, will regret to hear of her very sudden death, at the age of 57, which occurred on Thursday morning. It appears the deceased, who had been an invalid for some years, did not complain of anything unusual on the morning in question, but on taking her a cup of tea, between 9 and 10 o'clock, it was discovered that she had passed away, and her sudden departure was a painful shock to the family. The cause of death has not yet been ascertained, but it is supposed to have resulted from the bursting of a blood vessel. Mrs Morrison has been many

years a resident in Moroa, she having resided there since 1855, and was greatly respected by all who knew her. Mrs Morrison was one of kind-hearted old settlers who was always ready to entertain a visitor, and her household kindnesses will long speak for her. An inquest will be held to-day, and the funeral will take place at 12 o'clock.

The inquest confirmed that Mrs Morrison died from natural causes.

Duncan Morrison died on 29 November 1889 as a result of a fall from his horse.

The *Evening Post* of 3 December 1889 reported:

Greytown, 30th November. Death has removed two more of our early settlers. Mrs. Jones, who came to the Wairarapa in 1853, died last Wednesday, and Mr. Duncan Morrison, of Morrison's Bush, was thrown from his horse near Blairlogie and received such injuries that he died shortly after. He came to this colony in the ship Blenheim, and lived for some years at Evans Bay. He then came up to the Wairarapa with his father, and has lived at Glenmorven, his run, ever since. His funeral, which takes place on Monday, will draw together a large number of settlers from all parts of the valley.

The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 30 November 1889 provided a more detailed description of the accident:

FATAL ACCIDENT TO AN OLD SETTLER. In addition to particulars telegraphed and published in Friday's issue, one of our staff whilst at Blairlogie yesterday gained the following information of the sad accident which befel Mr Duncan Morrison and ultimately led to his death on Friday evening, On his way up to Blairlogie Mr Morrison called at Mr Carswell's Hotel at an early hour on Wednesday morning. During his stay he intimated he was paying a visit to his late brother's people at Blairlogie, where he had not been for many years. He seemed in excellent spirits and expressed the pleasure he felt at being able, after such a long interval, to again pay a visit to that locality. His horse appeared to be a very spirited animal, especially for a man of his great weight (over 19 stone) and age to ride. Mr Morrison proceeded on his journey and had scarcely crossed the threshold of the estate, when his horse shied and threw him heavily to the ground. How long he lay there even the poor fellow himself could not afterwards tell, but it must have been a considerable time, The first to notice him lying on the road was the mailman from the East Coast, who jumped off his horse, had a look, and then rode on. It was several hours after this when Mr Urquhart, buyer for the Happy Valley Meat Company came along, and carried the news to Mr A. McPhee, at Blairlogie station, that an old gentleman, very much resembling Mr Duncan Morrison, of the Lower Valley was lying on the road apparently badly hurt. Mr McPhee immediately rode off to ascertain if anything serious had happened. When he came up to Mr Morrison he found him sitting on the roadside. In reply to inquiries, Mr Morrison stated the horse had shied at some object on the road and threw him. That was all that he could remember. Poor Morrison at this time was almost smothered in mud, and drenched with rain. Seeing that he was badly hurt, Mr McPhee, with the assistance of the roadman (who happened to be at work a short distance away), conveyed him to Mr Carswell's Hotel, This was late in the afternoon. Being under the impression the case was not a serious one, medical aid was not called in that evening. In the meantime everything that could possibly be done to relieve pain was resorted to. On Thursday he appeared no easier, and a wire was despatched to Dr Milne, who promptly attended, and remained at the hotel all night. On Friday morning the doctor left for Masterton, and returned in the afternoon in company with Dr Hosking. Within a short time of their arrival, although they did everything possible to relieve their patient's suffering, he expired. Great sympathy is felt with the surviving relatives, this making the third death in the family in the short space of two months, Mrs Strang, a daughter of Mr D. Morrison, having died a month ago, and John Morrison, brother of deceased, on the 27th of September. He leaves a large

family of children and many connections to mourn their loss. Deceased came out to New Zealand in the ship "Clydesdale" [sic] forty-seven years, and settled with his parents at Glenmorven where he carried on the pursuit of a grazier in an extensive way.

Duncan and Mary had six children:

- Hugh Morison, born in 1857, died in 1859.
- Ann Morison, born in 1858, died in 1891, married Donald McLaren in 1882.
- Mary Morison, born in 1860, died in 1889, married John Strang in 1883.
- Hugh Morison, born in 1861, died in 1938, married Isabel Hodge in 1891.
- Colin Morison, born in 1862, died in 1918.
- Sarah Morison, born in 1863, died in 1929, married Peter Lee McLaren in 1889.

Anne Morrison

The Old Parish Register for Morvern records that that Eun [Hugh] Morison, crofter, Knock, and Anne Turner, had a legal daughter Anne, born 21 March 1827.

Anne Morrison was recorded as a housemaid of 14 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

Anne Morrison married Donald Smith on 2 October 1845 at Wellington. The Church Register recorded that Donald Smith, now of Wellington, formerly of Kirkmichael, Perthshire, N.B., and Ann Morison, daughter of Hugh Morison of Morvern parish, Argyllshire, N.B., now of Wellington, were married. The witnesses were Hugh Morison, Katherine Bethune and Andrew Reid.

Donald Smith was christened in Kirkmichael, Perthshire, Scotland, on 20 April 1826, the son of John Smith and Barbara Watson.

Donald Smith died of fever on 8 January 1846. He and Anne Morrison had one child:

- Donald Smith, born in 1846, died in 1920, married Margaret Morrison in 1870.

Ann (Morrison) Smith married Hugh McPhee on 5 June 1855 in a joint ceremony with her sister Mary, who married Alexander Cameron.

Hugh McPhee was the son of Hugh McPhee and Ann Cameron of Knock, Morvern, Argyll, and would have known the Morrisons there. In 1854, Hugh, with his mother, sister Mary and brother Donald, emigrated to Australia, but in 1855 came on to New Zealand.

According to New Zealand BDM records, Hugh McPhee died on 14 April 1859.

Ann and Hugh had three children:

- Margaret Ann McPhee, born in 1856, died in 1932, married Thomas Harvey in 1876.
- Hugh Morrison McPhee, born in 1857, died in 1916, married (1) Margaret Daysh in 1883, (2) Hannah Compton in 1894.
- Archibald McPhee, born in 1858, died in 1938, married Beatrice Hughan in 1892.

Ann (Morrison) McPhee, formerly Smith, married Duncan McLachlan on 22 July 1862.



Anne (Morrison) McLachlan, formerly McPhee, previously Smith

Duncan McLachlan had come to New Zealand on the *Oliver Lang* in 1858, and was related to the McPhees by marriage.

Duncan McLachlan died on 9 October 1886, aged 58. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 9 October 1886 reported, "A settler on the Taratahi by the name of Duncan McLachlan died this morning at 10 o'clock after a short illness. He was taken ill while at the dairy factory with his milk yesterday morning, and was brought into Carterton to Dr Johnston, and conveyed from their to his home where he died as, above stated. "

Ann (Morrison) McLachlan died on 28 June 1900, aged 73.

Ann and Duncan had three children:

- Annie McLachlan, born in 1863, died in 1843.
- Donald McLachlan, born in 1864, died in 1918
- Colin McLachlan, born in 1865, died in 1939.

John Morrison

The Old Parish Register for Morvern for 1829 recorded that Hugh Morison, Knock, and Anne Turner had a legal son, John, born on 22 March.

John Morrison was described as a cowherd of 12 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

John Morrison worked on the Glenmorven property, but was also involved in shipping cattle to the Otago goldfields and purchased land in Christchurch.

John Morrison married Jessie Morrison in 1868. Jessie Morrison was the daughter of Hugh's cousin Alexander, who emigrated to New Zealand on the *Oliver Lang* in 1858.

In 1870 John Morrison purchased the Whareama Station and soon afterwards he bought Blairlogie from the Cameron brothers. He also owned Bowlands.

John Morrison died on 29 September 1889. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 27 September 1889 reported:

The sufferings of Mr John Morrison of Blairlogie, are over. A few days ago he came up from Wellington in a moribund state to die amongst his own people, He attempted to travel to the Whareama, but became exhausted by the time he reached Otahua and took shelter at the house of a kind friend, Mr John Drummond. The nature of his malady was such that he was unable to take nourishment, and though doctor after doctor visited him nothing could be done but wait patiently for the inevitable end. This morning he breathed his last, and will long be remembered by a thousand friends as one who always welcomed both rich and poor to his homestead and dispensed hospitality with an ungrudging hand.

The *Evening Post* of 28 September 1889 reported:

The death is announced yesterday of Mr. John Morrison, of the Wairarapa, one of the oldest settlers in the district, and after whom Morrison's Bush was named. He arrived in the colony when quite a boy, accompanied by his parents, in the ship Clydesdale [sic], in 1842 [sic]. The emigrants were almost exclusively Scottish Highlanders, and after their arrival at Kaiwarra, near Wellington, their interviews with the Maoris, to whom the Gaelic was an extraordinary tongue, created many an amusing scene. The cause of death was stricture of the gullet, so that really he was starved to death.

Jessie Morrison died on 10 March 1922, aged 77.

John and Jessie had eight children:

- John Morrison, born in 1869, died in 1902, married Helen Blanche Calders (grand-daughter of *Blenheim* passengers) in 1900.

- Alexander Morrison, born in 1870, died in 1892.
- Jessie Isabella Morrison, born in 1872, married (1) John Chapman Andrew in 1894, and (2) Francis Arnot Bett in 1910.
- Margaret Ann Morrison, born in 1875, died in 1957.
- Mary Morrison, born in 1876, died in 1883.
- Hugh Morrison, born in 1878, died in 1951, married Muriel Stanley Booth in 1908.
- Catherine Maud Christina Morrison, born in 1882, died in 1950.
- Rupert Donald Matthew Morrison, born in 1884, died in 1918, married Amy Violet Thompson in 1912, in Australia.

Margaret Morrison

The Old Parish Register for Morvern recorded that Eun Morison, crofter, Knock, and Anne Turner had a legal daughter Margaret, born 20 December 1831.

Margaret Morrison was 10 when she travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

According to New Zealand BDM records, Margaret Morison married William Stewart on 25 June 1850. The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 29 June 1850 carried the Notice: "On Tuesday, the 25th inst., at the Scotch Church, Wellington, by the Rev. W. Kirton, Mr William Stewart of Wellington, to Margaret, third daughter of Mr. H. Morrison, Wairarapa." Apparently the witnesses were Alexander Grant and Donald McLean.

William and Margaret travelled to Canterbury in 1850 with John Macfarlane and his wife Catherine Cameron (see [Donald Cameron and Christian McLean](#)). They landed at Heathcote, and the men became supervisors for the building of the road into Christchurch. William and Margaret took over the lease of the Heathcote Ferry Arms, then moved into Christchurch in 1853 to establish the Royal Hotel in Oxford Terrace.

William Stewart died on 24 November 1857 aged 34. The *Lyttelton Times* of 28 November 1857 carried the following Death Notice: "On the 24th instant, at his residence, the Royal Hotel, William Stewart, aged 35 years, deeply lamented by all who knew him."

There was one child from the marriage:

- William Morrison Stewart, born in 1852, died in 1935.

Margaret remarried in 1861. The *Wellington Independent* of 9 August 1861 carried the following Marriage Notice: "MacKay-Stuart – On the 20th June, at Glenmorven, Wairarapa, by the Rev. Wm Ronaldson, Mr David Mitchell of Wellington, late of Tain, Rosshire, to Margaret, second daughter of Hugh Morrison, Esq., of Glenmorven, and relict of the late Wm. Stuart, Esq., Christchurch, Canterbury."

David Mitchell Mackay was a clerk in the Immigration office, and after the wedding the couple moved back to Christchurch, where they lived in Antigua Street. In September 1869 David Mackay, immigration officer, was brought up at the Police Court, Christchurch, charged with embezzlement of public funds of the province of Canterbury. The *Timaru Herald* of 11 December 1869 reported the Supreme Court proceedings before Mr Justice Gresson, with the final outcome being that the judge accepted the defence argument that the Crown had failed to establish to his satisfaction that the prisoner was clerk in the strict sense, or at all events, that the

money he received was the property of Mr Rolleston [*Canterbury Superintendent*]. That being the case there was no use in letting the evidence go before the jury, whatever might be the moral guilt of the prisoner, and the judge directed them to return a verdict of acquittal, which they did, and the prisoner was discharged.

It is not clear what happened to David Mitchell MacKay, but at the time of the marriage of his daughter Margaret in 1888 he was described as “the late D.M. MacKay of Christchurch”.

Margaret (Morrison) MacKay died 25 February 1907, aged 73. The *Wairarapa Daily Times* of 26 February 1907 carried the Death Notice: “Mackay – At the residence of her son, H. Mackay Martinborough, Margaret, relict of the late P.M. Mackay, aged 73. Christchurch papers please copy.”

Margaret and David had possibly four children:

- Hugh MacKay, born in 1862, died in 1932, married Catherine Mary Bunny in 1924.
- Margaret Ann Mackay, born in 1864, died in 1942, married William Andrew in 1888.
- John Stanley MacKay, born in 1867, died in 1871.
- Name not recorded [*possibly Mary Isabella*] MacKay, born in 1869.

Mary Morrison

Mary Morrison was 8 years old when she travelled on the *Blenheim* to New Zealand with her family.

On 5 June 1855 Mary Morrison married Alexander Cameron, another *Blenheim* emigrant, son of Donald Cameron and Christian McLean.

Alexander Cameron died on 19 December 1899 aged 76, and Mary (Morrison) Cameron died on 11 October 1911 aged 77. See [Donald Cameron and Christian McLean](#) for more information about this family.

Alexander and Mary had ten children:

- Donald Douglas Cameron, born in 1856, died in 1937, married Annie Ida Storey in 1880.
- Annie Cameron, born in 1857, died in 1949, married Captain Angus Cameron in 1882.
- Christina Cameron, born in 1859, died in 1878.
- Mary Cameron, born in 1861, died in 1929.
- Hugh Cameron, born in 1863, died in 1910.
- Alexander Cameron, born in 1865, died in 1937.
- Jessie Cameron, born in 1867.
- Catherine Margaret Cameron, born in 1869, died in 1934.
- Isabella Jane Cameron, born in 1871, died in 1945.
- John Duncan Cameron, born in 1873, died in 1957, married (1) Ellen Jane Kibblewhite in 1906, and (2) Helen Annie McBeath in 1939.

Colin Morrison

The *Blenheim* list recorded Colin Morrison as a child of 6.

The *Wellington Independent* of 9 February 1859 carried the following Death Notice:
“On Tuesday evening, the 8th instant, at the residence of Mr. W. F. Mason, Lambton-
quay, Colin, son of Mr. Hugh Morrison, of Glenmorven, Wairarapa; aged 22 years.”

JOHN MURRAY

The initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, did not include a John Murray. In the embarkation list John Murray, 24, ploughman, was included twice with the second reference crossed out.

John Murray

The Jurors List for the District of Port Nicholson in 1845 included a John Murray, Tinakori Road, sawyer. In 1846-1850 he was listed as living in Karori, still a sawyer, but did not appear in the 1856 list.

No further information has been established for John Murray.

WILLIAM NICOL AND JANET JAMIESON

William and Janet Nicholl and their family were described in the embarkation and subsequent lists for the *Blenheim* as coming from Paisley. The family was listed as follows:

- William Nicholl, 47, labourer
- Janet Nicholl, 35
- John Nicholl, 18, labourer
- William Nicholl, 16, labourer
- Charles Nicholl, 13
- James Nicholl, 10
- Janet Nicholl, 8

In all lists their name was spelled "Nicholl". However, in most documents prior to departure and subsequent to their arrival in New Zealand the spelling "Nicol" was used.

William Nicol and Janet Jamieson

William Nicol was born around 1793, and Janet Jamieson around 1805.

The Old Parish Register for Paisley High Church, Renfrew, for October 1804, records that a Janet Jamieson, legal daughter of John Jamieson and Janet Cochran, was born 22 ult. and baptized 5 inst, i.e. she was born on 22 September 1804.

The Old Parish Register for Paisley High Church, Renfrew, records the proclamation of William Nicol and Janet Jamieson, both in this Parish, on 17 June 1821, and the payment of one shilling for three proclamations. The proclamation of banns was the notice of contract of marriage, read out in the Kirk before the marriage took place. Couples or their 'cautioners' (sponsors) were often required to pay a 'caution' or security to prove the seriousness of their intentions. Forthcoming marriages were supposed to be proclaimed on three successive Sundays, however, in practice, all three proclamations could be made on the same day on payment of a fee.

William Nicol was described as a labourer of 47 when he emigrated to New Zealand. William Nicol, Pipitea, labourer, was included on the list of persons qualified to serve as Jurors for the district of Port Nicholson in 1845, and in the 1847 to 1849 lists he was described as a tapkeeper, Lambton Quay.

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 19 March 1878 carried the Death Notice: "Nicol – On the 17th inst., at the residence of his son, Mr Charles Nicol, Marton, William Nicol, formerly of Paisley, Scotland, aged 80 years. The funeral will take place today, at half-past 2 p.m."

John Nicol

John Nicol was described as a labourer of 18 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

The Old Parish Register for November 1821 for Abbey, Renfrew, recorded that John, son of William Nicol and Janet Jamieson was born on 21 October and baptized on 18 November.

The following information remains to be confirmed as applying to this John Nicol.

New Zealand BDM records show the marriage of a John Nichol and E Rori Kapiti on 4 November 1841. The records also show a birth, name not recorded, parents Betty and John Nicol, on 17 June 1848.

The *Wellington Independent* of 24 April 1847 published a Notice from the Treasury, Wellington, dated 23 April 1847, giving notice of the issue of Special Publican's Licences to, among others, John Nicol, Pukarua [*Pukerua?*]. A John Nicol was also included in the list, published in the *Wellington Independent* of 13 August 1853, of Gentlemen who had consented to act as a Committee to secure the return of W B Rhodes, Esq., to represent the Wellington Country District in the General Assembly. The Electoral Rolls for Wellington and Wellington Country for 1853-64 included a John Nicol, Paekakariki, publican, qualification a household near Wainui.

The *Wellington Independent* of 16 September 1869 carried a lengthy report of legal proceedings relating to the lease of an accommodation or public house at Paekakariki, on land owned by Betty Nicol, the Maori wife of John Nicol – apparently known as “Scotch Jock”. The Nicols lived at Waikanae.

William Nicol

William Nicol was a labourer of 16 on the *Blenheim* passenger list.

William Nicol Jnr, Lambton Quay, servant, was included on the list of persons qualified to serve as Jurors for the district of Port Nicholson in 1847.

The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian* of 9 July 1847 carried a report of a case in the Resident Magistrate's Court where William Nicol appeared on a summons to answer the charge of having refused to support the male infant of Caroline Gooden, of which it was alleged he was the father.

The *New Zealander* of 9 April 1851 published the list of applications for Publicans' Licenses, noting that if they were all to succeed the number of public houses in Auckland and its neighbourhood would be nearly doubled at once, and suggesting that they should be as much as possible confined to the leading thoroughfares since “In the back and little frequented streets they too frequently become rather nuisances and receptacles of vice.” William Nicol, Black Bull, Albert St, was on the list of new applicants. In 1855, William Nicol, Masonic Hotel, Princes street, was on the list of applicants.

William Nicol married Jane Harriet Brown on 9 April 1853 in Auckland.

The Electoral Rolls for Auckland, Southern Division, for 1853-1864 included William Nicol, Princes street, hotel keeper, freehold estate.

William Nicol retired from the Masonic Hotel in 1869, the occasion being recognised by the United Service Lodge of Freemasons, as reported in the *New Zealand Herald* of 1 April 1869.

Jane Harriet Nicol died in 1875 aged 49. The *Daily Southern Cross* of 12 August 1875 carried the Death Notice: “Nicol – On August 10, at her residence Grey-street, Harriett Jane, the beloved wife of Mr William Nicol, aged 49 years.”

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 2 May 1877 noted, “We regret to learn that Mr William Nicol, eldest brother of Mr Charles Nicol, of Marton, died at Auckland on Friday last. He was for some time the proprietor of the Masonic Hotel at Auckland, but retired into private life some time ago.” The *Auckland Star* of 27 April 1877 had carried the Death Notice: “Nicol – On the 27th instant, at Grey-street, Auckland, William Nicol, in the 56th year of his age.”

William and Harriet had at least seven children:

- William Henry Nicol, born in 1855, died in 1880, married Rachel Darby in 1875.
- Emily Elizabeth Jane Nicol, born in 1856, married Edgar Patteson Hulme in 1876.
- Frederick Thomas Nicol, born in 1858, died in 1927.
- Harriet Annie Nicol, born in 1859, died in 1887.
- James McNeill Nicol, born in 1861, died in 1904.
- Alfred Alexander Nicol, born in 1863, died in 1947.
- Lucy Isabella Nicol, born in 1865, married Donald Alexander McLeod in 1893.

Charles Nicol

Charles Nicol was 13 when he set out with his family on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

Charles Nicol and Catherine Jane Murray were married on 20 April 1852 at Wanganui.

In 1865 Charles Nicol founded a bakery business in Marton, which was taken over by his son John Murray Nicol in 1895.

The *Wanganui Chronicle* of 5 April 1883 included the Death Notice: "Nicol – On the 3rd April, at Marton, Charles Nicol (brother to Mrs. John Cudby, Lower Hutt), aged 55 years." An obituary was published in the same issue:

THE LATE MR NICOL. The funeral of the late Mr Charles Nicol took place yesterday afternoon at the Mount View Cemetery, near Marton. The burial service over the grave was performed by the Rev. Mr Stewart and a great number of friends from Wanganui and all parts of the district paid a last tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased by attending his funeral rites. The late Mr Nicol was a very old and respected settler. He came to Port Nicholson in 1840, in the good ship Blenheim (Captain Gray), which landed its passengers at Kaiwarra. Amongst Mr Nicol's fellow-voyagers were Captain Cameron, of Marangai, Mr Gregor McGregor, and many other of our leading settlers. Mr Nicol learned the trade of baker in Wellington, and in 1848 came to Wanganui, and was employed to bake for Messrs Taylor and Watt. He subsequently became the possessor of the property in Wickstead Pace now owned by Mr Henry Churton and here he carried on his business very successfully for many years, during which he held the bread contracts for the troops stationed in Wanganui. Misfortunes, however, came thick upon him due to his own easy good nature, and the misplaced confidence he reposed in his friends. Taking his large family with him, Mr Nicol went some years ago to try his fortune in the new and rising township of Marton, and there he remained until his death on Tuesday last, at the comparatively early age of 54. Mr Nicol leaves behind him many children, all of them growing up, and having before them every prospect of doing well. As a man and a citizen the deceased gentleman was greatly respected, and he will long be missed by his old friends who knew his amiability of temper, unflinching good nature and sterling worth.

Catherine Jane (Murray) Nicol died on 16 July 1919 at Marton, aged 89.

Charles and Catherine had at least six children:

- Mary Nicol, born in 1853, died in 1926, married Thomas Stoddart Lambert, architect, in 1871.
- Janet Nicol, born in 1854, died in 1919, married John Aitken in 1876.
- John Murray Nicol, born in 1861, died in 1918, married Emma Sophia Bensemman in 1883.
- Margaret Kate Nicol, born in 1868.

- Annie Harriet Nicol, born in 1869, married William Williams in 1903.
- Ellen McFarlane Nicol, born in 1871, died in 1954, married Robert Joseph Carter in 1895.

James Nicol

James Nicol was 10 years old in 1840 when he sailed on the *Blenheim* to New Zealand with his family.

James Nicol and Isabella Smith were married on 5 March 1861.

James Nicol died in 1918. The *Wairarapa Age* of 23 October 1916 carried the following obituary:

MR. JAMES NICOL. Another of the very early settlers of New Zealand, in the person of Mr James Nicol, passed away at his residence in Church Street, Masterton, about eight o'clock on Saturday morning. The deceased, who had reached the great age of 85 years was born in Paisley, Scotland, in 1831. With his parents he arrived in Wellington in the ship Blenheim on Christmas Day, 1840. When quite a lad he became associated with horses, and was employed for some time in the stable of the late Dr. Fitzgerald. He afterwards had the mounts on the horses of Mr St. Hill. In 1846 he rode the mare Bella at Bunham Water, Wellington, and was just defeated on the post. In 1847 he rode the winner of the Te Aro Steeplechase. Later he owned Retribution, the winner of the first New Zealand Steeplechase, since called the Grand National Steeplechase. He also owned the stallion Riddlesworth, one of the first thoroughbred horses to be imported to the Dominion. In 1852 he went to Australia, and was present at the Bendigo gold rush. For a number of years he drove cattle for Wairarapa settlers round the "Rocks" to Wellington, before the road was constructed over the Rimutaka. Subsequently he became part owner, with the late Mr Hume, of the Blairlogie station, and later resided at the Lower Taueru. In 1870 he came to Masterton, where he has resided ever since. He owned for many years the freehold of the Empire Hotel and possessed other property interests in the town. He was a splendid judge of horseflesh, and a skilled veterinarian. He was the oldest vestryman of St. Matthew's Church, and was scrupulously conscientious in all his dealings. He was a member of the Scotch Lodge of Freemasons, and was a Sergeant in the Cavalry in the early days. In 1862 the deceased married Miss Isabella Smith, daughter, of the late Mr John Smith, one of the earliest engineers in Wellington. He leaves a widow, two daughters, and four sons. The daughters are. Mrs Vincent Hooper (Auckland) and Mrs W. C. Cargill (Morrinsville). The sons are Messrs John Nicol (Te Aroha), George Nicol (Picton), Private Arthur Nicol (on active service), and Mr Len. Nicol, jeweller, of Masterton. The deceased was highly respected by all with whom he was acquainted, and his death will be deeply, regretted. The funeral takes place to-morrow (Tuesday) afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

James and Isabella had eight children:

- William Smith Nicol, born in 1863, died in 1865.
- Harriet Jane Nicol, born in 1864, died in 1941, married Vincent Hooper in 1885.
- John Robert Nicol, born in 1867, died in 1959, married Elizabeth Barratt in 1892.
- George William Nicol, born in 1869, died in 1943, married Katrina Neilson in 1903.
- Isabella Emily Nicol, born in 1871, married William Clement Cargill in 1894.
- Frederick James Nicol, born in 1873.
- Arthur Charles Nicol, born in 1876, died in 1941, married Lillian May Jackson in 1900, divorced in 1910, married Caroline Fanny Whyatt in 1920.

- Leonard Spencer Nicol, born in 1883, died in 1950, married Stella Maud Clark in 1919.

Janet Nicol

Janet Nicol was 8 when she travelled to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840.

BDM records show the marriage of Jane Nicholl to John Francis Cudby on 9 November 1849.

John Francis Cudby was born on 28 February 1830 in Ingrave, Essex, England, to John Cudby and Henrietta Clampin. He emigrated to New Zealand in 1842, aged 13, on the *Thomas Sparks*. John's brother Charles also emigrated to New Zealand in 1857 on the *William and Alfred*.

John Cudby established a contracting business for earthworks and construction, then added a coaching business, which was taken over by his sons George and Walter.

Janet Cudby died in 1907 aged 74. The *Manawatu Standard* of 2 November 1907 published the following obituary:

Mrs Janet Cudby, a much-respected resident of the Lower Hutt, died at the family residence yesterday morning, aged 74. The deceased lady, who is survived by her husband, Mr John Cudby, had lived in the Hutt district for a great many years, and went through all the trials of the early settlers. She had been ill for some time. The members of her family have been identified with the Hutt all their lives, and with their father have taken a prominent part in the development of the district.

John Francis Cudby died in 1920, at the age of 90. The *Evening Post* of 8 June 1920 carried the Death Notice: "Cudby – On the 8th June, 1920, at his late residence, Railway-avenue, Lower Hutt, John Francis Cudby, relict of the late Janet Cudby, in his 91st year. R.I.P." The paper also had the following obituary:

MR. J. F. CUDBY. An early settler, who grew up with the Hutt district, Mr. John Francis Cudby, died at his residence, Railway-avenue, Lower Hutt, early this morning. Mr. Cudby's interests from early youth had been in the Hutt Valley, and his history was the history of this fertile district. No one could tell its history better than he himself, for he had experienced the events and times of which he spoke and remembered them, even when he had reached the age where, with many men, the memory becomes dim. He was born in Essex in 1828, and came out to New Zealand with Lord Petre as a lad in 1843 in the ship Commerce Sparks. From the time of his arrival in the country to the day of his death, he resided at Lower Hutt. At first he lived and worked on the Woburn estate. Afterwards he became the owner of large livery stables near the railway station. He retired from active participation in the business some forty years ago, but continued to take a very lively interest in the affairs of the district. He possessed the hard, commonsense which was a distinguishing trait of many early settlers, and this made him a valued member of the Lower Hutt Borough Council for many years. He was also a member of the Licensing Committee, and as a Justice of the Peace for over thirty years was a familiar figure on the Hutt Magistrate's Court Bench. He resigned from the Commission of the Peace two years ago. In the early days of the Wellington Racing Club he held the office of Clerk of the Course. In friendly society work he was a staunch supporter, and he held the record of seventy years' membership of the Oddfellows Lodge. Mr. Cudby enjoyed good health, in spite of his years, until two years ago. He leaves a family of five sons and three daughters. The sons are: James, living at Lower Hutt; Charles, at Dannevirke; Henry, Alfredton; George, Rangiora; and Walter, Lower Hutt. The daughters are Mrs. J. Fleet, Petone; Mrs. Turner, Lower Hutt; and Mrs. E. D. Dunne, Wellington. Mrs. Cudby, who was also an early settler, having come out from Paisley, Scotland, in the Janet Nicol [sic], died twelve years ago. At the meeting, of the Hutt County Council this morning, a

motion of sympathy was passed with the deceased's relatives, the members standing as a mark of respect.

Jane and John had nine children:

- James Cudby, born in 1852, died in 1923.
- William Cudby, born in 1851, died in 1908, married Emily Frances Rivers in 1883.
- Charles Cudby, born in 1854, died in 1942, married Emma Catherine McIntosh in 1882.
- Emma Frances Cudby, born in 1858, died in 1941, married Joseph Frederick Fleet in 1884.
- Henry Cudby, born in 1860, died in 1946.
- George Cudby, born in 1862 (registration 1913), died in 1934, married Jane Muirhead in 1896.
- Henrietta Cudby, born in 1864, died in 1955, married James Turner in 1890.
- Walter Thomas Cudby, born in 1868, died in 1926.
- Ada Winifred Cudby, born in 1871, died in 1958, married Edward Dowling Dunne in 1898.

JAMES RANKIN

A Rankin family was on the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, but was crossed out and did not include a James Rankin. The embarkation list did include James Rankin, 21, a collier from Paisley, described as a labourer on the arrival list.

James Rankin

No further information has been confirmed for James Rankin.

GEORGE ROSS

George Ross was listed as a blacksmith aged 21 in the *Blenheim* passenger lists. His name appeared at the end of the embarkation list, after the Paisley families, but it is not clear if he was from Paisley himself.

George Ross and Annie Hogg

George Ross married Ann Hogg on 30 December 1842 in Wanganui. It is probable that this is the marriage mentioned in Jessie Campbell's letter of 4 December 1842 to her sister Isabella, when referring to the difficulty in obtaining good servants:

*I fear I shall be obliged to make this a shorter letter than usual. When I tell you my reason you will not complain, for the last fortnight I may say I have had no servants, the damsel I've had since coming here chose to get a beau and left me at 10 minutes notice to prepare for her marriage. I cannot get her place supplied here, the only help I have is from a smart little girl about 12 years old who comes in every evening. You may believe I have very little time—I have tried to write at night when all were gone to rest but felt so sleepy and tired I was obliged to give it up. I wrote some time ago to Wellington, I hope Mrs. McDonald has succeeded in getting a servant for me, the one I had was a most ill tempered gypsy and she is to be married to an excellent steady tradesman, a blacksmith who came out in the *Blenheim*. I often think what a host of admirers Flora Kennedy would have here—where such drabs get good husbands.*

Ann Hogg may well have been the Ann Hogg, aged 17, who arrived in Wellington on the *Arab* on 15 June 1841, in the company of her parents John Hogg, 37, and Elizabeth Hogg, 39, and her brother John Hogg, 15.

George Ross, a blacksmith, died on 14 April 1870 at Greymouth, aged 51. The *Grey River Argus*, of 14 April 1870 reported that, "A man named Ross, a blacksmith at Nelson Creek, who has been suffering from swamp fever for some time past, was last night brought down by his mates, and admitted to the Hospital here." It appears that George Ross may have been looking for work in the goldfields, while his family stayed in Wanganui. An advertisement which ran in the *Wanganui Herald* from 16 April to 3 May 1870 carried the Notice by George Ross, Nelson Creek, Westland, revoking the power of attorney he had given to Henry Williams of Wanganui, horse-dealer.

George and Ann had at least five children:

- Elizabeth Ross, born in 1843, died in 1931, married (1) Robert Day in 1861, (2) John Champion Young in 1869.
- George McGregor Ross, born in 1845, died in 1910, married (1) Frances Trice in 1869, (2) Caroline Sancto in 1872.
- Ann Munro Ross, born in 1847, died in 1873, married Harry Orlando Williams in 1870.
- Isabella Rosetta Agnes Ross, born in 1849, died in 1910, married Richard O'Halloran Albert Ross in 1869.
- John Hector Ross, born in 1851, died in 1940.

FRANCIS AND ELIZA SINCLAIR AND JOHN MCHUTCHESON

The Sinclair family was listed in the *Blenheim* embarkation list as being from Perthshire, and included:

- Francis Sinclair, 42, described as a sailor in the arrival list
- Eliza Sinclair, 40
- John Sinclair, 20
- George Sinclair, 15
- James Sinclair, 14, described as a labourer in the embarkation list
- Jane Sinclair, 12
- Helen Sinclair, 10
- Francis Sinclair, 6
- Ann Sinclair, 1

In fact, "John Sinclair" was John McHutcheson, Eliza's brother, and it is likely he travelled as one of their children because the cost of his travel would then be covered by the purchase of a £100 land order from the New Zealand Company by Francis Sinclair.

Note on Spelling: The use of "McHutchison" or "McHutcheson" or "Hutcheson" has been determined by the source material, since a variety of spellings have been used at different times.

Francis Sinclair and Elizabeth McHutchison

Francis Sinclair was born around 1797, the son of George Sinclair, a master mariner of Prestonpans. Elizabeth McHutchison was born on 23 April 1800 and baptized on 27 April 1800. Her parents were James McHutchison and Jean Robertson, and the record was in the Old Parish Register for Renfrew in the county of Renfrew.

The Old Parish Register for Gorbals, Lanark, recorded that Francis Sinclair and Elizabeth McHutchison, both in Kingston, were married by the Reverend Mr Ritchie in Gorbals on 13 January 1824.

Francis Sinclair was an excise officer, which is perhaps why the family lived in a number of places, as shown by the locations of the birth of the children. In 1824 they were in Glasgow, in 1826 in Kinloss in Morayshire, back in Glasgow in 1829, then in Stirling in 1831 through 1839 before they boarded the *Blenheim* for New Zealand in August 1840. In her journal of the voyage, Jessie Campbell notes that on Sunday 6 September the cabin passengers had the Bible read to them in English "by a very respectable steerage passenger of the name of Sinclair from Stirling."

On arrival in New Zealand, Francis got to work immediately by buying a boat and shipping timber from Petone to Wellington. Within a few months he moved the family to Wanganui, where he had purchased an option on land through the New Zealand Company. However, there were going to be considerable delays before the land could be settled and they returned to Petone. There Francis built a boat, the *Richmond* which he used as a cargo vessel and to relocate his family and that of Ebenezer Hay to Banks Peninsula in the South Island, squatting on land in Pigeon Bay. In building the vessel, Francis Sinclair, his sons and John McHutcheson did all of the work themselves, except for the iron work which was done by a blacksmith

named Fraser, another *Blenheim* passenger. The *Richmond* was sold to pay for cattle, but Francis built another ship, the *Sisters*, which he used for trading between Banks Peninsular and Wellington. This vessel was sold in 1845 to purchase land at Pigeon Bay from the Nanto-Bordelaise Company.

Tragedy was to strike, when in May 1846, Francis, his oldest son George, and two others, were lost when his next ship the *Jessie Millar* went down while sailing to Wellington with a cargo of dairy products. The *New Zealand Spectator and Cook Strait Guardian* of 11 July 1846 reported:

By the Mana we learn that Mr Sinclair, of Pigeon Bay, left that place on the 10th of May last in a small cutter of about 10 tons, bound for this port. She has never been heard of since, and there is too much reason to fear that the unfortunate vessel foundered the following day in the heavy south-east gale, which our readers may remember came on very suddenly. Mr Sinclair was accompanied by his two sons, a nephew, and Mr M'Lennan, a shoemaker of Akaroa. He has left a widow and several children to lament his untimely fate.

This report appears to be not quite correct in the identities of the missing.

Elizabeth moved to Wellington for a couple of years, but in 1849 returned to Pigeon Bay, and on their land at Sinclair Bay built a homestead called "Craigforth".

The family prospered there for a number of years but in 1863 they decided to make a fresh start elsewhere. Thomas Gay, who married Jane Sinclair, purchased the barque *Bessie* and the family set off, first to British Columbia, and then to Hawaii where they purchased the island of Ni'ihau from King Kamehameha V. Ni'ihau had good grazing land for sheep and the family also bought land on the neighbouring island of Kauai where they grew sugar cane.

The *Marlborough Express* of 14 January 1893 included the Death Notice: "Sinclair – On October 15, at her residence, Makaweli Kauai, Hawaiian Islands, Elizabeth MacHutcheson, widow of the late Francis Sinclair, formerly of Craigforth, Pigeon Bay, New Zealand, in her ninety-third year."

George Sinclair

The Old Parish Register for Glasgow records that Francis Sinclair, Excise Officer, and Elizabeth McHutcheson, had a lawful son George born on 5 November 1824. Witnesses were James McHutcheson and Robert Miller.

George Sinclair emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840 and worked with his father on his various enterprises until they were lost at sea in 1846.

James McHutcheson Sinclair

According to the Old Parish Register for Kinloss in Morayshire, James McHutcheson Sinclair, lawful son to Francis Sinclair, Excise officer, and Elizabeth McHutcheson, in Findhorn, was born on 23 June and baptized on 25 July 1826. Witnesses were William Duston, Excise officer, East Grange, and George Gill, Findhorn.

James Sinclair was a passenger on the *Blenheim* in 1840 along with his family, and moved to Hawaii with his mother in 1863. James did not marry and died in 1873 in Hawaii. The *Press* of 19 December 1873 carried the Death Notice: "Sinclair – At Makawell, Kauai, Sandwich Islands, on 22 September, James McHutcheson Sinclair, Esq, late of Craigforth, Pigeon Bay, Canterbury, New Zealand."

Jane Robertson Sinclair

The Old Parish Register for Glasgow records the birth to Francis Sinclair, Officer of Excise, and Elizabeth McHutcheson, of a lawful daughter, Jane Robertson, born on 22 March 1829. Witnesses were James Calder and John Wylie.

Jane travelled to New Zealand with her family on the *Blenheim* in 1840. The *Wellington Independent* of 24 October 1849 carried the notice: "Married – August 18, at the Court House Dunedin, Otago, by the Rev. C Creed, Captain Gay, of the whaling ship *Offley*, from Hobart Town, to Miss Sinclair, of Pigeon Bay, Banks Peninsular."

Thomas Gay was a widower, whose first wife was Mary Ellen Richardson; their son, James W Gay, was born on 19 November 1841 in Canterbury, New Zealand, and died on 28 May 1893 in Hawaii.

The Gays moved to Hawaii with the rest of the family, and Captain Thomas Gay continued to trade with New Zealand and Australia. In 1864 Thomas Gay and his brother William, his first mate, were tried in Auckland for assaulting an insubordinate seaman, and were sentenced to six months' imprisonment but were released early. Thomas Gay, however, died in New South Wales, Australia, on 9 February 1865 of pneumonia.

Jane and Thomas Gay had at least five children in New Zealand and a further child in Hawaii:

- George Gay, born in 1850.
- Francis Gay, born in 1852.
- Eliza Gay, born in 1856.
- Annie Gay, born in 1859.
- Charles Gay, born in 1862.
- Alice Gay, born in 1865.

Jane Robertson (Sinclair) Gay died in 1922.

Helen McHutcheson Sinclair

The Old Parish Register for Stirling recorded that Helen McHutcheson Sinclair, daughter of Francis Sinclair, Officer of Excise, and Elizabeth McHutcheson, was born on 29 May and baptized on 26 June 1831 by the Reverend B Bailey. Witnesses were James Brown and William McHutcheson.

Helen was on board the *Blenheim* with her family on the voyage to New Zealand in 1840, and moved with them to Pigeon Bay.

Helen Sinclair married Charles Barrington Robinson on 17 January 1853. The *Lyttelton Times* of 29 January 1853 carried the notice: "Married – January 17th, at Akaroa, by the Rev W Aylmer, Charles Barrington Robinson, Esq, to Helen, daughter of the late Captain Sinclair, of Craigforth, in Pigeon Bay."

Charles Robinson was Akaroa's first magistrate from 1840 to 1845, and purchased land there from the Nanto-Bordelaise Company. He is said to have raised the British flag in Akaroa in 1840 to thwart French efforts to claim the South Island.

Charles and Helen had a son, Aubrey, born on 17 October 1853. However, in 1855 Helen parted from her husband, apparently because he was violent to her, and she and Aubrey moved with the family to Hawaii.

Charles Barrington Robinson died at 15 Hermitage Road, Richmond, Surrey, England, on 28 December 1899.

The date of Helen's death has not yet been established.

Aubrey Robinson married his cousin Alice Gay in 1885, having travelled in Europe and Asia, and returned to Hawaii in 1883 to manage the family estates with his cousin and brother-in-law Francis Gay. They established the company of Gay & Robinson. Aubrey died in Hawaii in 1936.

Francis Sinclair

The Old Parish Register for Stirling records that Francis, son of Francis Sinclair, Officer of Excise, and Elizabeth McHutchison, was born on 12 January 1834 and baptized by the Reverend Alexander Marshall of Friar's Wynd Chapel. Witnesses were John Paton and George Harvey.

After emigrating to New Zealand with his family, and living with his mother at "Craigforth" following his father's death, Francis Sinclair and his uncle John McHutchison took up a sheep farm in the Mackenzie Country, but were unable to make a go of it, and returned to Banks Peninsular. Francis then moved with his mother and siblings to Hawaii, returning to New Zealand in 1866 to marry his cousin Isabella.

The *Lyttelton Times* of 29 August 1866 has a Marriage Notice: "Sinclair-McHutchison – August 7, at Blenheim, Marlborough, by the Rev Russell, Francis Sinclair, Niihau, Sandwich Islands, to Isabella, third daughter of William McHutchison of Blenheim."

The *New Zealand Herald* of 12 April 1890 carried a review of "Ballads and Poems From the Pacific" by Francis Sinclair. The review noted that he had been well known to New Zealand readers in the past under the pseudonyms of "F.S.C." and "Aopouri", with the book of poems originally published under the *nom de plume* of "Philip Garth". In commenting on the poems, the review said "among his sketches in the Pacific Ocean are to be found some glowing descriptions and brilliant pieces of word painting."

The *Otago Witness* of 12 December 1900, in a piece entitled "In Starry Byways" set out some biographical details of Francis Sinclair, quotes from his poems, and suggests that he may claim to be New Zealand's "first poet".

In 1881 Francis bought a property in Epsom, and in 1883 passed management of the family's Hawaiian estates to his nephews Aubrey Robinson and Francis Gay. In 1885 he was in London overseeing the printing of Isabella's book *Indigenous Flowers of the Hawaiian Islands*, and in 1891 sold his property on Ni'ihau to his sisters, Jane Gay and Helen Robinson, and his nephew Aubrey Robinson. When his mother died in 1892 he was living in California, but eventually moved to England. Following Isabella's death around 1896 Francis married her widowed sister Williamina (McHutcheson) Shirrifs. He settled in London and published more poems, essays and short stories.

Francis Sinclair died on the island of Jersey on 22 July 1916 aged 83.

Ann McHutchison Sinclair

According to the Old Parish Register for Stirling, Ann McHutchison Sinclair daughter of Francis Sinclair, Excise, and Elizabeth McHutchison, was born on 7 March and baptized on 22 March 1839 by the Reverend Mr Marshall. Witnesses were Andrew Beath and James Mitchell.

Ann, aged 1, was part of the family party that emigrated to New Zealand on the *Blenheim* in 1840, lived at Pigeon Bay, and then moved to Hawaii in 1863.

The *Lyttelton Times* of 27 May 1867 carried the Marriages Notice: "Knudsen-Sinclair – On the 12th of February, at the residence of the bride's mother, Nihau, by the Rev D S Kupahu, pastor of Nihru, Valdemar Knudsen, Esq, of Waiawa, Kuai, to Annie, youngest daughter of the late Francis Sinclair, Esq, Canterbury, New Zealand."

Valdemar Knudsen was born in Norway in 1819, and travelled to North America where he was a publisher in New York and a merchant during the California gold rush. He then moved to Hawaii where he managed a plantation before leasing land at Waiawa on West Kauai. Valdemar Knudsen died in Honolulu in 1898.

Ann and Valdemar had five children – Ida, Augustus, Maud, Eric and Arthur – and lived in Waiawa, and Halemanu in Kokee when Waiawa was too hot and dry.

Ann (Sinclair) Knudsen died in 1922 at Kauai, Hawaii, aged 83.

John McHutcheson

The Old Parish Register for Glasgow records that James McHutcheson, manufacturer, and Jean Robertson, had a lawful son John, born on 6 October 1816. Witnesses were Thomas Mitchell and Septimus Ellis.

John McHutcheson travelled on the *Blenheim* with his sister and her family, but under the name of "John Sinclair" and aged 20 (in fact he was 24), but reverted to his real name on arrival.

John McHutcheson worked with his brother-in-law in their various enterprises, and accompanied the family initially to Wanganui, back to Petone, then to Banks Peninsular. In 1856, with his nephew Francis, John took up a run of 10,000 acres in the Mackenzie Country, but they lasted there only two years because of the difficulties in working it effectively.

It appears that at some point "John McHutcheson" became "John Mack Hutcheson". John Mack Hutcheson married Mary Gorrie on 4 July 1856.

In 1873, John Mack Hutcheson was elected Mayor of Blenheim.

John Hutcheson died on 27 January 1899. The *Press* of 28 January 1899 carried the following obituary:

Wellington, January 27: Mr John Mack Hutcheson, aged 82 years, a very old colonist and one of the best known and esteemed settlers in Marlborough, died at noon to-day. The late Mr Hutcheson was well known in Canterbury. Having come out to New Zealand from Glasgow in 1840, he settled on the Hutt river, Wellington, and though he removed to Wanganui, he soon returned to the Hutt. In 1843, however, he settled at Pigeon Bay, Akaroa. He went to England in 1848, and while there was interested, with Captain Cargill, in securing the despatch of the first immigrants to Otago, in the ships John Wickliffe and Philip Laing. On his return to the colony he settled in Canterbury, and remained in this district till 1864, when he left for Nelson, where he and Mr McDonald re-opened a branch of the Union Bank. Later on he took up a cattle run in the Mackenzie Country, and it is stated that he was the first man, after Mackenzie, to wander over those plains. His nearest neighbour at this time was sixty miles away, and the loneliness of the life did not offer many attractions to Mr Hutcheson, who sold his property, the buyer, it is said, being a Mr Gladstone, a nephew of the late Prime Minister of England. Mr Hutcheson went into business in Blenheim in 1859, and resided in Marlborough ever since.

John and Mary had at least eight children:

- John Hutcheson, born in 1859, died in 1907.
- Francis Sinclair Hutcheson, born in 1863, died in 1881.
- David Gorrie Hutcheson, born in 1868, died in 1930.
- Richard Morley Hutcheson, born in 1871, died in 1877.
- Helen Eadie Hutcheson, born in 1873, died in 1941, married Malcolm Bird in 1910.
- Jeanette Robinson Hutcheson, born in 1877 died in 1889.
- Ronald Oliphant Hutcheson, born in 1881, died in 1951, married Cecilia Jane Jacobsen in 1920.
- William Hutcheson, born in 1882, died in 1904.

John's brother William McHutcheson also emigrated to New Zealand in 1862, having worked for the Inland Revenue in Scotland before moving to Christchurch and then Oamaru. William died in Oamaru in October 1905, aged 95.

MARY SMITH

Mary Smith was listed as a housemaid of 19 in the *Blenheim* embarkation and subsequent passenger lists.

Mary Smith

No further information has been confirmed for Mary Smith.

DR SINCLAIR SUTHERLAND

Dr Sinclair Sutherland was a cabin passenger on the *Blenheim*. The *Glasgow Herald* of 28 August 1840 included Dr Sinclair Sutherland in the list of cabin passengers departing in the *Blenheim*, while the *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 9 January 1841 reported that Dr Sutherland was an arriving cabin passenger.

Dr Sinclair Sutherland

In her Journal, Jessie Campbell noted, on 30 August 1840, "Chatted a good deal with Dr. Sutherland, he improved on acquaintance." He suffered from seasickness a few days later, but showed great agility in rescuing a wine bottle during rough seas. On 13 December 1840 Jessie Campbell wrote:

It is alleged by other young men that Dr Sutherland is looking sweet at her [Catherine McDonald]: they have a great deal of joking among themselves about it. Dr Sutherland is the smallest man, except Jimmy Macdonald I ever saw and very plain looking: he is generally in very high or low spirits, speaks very like Christian Tait, he has been well educated but not by any means I should think a clever youth; he is much more of the gentleman than Dr Campbell, his father was a respectable proprietor in Caithness but was obliged to sell his property; he has two brothers in the company's service in India. So much for Catherine's beau. His fortune is between £400 and £500 and 100 acres of land.

However, it appears that Dr Sutherland did not stay long in Wellington. A number of colonists, including several from the *Blenheim*, departed for Tasmania on the *Lord Sidmouth*, within a few weeks of their arrival in New Zealand.

The *Colonial Times* (Hobart), reported on 23 February 1841:

FEB. 19.-Arrived the barque Lord Sidmouth, Marr master, from Port Nicholson 4th inst. Passengers – Mr. Hind, Mr. W. Blyth, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Sutherland, Miss M. Rankin, H. Goodwin, wife, .and 6 children, G. Boonger and wife, G. Murray and wife, J. Blyth and wife, C. Morris, wife, and 6 children, P. Shields, S. Wilson, J. Gordon, M. Briton, R. Whitewood, J. Cromworth, – Walker and wife, T. Bonnie, J. Stephens and wife, – Kilgrove, wife, and 5 children, H. M'Kinnon, J M'Kinnon, J. Hichman, wife, and child, J. Lockwood, J. Simmons, J. Chisom, M. M'Eachan, – Eago, P. Lanachar, and Mrs. O'Brien.

Information on Dr Sinclair Sutherland's subsequent movements has not been found.

ALEXANDER THOMPSON AND HELEN GOLLAN

Alexander and Helen Thompson were not on the initial passenger list for the *Blenheim*, but did appear on the embarkation and subsequent lists:

- Alexander Thompson, 28, Paisley, labourer
- Helen Thompson, 26, Paisley

Spelling: Although the *Blenheim* passenger lists used "Thompson" most other records have "Thomson".

Alexander Thomson and Helen Gollan

Based on the details in the *Blenheim* passenger list, Alexander Thomson was born around 1812 and his wife Helen around 1814.

The Old Parish Register for Paisley Middle parish records that Alexander Thomson, lawful son of Alexander Thomson and Margaret Robertson, was born on 27 October 1812 and baptized on 15 November 1812.

The Old Parish Register for Barony in Lanark, recorded the marriage on 15 May 1836 of Alexander Thomson, cotton spinner, Calton, and Helen Gollan, residing there.

From the reports below, it appears that Alexander and Helen moved to Auckland shortly after the arrival of the *Blenheim*, and eventually settled on a farm in West Tamaki.

The *Auckland Star* of 14 June 1886 provided a full report of the Golden Wedding celebrations for the couple:

A GOLDEN WEDDING. The golden wedding of Mr and Mrs Alex. Thomson was celebrated on the evening of Thursday, the 10th inst., in the Presbyterian Church of Tamaki West. The little church was very artistically decorated for the occasion with evergreens, white and pink camellias, and other flowers of the season. About three hundred visitors were invited, and the church was literally crowded. An excellent repast was provided, chiefly by Mrs Thomson. Tables the whole length of the inside of the building were liberally spread with the daintiest viands. A number of ladies of Tamaki and neighbouring settlements courteously waited at the table. After a bountiful tea, the Rev. John Macky took the chair, supported by Mr and Mrs Thomson, Mr William Thorne, and immediate relations. The proceedings opened with the hymn "Praise Ye Jehovah" and prayer by Rev. R. F. Macnicol. The Chairman then made a few appropriate remarks upon the auspicious event, and called upon the Rev. Mr Steele to read apologies from well-wishers who were unavoidably absent, viz., the Revs. David Bruce, A. Carrick, T. M. King (St. John's College), Mr James Bell, of Wairoa, and several others. The Chairman proceeded and expressed the pleasure he felt in the position which he had been called upon to occupy. He felt sure that in wishing Mr and Mrs Thomson much happiness on the event of their golden wedding day, every heart would respond to the prayer that their kind friends might be spared many years longer in their career of usefulness in connection with the locality and the church. He had known Mr and Mrs Thomson intimately ever since he was first introduced to them thirty three years ago. Having spoken at some length in eulogistic terms of the amiable qualities of his friends, he would call upon Mr Thomson to speak for himself and his aged partner. Mr Thomson, on rising, was greeted with prolonged applause, and proceeded to say that he had frequently said that if it should please God to spare him and Mrs Thomson to see fifty years of married life, he would have all Tamaki and half Auckland present to celebrate the happy event. He had not much to say to married guests upon the subject of matrimony, but he hoped they would all live to see their golden wedding,

and be able to look back over half a century with as much retrospective pleasure and satisfaction as he looked over his past. He then gave some advice to unmarried men, enforcing the words of the highest authority, "It is not good for man to be alone," the truth of which he and his partner had proved in their early colonial struggle by being united. They had found in their mutual endeavours that "two heads are better than one." The speaker then gave a pleasing sketch of his life from the time when he started with others from Glasgow, in 1840, by the good ship Blenheim for Wellington, and of his arrival in Auckland with Sir William Martin, the Hon. William Swainson, Mr Outhwaite, and others. He and his partner worked hard, and at length saved sufficient money to purchase Water Yett, Tamaki, the farm upon which he and Mrs Thomson had laboured 40 years. He now occupied the building which formed the first Presbyterian Church in the province. A preacher, still living in Scotland, characterised the church as a barn, and the pulpit a tea chest. He did not approve of the terms. The little church, however, had been of real service to the people of the district, and the ministrations from that so-called "tea chest" had proved a blessing to many. Mr Thomson then sketched the history of the church and the Sunday school and Bible class, with which he had been closely connected, for the long term of forty-five years, concluding with several suggestions for practical work and general improvement. At Mr Thomson's request, Rev. Mr Steele read the marriage lines, which showed that Alexander Thomson, bachelor, and Ellen Gollan, spinster, were married on the 2nd of June, 1836, by the Rev. John Edwards, in the Monteith Row Church, Glasgow. (Loud cheers.) Short congratulatory addresses were successively given by Rev. T. G. Carr, D. W. Runciman, G. E. Monro, K. F. Macnicol, Thomas Norrie and Mr Hunter. Between these brief speeches several sacred selections and songs were sung. Mrs Kimpton, of Otahuhu, sang the old but very appropriate song, "Darby and Joan," with telling effect. The same lady, with Miss Wallace, sang a duet, and subsequently the fine lyric entitled "Charity." Miss Pulman sang "Too Late," with pianoforte accompaniment. Mr James Wallace gave a recitation, "The Young Man Leaving Home," with much elocutionary skill. Miss Lily Pulman then recited "The Golden Wedding Song," written for the occasion by Mr John Blackman, which was received in a kindly spirit. This effusion was distinctly and clearly enunciated by the reciter. A splendid picture of the aged pair, photographed by Pulman, Shortland-street, was then exhibited to the audience, elegantly framed. The wedding cake was then cut by the bride with the silver knife and distributed to the assembled visitors. The cake was the gift of Mrs Carr and Messrs W and A, Thorne. The Rev. Mr Steele, on behalf of the company, expressed thanks to Mr and Mrs Thomson, to the ladies of the tea tables, and to all who had assisted in contributing to the entertainment, and the whole closed with the Benediction pronounced by the Chairman.

His death registration shows that Alexander Thomson died on 3 August 1886 at St Andrews Church of Scotland. He was a farmer of 73, the son of Alexander Thomson, stonemason, and Margaret Robertson, was born in Paisley, had been in New Zealand for 46 years, and had been married in Glasgow at 25 to Helen Gollan. There were no living children. The cause of death was apoplexy.

The *Auckland Star* of 4 August 1886 carried the Death Notice: "Thomson – On August 3, Alexander Thomson of West Tamaki." The *New Zealand Herald* of 4 August 1886 included the following account of his life and death:

SUDDEN DEATH AT THE MEETING OF THE AUCKLAND PRESBYTERY. At the meeting of the Auckland Presbytery, yesterday afternoon, a very sad event occurred. After the Presbytery had concluded the business before it, Mr. Alexander Thomson, an elder residing at Panmure, and representing the church at West Tamaki, rose, having taken no part in the business previously, and asked that the Presbytery should proceed then to inquire whether the collections for the foreign missions appointed by the Assembly had been made by the several congregations. To this the Presbytery at once agreed, out of respect to Mr. Thomson, and was about to

carry out the request when he was observed to have fallen back in his chair in what appeared to be a fainting fit. He was immediately unconscious and, a pallor coming over his features, it became evident that death was at hand. The Moderator and the other members near him did all they could to ease his position, but the heart had ceased its pulsations. Dr. Kenderdine was present in a few minutes, and pronounced life extinct, the cause being apoplexy. After some time had elapsed, and the body had been removed into the vestry, the Presbytery met for a few minutes, and Mr. Carrick, at the Moderator's request, engaged in prayer, the Presbytery adjourning its meeting until to-day, at ten a.m.

The deceased gentleman was 75 years of age, and on the 10th of June last celebrated his golden wedding. It appears that about two years ago he received injury in the chest from the kick of a horse, which at the time caused a very dangerous illness. Since his recovery he had been subject to fainting fits, and yesterday morning, when coming to the Presbytery meeting, he complained of not feeling well. Mr. Thomson came to Wellington in 1840, and after remaining there for about a year he came to Auckland, where he has been ever since, on a farm at the Tamaki. He leaves a widow, but no children. Deceased was an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and took a great interest in the Sunday schools and in other departments of Church work. He was kindly, frank, and hospitable.

The *Auckland Star* of 14 August 1886 also provided an obituary:

Mr Alexander Thomson, a very old settler of Tamaki West, and an elder of the Presbyterian Church, died on Tuesday, August 3, at the sitting of the Presbytery in St. Andrew's Church. Mr Thomson came into town early and transacted a considerable amount of business, and while dining at a friend's house in Shortland street said he feared he had overdone it. He felt somewhat weary, and his breathing was difficult. He left for the meeting of Presbytery at St. Andrew's, and was speaking upon the subject of the collections of the churches for Foreign Missions, when suddenly he staggered and fell back unconscious upon the seat. A pallor immediately overspread his features, and it was evident that the hand of death «as upon him. Mr Lennox ran for Dr. Kenderdine, and that gentleman, on arrival, pronounced life extinct. The cause of his death was apoplexy. The body was removed at the moderator's request into the vestry, and subsequently was placed in a shell and removed by Mr Wm. Thorne, solicitor, a nephew of deceased, to Mr Thomson's late residence. Deceased was born in Glasgow in 1811, so that he had reached his 75th year. In early life Mr Thomson was a cotton weaver in his native city, and was of a quiet and religious disposition. He was married June 2, 1836, to Ellen Gollan, in Glasgow, and four years from that auspicious event, in 1840, the young pair left Glasgow in the good ship *Blenheim*, for the city of Wellington, and after staying there for some months, sailed for Auckland, and filled in this city and suburbs several positions of trust. Mr Thomson and his partner settled on a small farm at West Tamaki, known as Water Yett, where they lived for more than 40 years. Mr Thomson told the story of his colonial struggles with graphic force on the occasion of the celebration of his "golden wedding" in June last. The funeral of the deceased was very largely attended, several hundred persons joining in the procession. A short service at the house was conducted by the Rev. John Macky, sen., minister of the united charge of Otahuhu, Tamaki, and Howick, and the Rev. T. G. Carr, Wesleyan minister (nephew of the deceased by marriage). On arriving at the cemetery the coffin was carried into St. Enoch's Church, where service was performed by the Revs. J. Macky and T. Norrie, the former giving an appropriate address, in which he spoke of the Christian character of the deceased, and the good services he had rendered in the district for many years, especially to the younger members of the resident families, and concluded by urging all to follow his example. The Rev. D. Bruce and Rev. Mr Steele conducted the service at the grave, near the church.

Helen Thomson, widow of 84, died on 14 May 1898, at Pakuranga. No details of her parents were included in death registration, although it was noted that her father was a schoolteacher. Helen was born in Glasgow, and had been in New Zealand for

58 years. She was married in Glasgow at 18 to Alexander Thomson. There were no living children. The cause of death was senile decay.

The *New Zealand Herald* of 16 May 1898 carried the death Notice: "Thomson – On Saturday May 14, Helen, the widow of the late Alexander Thomson, of West Tamaki, aged 84."

The reports above refer to a nephew, William Thorne, solicitor, and nephew by marriage, the Rev T G Carr. William Thorne and Matilda Carr were the children of William Thorne and Mary Gollan, Helen's sister, who were married in 1846. Mary Gollan emigrated to New Zealand on the *Duchess of Argyle* which sailed from Greenock to Auckland in 1842. She was 30. There was another family of Gollans from Glasgow on this ship, headed by James Gollan, 33, and including his wife Abigail and several children.

ISABELLA TURNER

The embarkation list for the *Blenheim* listed Isabella Turner as a housemaid aged 28.

Isabella Turner and Archibald Gillies

Family tree information on Ancestry.com indicates that Isabella Turner was born in Morvern, Argyll, Scotland, around 1812. There is a Scottish OPR record for Morvern for the birth of an Isobel Turner on 20 July 1810 to Patrick Turner and Mary MacIntyre.

According to NZ BDM records Isabella Turner married Archibald Gillies on 5 March 1844. Family tree information suggests that Archibald Gillies was born in Kilmallie around 1816 to Alexander Gillies and Mary Cameron. He may have arrived in Wellington from Sydney on 5 April 1840 on the *Middlesex*, in which case he may have been one of the 12 stockmen listed as arriving on the ship in the *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 2 May 1840. The *Middlesex* brought 700 sheep and 80 cattle.

Alexander Gillies leased land in the Wairarapa with Angus McMaster, which was eventually split, with McMaster taking Tuhitarata and Gillies Otaraia. Isabella Gillies died in 1865.

The *Wellington Independent* of 13 June 1865 carried the following Death Notice: Gillies – On Thursday morning, 18th inst, at the residence of Mr David Smith, Silver Stream, Isabella beloved wife of Mr Archibald Gillies, late of Wairarapa.”

Archibald Gillies died in 1868. The *Wellington Independent* of 28 March 1868 Death Notice read: “Gillies – On March 26, at the Hutt, Archibald Gillies, Esq, of Otaria, Wairarapa, aged 52 years.”

According to family tree information, Isabella and Archibald had at least six children:

- Annie Gillies, born in 1842, married Charles James Anderson in 1866.
- Mary Gillies, born in 1844, died in 1916, married Duncan Cameron (see [Donald Cameron and Christian McLean](#)) in 1863.
- John Gillies, born in 1848.
- Robert Gillies, born in 1850.
- Alexander Gillies, born in 1851.
- Hugh Gillies, born in 1852, died in 1934.

JOHN TURNER

The embarkation list for the *Blenheim* listed John Turner as a mason aged 21; the next list described him as a labourer of 20; while in the arrival list he is a mason with his age given as 30, and the comment made in relation to him, Daniel McCollsty and Alexander Grant, all with an age of 30, "What is the [truth] the ages are not given here."

John Turner

A John Turner, a tailor, was already resident and operating his business in Wellington before the arrival of the *Blenheim*. There were two John Turners in the jury lists for Port Nicholson in 1845-1850: John Turner, tailor, Willis St (1845) Lambton Quay (1847); and John Turner, shoemaker, Pipitea (1845), Willis St (1847), River Hutt (1849).

A John Turner, along with a James Turner and others, was a steerage passenger on the *Thames*, which left Wellington for California in February 1850.

No further information has been confirmed for John Turner.

ABOUT THE BLENHEIM

The *Blenheim* that sailed to Port Nicholson in 1840 was a 375-ton barque, owned by Brown and Company of London. A barque is a type of sailing vessel with three or more masts having the fore- and mainmasts rigged square and only the mizzen (the aftermost mast) rigged fore-and-aft.



Silhouette of a Barque, showing sails' formation

The name comes from the 1704 Battle of Blenheim in the War of the Spanish Succession, when John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, won a famous victory.

There were a number of vessels called "Blenheim" which operated in the 19th century and it should be noted that it is most unlikely that any of the images that are available are of the emigrant ship *Blenheim* involved in the Wellington and New Plymouth voyages.

The *Blenheim* was built in 1834 at Jarrow-on-Tyne, in the north-east of England for Brown & Co.

The *Blenheim* was first listed in the Supplement to the Lloyd's Registers of 1835, with her Master being Captain Brown.

1834: Convicts from Cork, Ireland, to Port Jackson, New South Wales

The *Blenheim*, Captain James Temple Brown, Surgeon Superintendent James Wilson, departed from Cork on 27 July 1834 and arrived at Port Jackson in New South Wales on 14 November 1834 with a cargo of 200 convicts. The convicts had been imprisoned in the Surprise Hulk at Cork, in Ireland. The passengers included ten free settlers, sons of convicts, and there was a guard of 33 rank and file of the 50th regiment, plus 8 women and 9 children of the soldiers, with two officers. There were two deaths on the voyage (for more detail see the entry for the voyage on the website "Free Settler or Felon?")

1835-1839

A Lloyd's Survey certificate issued on 23 October 1835 assigned an A1 character for nine years. The Lloyd's Surveyor, George Bayley, noted that the frames and planking were of good quality English oak and between decks pine was used. There were some reservations as to a lack of butt bolts through the pine ceiling between decks and the rather rough workmanship. The masts were described as of good quality but queried as to size; rigging was only acceptable after being overhauled. The *Blenheim* was copper-bottomed, and carried one long boat, one cutter and one skiff.

In 1836, 1837 and 1838, the Registers noted that the *Blenheim* was engaged in London-Sydney voyages, with Masters being Captain Brown for part of 1836, and thereafter Captain Spence. The *Nautical Magazine and Naval Chronicle* for 1837 carried a letter from James Temple Brown, Commander of the barque *Blenheim*, advising of the discovery of a reef in the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean on 5 May 1836 during a voyage from London to Bombay. The reef is named the "Blenheim Reef."

The Lloyd's Register for 1839 recorded that Captain Grey had taken over, and the *Blenheim* continued to voyage between London and Sydney.

1839: Convicts from Dublin, Ireland, to Port Jackson, New South Wales

The *Blenheim*, Captain John Grey, Surgeon Superintendent William McDowell, left Dublin, Ireland for New South Wales on 19 May 1839 with a cargo of convicts.

While moored at Kingstown, the *Blenheim* had received 200 prisoners on board on 8 May 1839. William McDowell kept a Medical Journal from 23 April 1839 to 8 October 1839 and reported all the men to have been in good health on embarkation.

There was an outbreak of dysentery in July. The surgeon considered it due to the bad water they had on board which emitted a most offensive putrid effluvia, almost intolerable, and caused many bowel complaints. Fresh water and provisions were obtained at the Cape on 6th August, however it came too late and three prisoners James Maginness, Martin Graham and Michael Farrelly all died from dysentery. Later another convict James Benson also died after suffering tonsillitis.

They touched at Simon's Bay, Cape of Good Hope on 6 August. Very bad weather was encountered on 4 September, one prisoner James Feeney becoming so frightened that he required treatment from the surgeon.

The *Blenheim* arrived at Port Jackson on 27 September 1839 after a voyage of 131 days. She was one of eleven convict ships arriving in New South Wales in 1839. For more details see the website "Free Settler or Felon?"

1840: Emigrants from Greenock, Scotland, to Port Nicholson, New Zealand

In 1840, the *Blenheim*, Captain John Grey, Surgeon Superintendent Neil Campbell, departed Greenock on 25 August and arrived in Port Nicholson on 27 December, with 203 passengers.

A full record of the voyage can be found at Jessie Campbell's Journal, written from the perspective of a cabin passenger.

While Jessie Campbell had a generally good opinion of Captain Grey and his handling of the ship and the provisions for emigrants, other accounts suggest that he skimmed on the food supply to the steerage passengers and that he had reserved supplies to sell in Wellington on arrival. There were also complaints about the harsh treatment of the crew by the Captain.

During the voyage there were two deaths (both children) and six births. There was a smallpox scare but the infected passenger was isolated and there was no spread of the disease.

The Captain and the Surgeon Superintendent were responsible for keeping the passengers clean, active and healthy. There was regular dancing, bagpipe-playing and games such as leap-frog, and on Sundays there were church services in both English and Gaelic.

An old family tale relating to the voyage of the *Blenheim* is noted in both *Poyntzfield* and *Pukehou*, and suggested that prior to embarkation the Highland elders assembled the young of marriageable age and firmly warned them against any 'funny business' on the trip. Nevertheless, apparently, John Fraser transgressed and was soundly and roundly cursed by the elders when he was brought before them.

There were at least nine marriages between *Blenheim* passengers, in many cases some years after arrival.

1842: Emigrants from Plymouth, England, to New Plymouth, New Zealand

The *Blenheim*, 374 tons, Captain John Grey, 159 passengers, arrived at New Plymouth on November 19, 1842, after a passage of 141 days from Plymouth, England.

The *Blenheim* called in at Wellington on the way to New Plymouth, with some of the passengers disembarking there. The *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 5 November 1842 noted the arrival, on 3 November, of the barque *Blenheim*, 375 tons, Grey, from London and Plymouth, with 47 cabin and intermediate passengers and 111 immigrants for New Plymouth.

In *White Wings*, Capt. Brett wrote that apparently nothing very unusual was noted about this long voyage, but it was interesting to know that the contract price for bringing out the passengers was £17 9/6 for each adult.

The journal kept by the Surgeon Superintendent, Samuel Norway, is available online.

A full passenger list is available on "Our Stuff", Denise and Peter's website.

One outcome of this voyage was a case before the newly-constituted Vice Admiralty Court in Wellington. As reported in the *New Zealand Gazette and Wellington Spectator* of 16 November 1842, the action was for mutiny and mutinous conduct, and for assault, aboard the emigrant ship *Blenheim*, and was brought by Captain Grey. A seaman, Morris Mahoney, was accused of being drunk, drawing a knife and threatening his commander with a saw. The Captain had placed him in irons for the remaining 103 days of the voyage. The jury returned a verdict of guilty on the charge of assault, Captain Grey strongly recommended mercy given the length of time the prisoner had suffered, and in consideration of this the judge passed a lenient sentence of two months. A fuller account of the court case is in the *New Zealand Colonist and Port Nicholson Advertiser* of 11 November 1842.

1842-1847

The Lloyd's Registers for 1841 to 1843 note that the *Blenheim* was now travelling to India, still with Captain Grey as the Master, but in 1844 there was a change of ownership from Brown & Co to H Barrick (a Whitby shipbuilder and shipowner), and the business moved to the London-St Petersburg trade, which continued in 1845. In 1846 the London-Quebec trade was added, and at some point Captain Jackson became the Master, but the Lloyd's Register included the ominous note "Missing", and the vessel does not appear on subsequent Registers.

Other Blenheims

A number of other sailing ships working in the nineteenth century had the name "Blenheim".

- *Blenheim*: a barque of 382 tons, built in London in 1790, owned by Long & Co in 1830-1835, Master Frankland, then by J Terry, Master Wilson, sailed London-Quebec. No registration after 1837.
- *Blenheim*: a snow, 162 tons, built in Newfoundland in 1812, owned by Sweetman - a "snow" is a square rigged vessel with two masts,

complemented by a snow- or trysail-mast stepped immediately abaft (behind) the main mast - in Register to 1838.

- *Blenheim*: a snow, 223 tons, built in Sunderland in 1826, owned by Vipand & Co, sailed out of Exmouth, in Register 1831-1838 and possibly 1849-1857.
- *Blenheim*: a barque, 382 tons, built in Newfoundland in 1834 of hackmatack and spruce with iron bolts, owned by Sweetman, based in Waterford, voyaged to Newfoundland, in Register 1838-1844.
- *Blenheim*: a wooden clipper ship, 808 tons, built in 1845 in South Shields for Duncan Dunbar (a "ship" is a sailing vessel with at least three square-rigged masts and a full bowsprit); sailed London to Australia, made three voyages to Hobart with convicts in 1848, 1850 and 1851, and to Port Phillip with Government assisted immigrants in 1854; in Register 1846-1859.
- *Blenheim*: a wooden ship, 1314 tons, owned and built in Newcastle in 1848 by T&W Smith, at the time the largest merchant ship in Europe; sailed London to India, and armed as an East Indiaman; in Register from 1861.
- *Blenheim*, a barque, 411 tons, built in Sunderland in 1853 for A Strong, sailed London to Black Sea in 1857, London to India 1859-1860, Shields to Mediterranean 1861-1869, in Registry 1854-1869
- *Blenheim*: an iron barque built by R. Williamson & Sons at Harrington in January, 1869, initially owned by A. Morgan of Liverpool, in 1879 acquired by another Liverpool owner, S. Martin, and her master was Capt. J.W. Garner; by 1889 the *Blenheim* had been bought for £3540 by Carl August Banck & Co. of Helsingborg, Sweden; in 1901 she was bought by Italian owners, and in 1905 was sold to owners in Genoa for conversion to a coal barge.
- *Blenheim*: 3-masted fully rigged ship of iron, 1077 tons, built in Glasgow in 1877; owned 1877-1888 by the NZ Shipping Co Ltd, sailed as *Wanganui*; owned 1889-1903 by Leslie John, Aberdeen, renamed *Blenheim*; owned 1903-1910 by Michelson M C A, Norway, re-rigged as a barque; owned 1910-1913 by Staubo N A F, Norway; owned 1913-1917 by Olsen Rod A, Norway, sunk by German submarine on 22 February 1917 on a voyage from Pensacola to Greenock with a cargo of pitch pine.

Five ships of the Royal Navy have been named HMS *Blenheim*, after the Battle of Blenheim in 1704. The name was chosen for a sixth ship, but was not used:

- HMS *Blenheim* was a 90-gun second rate launched in 1679 as HMS *Duchess*. She was renamed HMS *Princess Anne* in 1701, HMS *Windsor Castle* in 1702, and HMS *Blenheim* in 1706. She was broken up in 1763.
- HMS *Blenheim* was a 90-gun second rate launched in 1761, reduced to a third rate in 1800 and wrecked in 1807 in the East Indies.
- HMS *Blenheim* was the name selected for the captured Danish HMS *Christian VII*, but the name was not used.
- HMS *Blenheim* was a 74-gun third rate launched in 1813. Reduced to harbour service in 1831, brought back to sea service in 1839, served in the East Indies and China in 1839-43, converted to screw propulsion in 1847, used for harbour service and was broken up in 1865.
- HMS *Blenheim* was a Blake-class armoured cruiser launched in 1890, used as a depot ship from 1907 and scrapped in 1926.

- HMS *Blenheim* was a depot ship, previously the SS *Achilles*. She was purchased in 1940 and scrapped in 1948.

The following images have, at various times, been incorrectly identified as the barque *Blenheim* that sailed to Port Nicholson in 1840 and New Plymouth in 1842. All of these vessels are ships, i.e. three-masted and square-rigged.



Either the clipper ship *Blenheim*, 808 tons, built at South Shields in 1845, or the ship *Blenheim*, 1314 tons, built in Newcastle in 1848



The ship *Blenheim*, 1314 tons, built in Newcastle in 1848



The ship *Blenheim*, 1077 tons, built in Glasgow in 1877, originally the *Wanganui*, re-rigged as a barque in 1904

JESSIE CAMPBELL'S JOURNAL AND LETTERS

Thanks to Jessie Campbell's journal we know a great deal about the voyage of the *Blenheim*, and from her letters we also learn about the conditions of life in New Zealand in the 1840s. We also learn a lot about Jessie Campbell herself, and about the people around her.

These pages provide some background on Jessie Campbell and her family, and it is planned to include some elaboration of the people, places and events she refers to.

Jessie Campbell

Jessie Cameron was the daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel John Cameron of Achnasaul and Louisa Campbell of Glenure. She was born around 1807 in Kilmallie.

Jessie's father, John Cameron of Achnasaul, was a lieutenant-colonel who fought in the American War of Independence, and afterwards became Governor of Fort William. John Cameron was a member of the family of MacSorlie-Camerons of Glen Nevis, and was the second son of Alexander Cameron, 12th of Glen Nevis, and Mary Cameron of Dungallon, a grand-daughter of Sir Ewen Dubh Cameron of Locheil. Alexander Cameron was imprisoned more than once for his support of the Jacobite rising of 1745 and subsequent dealings with Jacobites in exile.

John Cameron of Achnasaul married Louisa Campbell of Glenure in 1800, and they had several children:

- Margaret Cameron, born c 1802, died c 1851-54, married Thomas MacDonald, writer (lawyer), Fort William, in 1818, probably sixteen children.
- Isabella Cameron, born c 1805, died in 1847, married James MacGregor, writer (lawyer) and bank agent at Fort William, one son, James Cameron Macgregor, born in 1845.
- Jessie Cameron, born c 1807, died in 1885, married Moses Campbell in 1827, and went to New Zealand in 1840; see [Captain Moses Campbell and Jessie Cameron](#).
- Ewen Cameron, born in 1810, died in 1883, a Captain in the 79th Cameron Highlanders, married Catherine Bridson, from the Isle of Man, in 1841 and settled there as a farmer and magistrate, and had probably seven children.
- Colin Cameron, born c 1812, died in 1870, married Henrietta Stewart Whelan in 1846, at least three children; served in Her Majesty's Customs, Liverpool and Glasgow.
- Alexander Cameron, born in 1814, died in 1858, married Emily Ashworth, daughter of General Ashworth, had two sons who served in the Royal Engineers, and a daughter; served as a lieutenant-colonel in the 42nd Royal Highlanders (Black Watch) from 1855 to 1858, commanded a regiment at the Relief of Lucknow in 1857-58, was wounded at Bareilly, and died in August 1858.

In 1827 Jessie married Captain Moses Campbell, when he was around 40 and she was 19.

Moses Campbell was born around 1787, the son of John Campbell of Inverliver and Susan Cameron of Breadalbane. He served in the 72nd Regiment, the Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders, being promoted to Captain of Infantry in 1828.

Moses Campbell had a sister, Jane Butler Campbell, born around 1800, who married Lieutenant James Wright of the 24th Regiment of Foot on February 6 1821 at Cawnpore, India. Jane and James had twin sons Robert and George, born at Glenrolach House in South Knapdale, Scotland, on 7 July 1823. They appear to have had at least one other child, a daughter Wilhelmina, born around 1827. Jane Butler (Campbell) Wright died in 1876 in Edinburgh.

On the death of his father, Moses Campbell left the Army on half-pay and seems to have lived in Glasgow while he tried to sell the estate of Inverliver, on Loch Awe in Argyll. After advertising it for a number of years, Moses Campbell sold the Inverliver Estate in 1836 having already moved to Achindale (Achandell), near Fort William and the home of Jessie's family. By 1839, the family had decided to emigrate to New Zealand. In that year Moses was allotted two one-hundred-acre sections in Wanganui by the New Zealand Company and retired from his half-pay post with the army, by the sale of his commission.

By the time of the *Blenheim's* voyage in 1840, Moses and Jessie had five children – John Cameron Campbell 8, Colin Macmillan Campbell 6, Louisa Margaret Campbell 4, and 1-year old twins Isabella Eliza Campbell (died at sea) and Susan Ann Campbell. One child, born in 1830, had died before the voyage, and they went on to have a further six children in New Zealand – William Patrick Campbell (1841), Ewen Alexander Campbell (1843), Isabella Elizabeth Campbell (1845), Helen Ann Campbell (1847), Robert Andrew Campbell (1850), and Mary Susan Campbell (1852).

JESSIE CAMPBELL'S JOURNAL

The text of Jessie Campbell's journal set out here is based on a typescript held at the Alexander Turnbull Library (qMS-0370). Spelling and punctuation are as in the typescript; gaps in the typescript are marked by [...], with probable typos also square-bracketed.

Journal Kept on Board the Ship "Blenheim"

by

Jessie Campbell, 25 August 1840

August 25th

Embarked this day on board the *Blenheim* at Greenock, had a bad commencement to our voyage by getting drenched with rain while waiting for a steam-boat to take us alongside the ship. I was agreeably surprised at our good accommodation. Parted with my dear Ewen with the hope of meeting him next year; took neither dinner nor tea; Children and I slept in our own cabin the whole evening. J.B.S., very attentive in coming to ask if she could do anything for us, put the five children to sleep in the berth in the cabin and had a bed made for Captain Campbell and myself on the floor. Cabin in great confusion, put up with it very good humoured with the hope of being more comfortable the following night. The children very good altho they had nothing to eat but part of a loaf we brought on board with us. On first coming on board we thought we had lost a gallon of oil and tin flaggon of milk, they had been left on the steam-boat and were sent to us by the small boat which took Captains Brask, Brown and Ewen on shore. A steam-boat came at 11 o'clock at night to tow us out twenty miles, a beautiful calm night. Children slept pretty well Capt. C. and I slept wonderfully well considering the uncomfortable bed we had. Sailors astonished the children in the evening by the noise they made heaving up the anchor.

August 26th

Awoke this morning about six, got up about seven and assisted Mary to dress the children. Capt. C. got up and dressed before this. The twins very cross from hunger, steward told Captain C. nothing for the children's breakfast but coffee without milk and biscuit and a little bread, he did not know how to make the stirabout and had no oatmeal, reflected on Capt. C. for not taking a small quantity of meal and molasses for the children. While feeding the two little ones with sops made of our own bread Capt. C. announced breakfast, could not go to it and feed the bairns at the same time, took a cup of coffee when the children were at their breakfast, wee bodies complaining of the hardness and toughness of the biscuit. Hold open and got the old scritoire hoisted up and put into the cabin, on enquiring for the boy's cabin found Drimintoran had taken possession of it for his servant and youngest child and the only place left for us was small and had no door, very loud in my indignation at this and reflected on Capt. C. for being so simple as to allow it. He bore my reproaches with great calmness. Very little motion in the vessel all day, wind against us. Saw Capt. Gray at distance for the first time, very dull, suppose from parting from his wife, thought I should like to know him, sat next him at dinner, Dr. Campbell on the opposite side, J.B.S. next to me, Capt. C. next to her; got very squeamish in the evening and very low spirited. Lay on the bed, Colin and Tibbie with me and very sick, Susan on deck and quite well, John sick for half an hour, Louisa fell asleep on the floor but quite well. J.B.S. and most of her children very sick in bed. Mary Cameron fortunately continued pretty well and very active. Their maid got sick in my cabin and vomited on the floor, very angry at her and sent her to the water-closet till she was able to go to the steerage, passed another miserable night, all serene in the cabin, would not take off my clothes.

August 27th

Got up this morning about half past six very little refreshed, sent Mary to the steward for our allowance of water, did not get the proper quantity, told Capt. C. we must have redress. Twins very cross till they got sops. Went to breakfast for the first time, children had their breakfast immediately after ours, very vexed to see them at the hard biscuit and black coffee, rejoiced at having a private stock for the twins, Tibbie and Susan both took a good drink of the black coffee; put in good humour by Capt. C. coming to tell me that Drimintoran had given up the cabin to us and was to clear it out whenever the carpenters put a door to the other place; went up on deck with all the children. Mary gave a good cleaning out to the cabin, made it very comfortable; the weather so calm, ship laying like a log in the water, passed a good while putting my drawers in order and putting packages and portmanteaus out of the way, presided at the children's dinner, they seemed to enjoy it very much, had very good soup and boiled beef, potatoes and biscuit, all of them quite free of sickness. Drimintoran interfering with the steward desiring him to keep the wine left, D, wished to save the stores as much as possible, he thought if there was an overplus on arriving at New Zealand it would be divided amongst the passengers. Capt. Gray very angry and threw up all charge of the mess. Capt. C., and Dr. Campbell with some difficulty pacified him by representing it proceeded entirely from Drimintoran's ignorance. D. has not interfered in the least since. Had the carpenter after dinner putting up brass hooks for twins' cot and small ones for hanging looking-glass and I gave him a dram of Portobello whiskey. Went all to bed at nine and twins quite happy in their cot.

August 28th

Awoke at the usual hour after passing a most comfortable night. Twins never awoke the whole night, Tibbie peeping out in the morning and laughing to Papa. Capt. C. always rises first to make room in the cabin. Twins breakfasted heartily upon sago and in very good humour all the morning; fine day, with a light wind in our favour. Heard that Capt. Gray intended sending a boat ashore at Holyhead, went to my cabin immediately after breakfast to write letters to my dear friends at home, wrote such a long letter to my dear sister Isabella, one each to Margaret and Mrs Gray that I was occupied until three in the afternoon; went on deck a few minutes before dinner and heard to my great disappointment from the calm weather there was no chance of our passing Holyhead till during the night; one of the steerage women fainted today from sea-sickness, her husband, by the doctor's order laid her

on her back on the dining cabin floor, she soon recovered, she had been in delicate health for some time. Capt. Gray told us at dinner he had only been a month in Britain (including the time he was coming down from London to Greenock and while at anchor there) since returning from his last voyage, he said he was not so ill off as his mate who had only been six weeks with his wife for five years. Drimintoran asked if the mate had any children which caused a great laugh. J.B.S. was much shocked at her husband's question; dined at the usual hour between 3 and 4 and drank tea at seven, went to my cabin after the children had tea to assist Mary in putting them to bed. Skye woman of no use, always sick. Swinging of the cot sets the twins asleep immediately after they are put into it. Capt. C. lighted a taper in the lamp to burn all night in case of either of the wee bodies wakening and working their way out of the cot.

Saturday 29th

Fine weather, light breeze, but unfavourable. Cause of thankfulness that we are all in such good health. J.B.S. very often squeamish and laying in bed, some of her children very sick and Catherine in bed constantly when off the Bay of Dublin. Saw a pilot boat and made signal to her; she took our letters written the day before on shore, all spoke much of the delight of our friends at their astonishment at receiving them with the Dublin post-mark. Got the proper quantity of water from the steward, viz. a pint for each; Capt. promised to give meal and treacle out for porridge to the children.

Sunday 30th

Beautiful day, wind favourable. Ship going along at a good rate, got up about seven or so, long dressing, too late for breakfast, had to take it with the children. Capt. C. dressed in his long great coat wished me to make myself fine, continued to wear my Saxony, put on my black cap with roses; after breakfast John read a chapter in the bible and I read several chapters and one of Milner's sermons, went on deck and remained for a long time. Chatted a good deal with Dr. Sutherland, he improves on acquaintance. Several vessels in sight, admired the beauty of one large ship with all sails up. Catherine much better today and sat on deck. J.B.S. busy at her devotions in her own cabin; Capt. Gray and all the gentlemen dressed better for dinner. Tibbie very unwell with a bowel complaint, took the Dr. into my cabin to see her, gave a dose of calomel and ordered her into a warm bath.

Monday 31st

Crossing the Bay of Biscay, strong breeze in our favour, vessel rolling so much everything knocking about, obliged to keep our cups in our hands at breakfast. Capt. C. spilt his coffee, Capt. Gray not pleased at dirtying his table-cloth. Quite astonished that I am neither sick nor afraid, children all kept in the cabin, but no the least sick complaint; capital pudding for the children's dinner to which they all did great justice; steward took it for granted they were all sick and had only one duck for their dinner. [...] much better today; preserved soup for our dinner today. Everyone pronounced it excellent, and a capital baked and oiled pudding; sand puddings on the table to keep the dished steady, notwithstanding which thought several times everything on the table would roll off; Capt. Gray in good humour from our getting on so quickly; observed the blueness of the water today; heard that the Capt. had given out meal for the children, sent Mary to get their allowance of water after having it boiled and putting salt into it; steward refused to give meal, very angry, got sago made for twins, big children crying from hunger so long of getting any supper found that no tea was prepared for them from the water being used. J.B.S. very violent; I said to Capt. C. knew this would be the way on board an emigrant ship; Capt. Gray spoken to and steward obliged to give out meal instantly and well lectured for his conduct. Louisa and John made a tremendous supper on the porridge and treacle. Skye woman still ill, she is so stupid and heavy she makes herself worse than she really is, wonder Mrs Mac could recommend such a person even if she is a good cook.

Tuesday, 1st September

Still in the Bay of Biscay, fine day with a light breeze in our favour. Went up on deck immediately after breakfast, spoke the Bois Arcadia from Trinidad for Liverpool who

promised to report us all well. Capt. Gray and I fell on the deck from the vessel giving a sudden lurch, towards 3 o'clock fell so calm vessel making no way but rolling dreadfully, sitting at dinner compared it to dining on a swing. J.B.S. so light difficulty in keeping steady, her husband quite astonished that we was not sick and felt so comfortable on board ship. Steward much improved by the Capt. speaking to him, most attentive now to the children, giving them excellent dinners every day, good soup, boiled meat or fowls, a pudding very often, they are much pleased with the porridge and treacle. Drimintoran always takes charge of Louisa, says it is a pleasure to see her do justice to what she gets. Tibbie not very well today, neither she nor Susy have good appetites, will not take the preserved milk, but take a little of the treacle with their porridge and like sago or rice very much, very thankful I have such a good stock of both. Skye woman still laid up. A great many porpoises about the vessel, Capt. Gray speared two but they got off. Dr. Campbell complaining very much of the emigrant's want of energy, had to put pins in them to get them out of bed, begged of him to put the Skye woman out on deck; Capt. Gray said he never saw much a hulk of a woman, if I put jacket and trousers on her she would do better for a sailor than a nurse. Go to my own cabin always to see the children put to bed, after they are snug take a while of journal. Drimintoran brings me a glass of porter every night, afraid of getting a bad habit; wonderful how soundly and comfortably I sleep every night. Found from Capt. Gray today that the New Zealand Company only gave £45 for each cabin passage instead of £60. Capt. Gray would have taken in hand the victualling himself if allowed £60; could not think of doing it for £45. One passenger taken on board at Greenock only pays £45 for his passage, while we pay £60 to the Company, think the Directors know nothing of this swindling trick, think it is all done by the committee of management.

Wednesday, 2nd September

Blowing very hard, at first not favourable, still crossing the Bay of Biscay, ship rolling and tossing a good deal. J.B.S. very sick for a short time; often thought of Ewen's account of the Bay of Biscay, in tacking some of the rigging gave way, not frightened in the least. Gray astonished at our not being sick. Tibbie not very well yet, Susan quite well. Had the best sherry at dinner I ever tasted. While sitting at dinner part of a wave broke in upon the deck which made me nervous for a little while. I saw the Capt. and all looking so unconcerned; great lamentations among the bachelors about their beds getting wet from the sea getting in at the portholes. Dr. Sutherland says he is better than any of them. Mary Cameron so frightened at the rolling of the vessel burst into our cabin at four in the morning; during the afternoon the wind was favourable going along at a great rate. Have asked so often when we will be free of the Bay of Biscay, ashamed to ask it again. After the children were in bed wrote awhile to bring up my journal intend to carry it on regularly after this. Had my drink of porter as usual and went to bed.

Thursday, 3rd September

Passed a very uncomfortable night, vessel rolling and pitching so much could not sleep, sometimes thought when she went to the side she would not rise again. Laughed at by Capt. C. Fine day, light breeze but favourable. First thing we heard in the morning that Mrs Fraser the smith's wife from Ardgour had been brought to bed of a fine stout boy, both doing well as possible. Capt. Gray said she much have had a rolling time of it. Child gets no other name than Blenheim. Like Capt. Gray more every day, find him so obliging, he saw that the children's cot was not properly made, set his sailmaker to alter it all day yesterday and gave surveys himself. J.B.S. has never touched upon religion with me, but once talking of revivals and Mr. Whyte's doctrine, of which she does not approve. One of the sailors was complained of for the 4th time to the Capt. for being lousy and eating the lice. Capt. put him in irons on the poop, the rascal struck the capt. On the face, he still wears the mark, one of the emigrants impertinently interfered and wished to rescue the sailor. Capt. Gray was going to punish the emigrant likewise until he begged his pardon and acknowledged his error. J.B.S. quite nervous at the idea of the crew being mutinous. Tibbie much better today made a good dinner on sago and all the children on deck the whole day. In the afternoon observed a vessel in sight, made her out to be a barque, thought she was going to the mediterranean from the way she steered. Capt. Gray got all the people out of bed by telling them land was in sight.

My Skye woman made her appearance in wretched plight, think she is not so ill as she says, told her father I must engage another, have got Mary's sister who was taking care of Angusina for some time with Margaret. Beautiful evening, a great change in the warmth of the climate. One of our sheep broke its leg on Wednesday last, had to be killed, had part of it at dinner today, capital mutton, everything for dinner so well dressed, our cook understands his business remarkably well. Pipers began to play in the evening. Capt. Gray set all the people to dance, he got hold of my Skye woman and forced her up, could not get her to continue dancing, he obliged an old wife to get up to our great amusement, instead of accepting of the partner [he] gave her she got hold of Capt. Gray, and forced him to dance the reel with her which he did very goodhumouredly. Children and all so happy, could not help saying how much I would give that my beloved mother and sister could get a peep at us. John a great favourite with Capt. Gray, says it does him good to shake hands with him, he has such a paw, teaching Jack, as he calls him, to climb up the ropes; John so delighted with the ship, says he would rather be here than on shore. Louisa the wonder of everybody being so well and her appetite so good. Got clear of the Bay of Biscay half past six tonight.

Friday, 4th September

A beautiful morning with a light favourable breeze. The barque we saw yesterday afternoon close to us, Capt. Made signals found she was the "Tam O Shanter" from Liverpool for Port Jackson with a general cargo, a smaller vessel than ours; we saw a lady on board we guessed to be the Captain's wife; kept us company the whole day, beat her at sailing. Stayed a long time on deck, children so well and happy, Tibbie recovering her appetite and looks, had no idea I should like shipboard life so well, my constant wish is that my mother and sister could know how well off we are, often fancy what they will be saying of us; came down below and worked till dinner time making pin holes in the children's cot to lash them better in; they had such a nice dinner today, excellent preserved soup and a mutton pie. D. took charge of Louisa as usual much amused at her appetite being so faithful, all did ample justice to their good fare. Twins took a good mess of boiled rice; we had for dinner the best pea-soup I ever tasted, two mutton pies a piece of corned beef and roasted mutton; sat for a good while after dinner all chatting together, Gray, though not a well educated man very agreeable and pleasant and [acquiesces] himself at the head of the table very like a gentleman. Forgot to mention there have been great many deaths among the ducks and hens. Capt. Gray says they are too crowded and has been killing a good many. Dr. Sutherland and Dr. Campbell not well today with a bowel complain, both looking miserable, joined the porridge and treacle mess to the children's great amusement tonight. Twins quite reconciled to the treacle with their porridge. Become very calm tonight, vessel rolling very much. Tibbie very tired did not sleep all day and never off the deck. Went with Catherine to see little Blenheim and his mother, both doing wonderfully well, a fine thriving child, their accommodation better than could be expected, tho the poor mother complains very much of the heat and noise. Capt. Gray has been twice to see her and nursed Blenheim for a good while. Got the children all to bed and sat down to write my journal. John read the story of the 40 thieves tonight for a good while. We were, this afternoon in Lat. 41, longitude 12-52, two hundred miles from the nearest land which is Spain. We have two wooden swinging trays on which all the glasses and tumblers and bottles are kept during dinner. Drimintoran in taking a wine bottle off during dinner today brought it too much to the side, all the glasses and tumblers fell off on the table and broke. Admired Dr. Sutherland's agility in saving a wine bottle.

Saturday, 5th September

Very calm all night, vessel rolling so much Capt. C. could not sleep. Boys and Louisa in the other cabin very noisy, had to thrash Colin for striking Louisa. Mary so long of rising had to put on my dressing gown and go to put her up, all this put me out of temper. Twins always very good in the morning generally get a bit of biscuit sent them. Sat as usual on deck, washed Louisa and Susan's heads before breakfast, made a hearty breakfast of fried pork, rice and pickled cabbage, take this every day, coffee had a bad taste. J.B.S. and I could not take it. After breakfast cut all Tibbie's hair off by the Capt's recommendation, gave a clipping and washing to them all, was occupied about them and putting my cabin in order till one o'clock, went up on deck with the children set Mary to clean our cabins with a scrubbing brush. Saw

several vessels in sight two of them Russians. Capt. Gray never saw so many vessels as at this time. Weather very warm, a delightful breeze sprung up in our favour, delighted at it, dislike the heavy rolling of the ship when calm very much. Quite astonished that I never feel afraid and sleep so sound. Tam O Shanter not in sight today. J.B.S. very nervous at night, frightened when she hears the sailors run which they always do when doing anything about the ship, she tries to conquer this but cannot, complains of her want of faith, her husband complains she does not allow him to sleep. Children all made an excellent dinner on preserved soup and lobster, twins recovered their appetite and looking well. Capt. Gray nursed Tibbie in his arms for a good while, astonished at the luxuriance of her hair. He takes great trouble in making the emigrants come on deck and cleaning out their places below, complains of the indolence and filthy habits of the Highlanders, the few Paisley emigrants keep themselves cleaner and are more easily managed, he says Dr. Campbell is a great deal too easy with them. Had a long conversation with J.B.S. about Dr. Chriton, complained of his high charges said his accounts against F K and MacGregor were so enormous. I defended him and said his accounts must be expected to come to a large sum where he was constantly employed and so long of being settled with. Capt. Campbell considered his charges very moderate indeed. Just as we were sitting to dinner felt a bad smell from J.B.S.'s cabin, strange they will not use our convenient closet. John lost one of my tin cans for keeping water overboard while taking up salt water in it with a rope tied to it out of the cabin window, very angry with him but thankful he did not follow it, confined him for two hours to the cabin as punishment. Got sketches of married life from Catherine MacDonald and read it the whole evening, Capt. C. reflecting on me for not writing my journal instead of reading. [Lat.] this day at noon 40-16 North; Long. 13-52 W.

Sunday, 6th September

A beautiful morning with a fine breeze in our favour, rather late of rising, angry at Mary for being so long of coming with the water, dressed in one of gingham gowns, Capt. in his best suit very much admired, boys in drill surtouts and trousers, slippers the 3 girls in light frocks, all the gentlemen dress better on Sunday. Capt. Gray in white trousers puts on a long coat to dinner Capt. C., does the same. Soon after breakfast went on deck, cabin so warm enjoyed the fine breeze, wonder how J.B.S. can stay so much in her cabin. Capt. Gray pointed out a shoal of flying fish, saw Mother Carey's chickens yesterday. Heard today that we had nearly got on sand banks off the Irish coast from the stupidity of the man steering, he mistook the light from Wexford lighthouse for the light of a steamboat, fortunately they sent down to ask of Capt. Gray if there should be any lighthouse in sight, he sprung out of bed and found ten minutes more would put us on a sand bank. Capt. G., said our lives might have been spared but the vessel would have been lost, glad I did not know till we were so far from land. Could not have believed I would be so comfortable on board ship. Six gallons of water stolen last night from the poop, water in consequence very scarce today, so little given out for porridge children had not enough, had to give them biscuit and gingerbread. Capt. Gray and the doctors breakfasted on porridge today. Saw one vessel today a great way off, could not make out what she was. Emigrants had prayers and a portion of the bible read to them in Gaelic, we had the same in English by a very respectable steerage passenger of the name of Sinclair from Stirling. Children had a good dinner today, preserved soup, roast duck and a delightful suet baked pudding afterwards; I can assure you they did ample justice to it. Smith's wife and Blenheim getting on very well, she never had so good a recovery. A child very ill a few days ago, with congestion of the blood vessels of the brain. Dr. C. says he is so much better today thinks he will recover. We had for dinner today roast ducks, boiled fowls and curried fowl and pea soup and pickled pork, this is the first day we have been without beautiful cabbage for dinner since leaving Greenock, the potatoes are still very good, our having such a good cook adds much to our comfort; all the steerage passengers got flour, suet and raisins served out to them yesterday to make puddings for their dinners today, most of them did not know how to use the ingredients, they eat the raisins their children going about with them in handfuls, made scones of the flour. I do not know what they did with the suet, they likewise got pickled cabbage, a good many cannot be prevailed on to eat it and were caught throwing it overboard. John an immense favourite of Capt. Gray heard him complain of thirst tonight, sent for him to his own cabin and gave him a drink of raspberry vinegar and water. My Skye maid made her appearance on deck today in better health. J.B.S. dressed in an old black silk

today and a cap trimmed with pink ribbon. Catherine in an ugly dark check, her boys in [m.....] D. in light trousers and a blue jacket. Sat a long time on deck and thought how little you would think of a voyage if it was so pleasant as we have had it yet. Lat. at noon this day 38-21 N. Long. 15-17 W.

Monday, 7th September

A fine morning with a delightful steady breeze in our favour, weather very warm indeed, much afraid the heat will be very oppressive by and by, we feel it so much already. After breakfast got the cabin cleaned out, sent the two little bodies on deck. Catherine took the other children into my cabin to give them their lessons. Colin took one of his obstinate fits for which he got well whipped. Catherine had Susan at the window and allowed her to throw the lid of the tin pan overboard in which we keep the fresh water, very vexed about it, blamed Mary's sister for not hanging up the pan where she got it. Mary defended her sister very impertinently, told her to hold her tongue I did not want to hear her opinion about it, Mary continued to answer very impertinently, said a letter would reach Dr. Macleod yet to tell how she was used, told her instantly to walk out of my cabin that Dr. Macleod forgot his duty when he did not teach her the respect due to a Mistress, that I would oblige her to make out the time she was engaged with me after that she might go about her business. Had preserved soup, roast ducks and fowls for dinner. Capt. said if the breeze continued we would be in the latitude of [Madiera] tomorrow, did not think we would see land. Lat. at noon 36-5 N. Long. 16-46 W.

Tuesday, 8th September

Fine breeze, vessel continuing, think we have got into the trade winds. Colin not very well today, complaining of headache and vomiting, put him to bed, got a dose from the doctor, his skin hot and pulse quick. A Grampus seen close to the ship and a shoal of flying fish. Skye maid recovered and in attendance today. Could not go on deck attending Colin. Told J.B.S. if the weather continued as it was at present did not care if I was on board six months. Was horror-struck to hear that a man was ill on board with what the doctor thought was small-pox, he has been 3 weeks on board the ship, all astonished that the infection would remain so long about him before showing itself, only complained of being ill Saturday last, the rash came out today, he has been put into hospital and quite separated from all the others. It is fearful prospect a disease of this kind breaking out in such a crowded ship and when just coming into the hot latitude. May the Almighty protect us all. Capt. Gray in great dismay at this, neither he or a young boy his brother have had small pox, would rather lose his own child than anything happen to his brother, it would kill his mother, came to sea at this time against her wish. I trust in God it may yet turn out not to be small pox. Colin rather better tonight. Susy's stomach rather out of order, vomiting a little purged. John eat so much pudding at dinner could take no supper. Tibbie and Louise in perfect health. J.B.S. complaining that John being such a favourite with the Capt. he tyrannises over the older children, never said pro or con. I am sitting at the scritoire writing this with my clothes off down to my waist and the cabin windows open; passed [Madiera] today, did not see land, ship going very fast and not so much motion as you would expect; have just drunk off my tumbler of porter and am going to bed. Lat. at noon 33-41 N, Long. 18-4 W. Made sops of rusks for the children's dinner today and meal, the twins delighted with it, intend to keep a cup of tea for them from my own breakfast and tea water is so bad and scarce.

Wednesday, 9th September

A beautiful breeze blowing, weather very warm. Children all very good, Colin much better, discovered that Tibbie had cut a back tooth and another nearly through; went on deck after breakfast and sat a long time because so listless from thirst and heat could neither work nor read, took a drink of porter in the afternoon which gave me a headache and made me feel very unwell. Capt. C., on deck the whole day reading, angry at him for not giving himself more trouble about the children, got much better after dinner, a delightful cool breeze coming in my cabin windows which induced J.B.S. to sit till tea time with me, she makes herself very pleasant poor body. Capt. Gray looked so cool today in a complete white suit. A sheep killed last night part of which we had for dinner and very good it was, kidneys quite covered. A

ship in sight at a great distance, the man who is ill is pronounced a decided case of small-pox but very favourable, I trust it may not spread the vessel has been sprinkled with Chloride of Lime. Expect to be off Teneriffe early tomorrow morning, Capt. talks of sending ashore for vegetables and refreshments. Tibbie such a favourite with all the gentlemen. Capt. G would not allow her to go to bed until he had nursed for a while. Poor cook is scarcely looked at. 1st and 2nd mates had a dreadful quarrel tonight, Capt. Gray was called out to pacify them. Lat. at noon 30-53 N Long 19 W.

Thursday, 10th September

Not much wind today but very hot, an awning put up on the poop which makes the deck delightful, sat a long time under it, children playing about. Saw a large shoal of flying fish. Colin very unwell during the night, quick pulse and skin hot, complaining of headache, in a great fright that it may turn out small-pox, he is much better today and able to come on deck. Dr. says he is bilious. Discovered today that Tibbie has been cutting 4 back teeth since coming on board. I think her bowels being so loose has prevented her suffering so much as she did in PortoBello, she is as lively as ever and very little reduced, she is a great favourite with our gentlemen passengers. Capt. Gray never passes by her without stopping to speak to her, he often nurses her, she claps his face a kisses him which delights him. Got sago made for Colin about 10 o'clock, put a little wine in it which he relished very much. Capt. Gray very busy today from his mates being under arrest, he blames the 1st Mate most, he struck the 2nd Mate and followed him from side to side of the deck striking him altho he knew he dare not return the blows if he had he would have been put in irons, it seems to require all Capt. Grays firmness to keep his crew in order, what a blessing to us he is so determined, he did not go to bed last night. Mary Cameron has been very submissive since we had the quarrel. Nothing like keeping her in good order. Colin is much better this evening his appetite has returned. I am so frightened for the small-pox that I got Dr. Campbell to vaccinate my arm today, he was not half the time that Chrichton used to be. We have much merry-making on the deck this evening, the Capt. set a party to dance to the sound of the bagpipes, on the other side a party played at leap-frog. My husband, Drimintoran and Mr Macfarlane were the only males that did not join in either pastime. Capt. Gray was a most active hand at leap-frog, I enjoyed looking at the fun from the poop exceedingly. It is a glorious evening, bright moonlight, a soft balmy breeze, it requires a more eloquent pen than mine to describe such an evening, the ship looks so majestic with all her sails set. Capt. Gray complains woefully of the indolence of the emigrants, he has such a work every day hunting them out of their beds and keeping them on deck, particularly towards evening that their berths may cool before they go down to sleep.

Friday, 11th September

A fine morning with rather less wind than we could wish. Capt. C. as usual got up first and went for our washing water, he got better measure than Mary gets if English pints is our allowance viz. a pint for each, we are obliged to be very careful of it as this is all we get during the day except a little drink when we ask it from the steward; any water we require for sago etc; I must take from our washing allowance. After I was dressed got the twins porridge, make and fed one of them, they take the treacle very well, and will not taste the preserved milk, I tried every plan to get them to take it in vain when they taste it they put on such a face and both call out "dirty meal". The milk has a peculiar sickly taste which I must say is not very pleasant. When I went in to breakfast found the Capt. all of sorts, in the first place his watch had stopped from violent exercise he had taken at leap-frog, two of the sheep were found in a dying state, one of them was so well bled that the mutton is very good, the other was not so well killed and was given to the emigrants, it was very fat likewise the Captains vexation was the cook spoiling two dishes of rice for breakfast one after the other, we had mutton chops for breakfast, I took my old fare of salt pork, rice and red pickled cabbage with it, I finish off with some of the hard biscuit and a cup of coffee. J.B.S. complains of the biscuit, she cannot eat rice. Went up on deck after breakfast, sat a long time. Capt. Gray joined us, gave us the history of one of his sailors, a handsome lad called John Miller, his father is the Capt. of a Revenue Cutter, he has six sisters, the eldest of them was married after a few days courtship to a sick man the Capt. of a Merchant Man, after she had one child she became notorious character her husband divorced her, her conduct had been the ruin of the

rest of the family. Colin quite well. The spots on the small-pox man beginning to dry up Dr says there is no fear of him now. Children made a hearty dinner on boiled mutton and broth. We still have potatoes. I am astonished how long they have kept. I give a small bit of butcher meat to the twins which they enjoy very much; we had the best pancakes at our dinner I ever tasted they were of course, made without eggs. The twins at 4 o'clock took a good mess of boiled whole rice and sugar. We had the dancing and leap-frog tonight and the same beautiful, cloudless moonlight. Lat. at noon 26-15 N, Long 10-38 W. One of the sailors quite drunk this afternoon, he would not confess where he got the spirits, the emigrants are suspected of giving it to him, he is to remain in the poop night and day and to be fed on bread and water until he confesses from whom he got the spirits. Little Blenheim and his mother were on deck today.

Saturday, 12th September

A fine morning with a very light breeze. I have great cause of gratitude to the Almighty that the children are in perfect health they are quite reconciled to the treacle with their porridge, they get some of little John's bread about 12 o'clock and we never open the box without thinking and speaking of Grandmamma. The sheep have all been clipped today, instead of pouring water down their throats from a bottle Drimintoran prevailed on them to try if the sheep would take it off their own accord, the poor brutes drank it all greedily with the exception of two. I hope they will now thrive better. The sailor is still obdurate and will not confess from whom he got the spirits. Saw a suspicious looking vessel close to us counterpart of the Midge. Capt. Gray said if he had only his own crew on board he would be rather uneasy from the direction she took, suppose she is bound for the West Indies. Capt. Gray bathes every morning at least has pails of salt water thrown over him on deck. Today he put John up and threw 2 pails of water over him. John stood it manfully forsooth he would not go without trousers. One of the flying fish fell on board, had no idea it was so small. Capt. Gray and the doctor complaining woefully of the filth of the Highland emigrants, they say they could not have believed it possible for human beings to be so dirty in their habits, only fancy their using the dishes they have for their food for certain other purposes at night, the Dr. seems much afraid of fever breaking out among them, this would be a judgment on us, poor as I am no consideration on earth would tempt me to trust my little family in a ship with Highland emigrants if still had the voyage before me. Lat. at noon 24-34 N. Long 20 W. Gave 3 old cotton stockings for coolers for the wine bottles. Capt. Gray has got the loan of John's watch, Capt. G presented him with the remaining bottle of Portobello whisky. Wine pronounced much improved by the stockings.

Sunday, 13th September

A strong breeze, sun very bright, thermometer up at 78, ship going greater part of the day 8 knots an hour. Another death reported among the sheep, one of those that would only drink out of the bottles a great loss so many dying. Sat on deck a good while after breakfast. J.B.S. joined us, very pleasant under the awning, came down to hear prayers and a portion of scripture read by the man who read last Sunday. The emigrants had the same in Gaelic afterwards heard John read, say his question and hymn. During dinner felt the heat very much. J.B.S. and I find it a great relief adjourning to my cabin, it is so cool from so much air coming in at the window. Sailor confessed at last he got the whisky from the emigrants. 1st mate allowed to do duty for the first time yesterday. Young Macdonald scratched Louisa's face, she came to tell me she had knocked him down, everyone astonished at her size and enjoying good health since coming on board. Lat. 22-22 N. Long. 21-14 W.

Monday, 14th September

Very very warm, twins nothing on but a slip and a blue striped pinafore, Louisa the same. John had 4 pails of salt water thrown over him by the Capt. this morning. A strong breeze last night, ship rolling a great deal. While at breakfast word came of a ship in sight, from her colours found she was a Spanish one. While the gentlemen were at their grog this forenoon Mr Macfarlane treated them to ginger-bread. Capt. Gray kept this and gave it to Tibbie, then he sat watching her till she eat it up, poor Susy looking on without getting a bit. Capt. Gray has just called that the ship seen in the morning has come alongside, she is an Austrian of

[Triese] from Marseilles bound for Rio de Janeiro name Prince Rohares. Young men prevailed on Capt. Gray to send a boat to her to get cigars or wine. Capt. Gray prepared himself for going board of her, the tackling of the boat as they were lowering it at one end gave way, fortunately the boat was touching the water at this time, if the rope had given way sooner the Capt. and his crew would have been thrown into the sea. On their return from the Prince Rohares as they were hoisting the boat up with one man in her the rope at the other end gave way so she hung with her stern up, the sailor saved himself by catching hold of a rope. J.B.S. and I got a dreadful fright, we thought some of the men were in the boat when she fell. Capt. got 17 large melons, 3 dozen cigars and a bottle of delicious wine all of which fell out of the boat. Capt. Gray immediately lowered the boat again and went to recover his oars and melons. He picked up six of the melons after rowing a good way from the ship, the wine and the cigars were irrevocably gone, it was frightful to us to see such a little speck as the boat out on the ocean high was, we were above it we could not see it even when it went down between the waves. We had one of the melons for dessert, it was very cool and refreshing. John eat such a quantity he got sick this evening even the two little ones enjoyed it; felt so oppressed with the heat this forenoon that I sat a long time without my stays on. Had dancing to the pipes as usual tonight. I enjoy the deck very much after the sun sets it becomes so cool. J.B.S. and I produced our marmalade this evening at tea, it was very much enjoyed.

Tuesday, 15th September

All felt the heat very much during the night, this morning got a large tub filled with salt water and bathed the children. John as usual had buckets of salt water poured over him. Capt. C has commenced having a bath in the same way. When Capt. Gray observed Tibbie in the tub he went himself to bathe her. Capt. Campbell dressed today in his french shirt, it is very much admired as a suitable dress. Capt. G says he will provide himself with a good many next voyage. Louisa is today in a blue frock with only her chemises on under, not even her stays, twins in blue striped frocks and their chemises. Last night it became so calm we were terrified the trades were going to fail us, already to our great joy today a breeze has sprung up, it defies me to do any work, the heat makes me so languid. I have got the Water Witch from John Galgarry, even with the reading I get slowly on, I would be so thankful if I could go without my stays or shoes. Two vessels in sight today, one of them our friend the Austrian polacca, the other we are making signals to. Capt. Gray never saw so many vessels as at this time. J.B.S. and I are put into a great state of excitement tonight. I will tell you how Drimintorian complained to Capt. Gray that the emigrants were not getting their proper quantity of water, that he must insist on the proper measure being given them. Capt. Gray said as he was so sharp he would be equally sharp with him, he brought up his instructions and showed him that tho he was allowing the full quantity of water for every child in the cabin they were only entitled to a quart and half a day, that is under 14 years of age, so that the ten children under that age in the cabin were only to have the allowance of four grown people among them. You may imagine my distress at this, they had little enough before, I did not see how it was possible for them to do with so small a quantity in such hot weather. I gave orders to the steward instead of making coffee in the morning or tea in the evening for me that I would prefer getting the water instead that I might give it to the children, that Capt. C was entitled to 2 cups and I would get one of them. I told Capt. Gray it was much against my wish going in a emigrant ship and I saw I would have cause to repent it, he said he hoped not, I then went to consult the Doctor, he said his orders and Capt. Gray's agreed in saying a quart and a half was all the children were allowed, which he thought was too little but could not help it. Capt. C advised me to keep quiet for that he was certain Capt. Gray did not mean to enforce this regulation further than to show Drimintorian what he had the power of doing, so I just went to my cabin and cried very bitterly and reflected on my husband for allowing himself to be cheated by that villainous company. I do not blame the Capt. in the least he has nothing to do with it further than to follow the instructions given him. You would scarcely believe how much I enjoy my drink of porter which is regularly brought to me by Drimintorian. Notwithstanding the scrapes he gets into I must say both he and his wife are more obliging and attentive. I repay her by giving her free entrance into my cabin during the forenoon, her own cabin has so little air coming in it becomes like an oven. The twins are never off the deck except at meal times and when asleep, they are kept under the awning and

run about a great deal; have I not got cause to be thankful that the five are in excellent health and looking so well. Tibbie astonishes me getting 4 back teeth without seeming to suffer in the least further than her bowels continuing loose, you would laugh at me if I told you what a work is made about her by all the gentlemen and Susy taken no notice of. Drimintoran's youngest had his face and body all broken out in large blotches from tubbing with the exception of Catherine Adam and Tommy they are all vulgar, stupid-looking children. Lat. 18-34, Long. 23-29 One sheep dead and one sickly this morning.

Wednesday, 16th September, 1840

A delightful strong breeze sending us on 9 knots an hour. Found to our great delight the usual quantity of water was given out this morning and my coffee prepared as usual at breakfast, Capt. C. reflecting on me for the misery caused myself unnecessarily last night. Two vessels in sight all day one of them is still the Austrian polacca, we spoke of the other, she is the vesper Brig from Liverpool for Port Philip with 150 emigrants on board, we found she was the same brig we passed in the Channel on the 29th August, she is smaller than us. Capt. Campbell very bilious today, felt so unwell could not join us at dinner, has taken a dose of Calomel tonight and to take salts in the morning. John and Alistair [*Alexander?*] Macdonald have been repeatedly found fault with for tying a long string to a piece of wood and drawing it in the sea over the stern of the ship, tonight they commenced it again. Capt. Gray found fault with John he deigned having anything to do with it; for telling a falsehood Capt. G has forbid him to come to the poop for 4 days. John feels his disgrace deeply. The sickly sheep dead today. J.B.S. busy making a breach shirt for Tommy, my work has been making pillow cases. Lat. 16-51 N. Long. 15-38 W.

Thursday, 17th September

Heat most oppressive, the exertion of dressing myself put me in a profuse perspiration. The instant the children are dressed always send them on deck till porridge, they are all in excellent health. Tibbie in such high spirits, Susy begins to make advances to Capt. Gray, he attended the bathing of both in the tub this morning and sent them in with a huge piece of ginger bread. The trade winds have failed us today, this is earlier than usual, we are now in what they call the variable wind so much against us that the ship cannot keep her course, she is pitching so much we have great difficulty in keeping our feet, everything falling about in beautiful confusion. J.B.S. and Catherine so sea-sick could not come to breakfast. Capt. Gray and two Drs not very well. Capt. C not quite recovered from yesterday's fit of bile, John sick today and Colin not very well, very much astonished at myself for eating my breakfast as usual. Occasional showers of rain which makes the deck very disagreeable. Two vessels in sight one is the vesper we spoke last night, the other Capt. Gray is almost sure is the Tam o Shanter again. The Blenheim is likely to beat them both. So languid from heat quite unable for the slightest exertion. Capt. C never off the poop reading. Vessel pitching so much children not allowed to go to the poop. A very red sky this evening. J.B.S. and I took it into our wise heads it predicted a storm, a good deal alarmed asking everyone their opinion of the sight, all said it looked squally they would not mind that if the wind was favourable. Another sheep dead today and six hens, a great loss this to us.

Friday, 18th September

Notwithstanding my fears of last night slept comfortably; squalls of wind and rain this morning. Spoke a French vessel homeward bound, could not make them hear us, Capt. thinks most of them were asleep, they had scarcely any sail up although the wind was as favourable for them as it could blow. Capt. G harpooned a porpoise and some of the emigrants thought it very good eating. It cleared up in the afternoon, a good many dolphins about the ship. Capt. G harpooned one of them but it got off.

Saturday, 19th September

Very calm and heat very great; as only my face and head perspire, suffer very much from it, my hands and feet have such a burning dry feel. This morning while dressing Capt. C observed a shark under the stern of the vessel, he gave warning, I sat in my cabin window in my night-gown and saw it swallow the bait and noose put about it and hoisted up; it was

grand sport for the children. The children are getting a good deal tanned with the sun. Louisa takes a seam occasionally at the pocket handkerchief. Heard after breakfast that a ship in sight, supposed to be homeward bound. After writing a long letter (which from the heat was no small undertaking) found out that the ship was going the same course as ourselves. This is John's birthday, kept it by giving the children after dinner a glass of ginger wine and a piece of ginger bread. Capt. Gray came down to drink his health. Children have never tasted salt meat at dinner with the exception of a bit of pork to eat with fowl occasionally. Another sailor found tipsy tonight, the Capt. in a great rage about it, obliged the emigrants to throw all their brandy overboard, all of them in a state of excitement.

Sunday, 20th September

Very little wind, vessel scarcely moving, very great heat. Had prayers as usual. John read, said his questions and hymn, read a story to him afterwards. Mutton so much tainted at dinner could not eat it, made up for it on pudding. A great deal of sheet lightning, very beautiful, this evening. Two ships in sight all day, one of them came close, would not answer our signals. Such a violent squall came on about 11 o'clock, one of the largest sails was rent from top to bottom; although the night was very dark it was replaced in half an hour. The Smith's infant who was very ill considered out of danger, no apprehension of small-pox spreading, the man who has been ill with it still confined to hospital.

Monday, 21st September

Fine morning, all well. Dispute between our servants and the steward about the quantity of water for the children, said he had orders from the Capt. to give them the reduced quantity, told him that the jug he had for measuring the water was not the proper size, on getting the proper pint measure from the hold found that even on the reduced quantity we get as much water as formerly. This caused an unpleasant feeling between Capt. C and Capt. Gray, the latter in very bad humour but continues to be very polite to Mrs Macdonald and company. He is short tempered forgets it soon but does not like to acknowledge he is wrong.

Tuesday, 22nd September

Rather a stormy morning the ship not quite on her course, very hot, all well 12 o'clock cleared up the wind a little more favourable. Capt. C and Capt. Gray good friends again. Capt. C reasoned with him, shewed him where he was wrong, this is the best way of treating hot tempered men. Capt. Brown must have been aware of Capt. Gray's temper as he begged of Capt. Campbell as an old acquaintance to use his influence to keep amity and peace on board. Capt. C told Capt. Gray this, he acknowledged Capt. C told Capt. Gray this, he acknowledged Capt. Brown was aware of his quick temper.

Wednesday, 23 September

It has been a rather stormy night but all well. Wind still unfavourable but the ship always making some way. 12 o'clock a schooner near us going the same course. 2 o'clock she is up to us and spoke to us, she proves to be the Naiad from London bound to South Australia, out 30 days appeared to be only about 120 tons. 8 o'clock retiring in good spirits after a good deal of Gaelic singing and dancing among the emigrants.

Thursday, 24th September

A fine morning, all well, a little progress last night, all occupied this day on getting up the luggage on deck and getting a fresh supply of clothes. Twins birthday, drank their health after dinner. A beautiful day, making very little progress. A great threatening of toothache, creosote has lost its effect.

Friday, 25th September

Wind changed at 6 o'clock in our favour, there is yet but little of it. Very ill all night with toothache, got Dr. Campbell as he had no leeches to scarify my gum, did not give me the relief I expected, in the evening took a good dose of medicine and put laudanum in the tooth.

Saturday, 26th September

All well, a good deal of wind and favourable all night. 12 o'clock incessant rain since 8 o'clock, all the emigrants below except some that are collecting rain water for washing. The Dr. and Capt. insist on the emigrants keeping below, getting wet in the tropical rain being very bad for them. Awoke this morning quite free of toothache. Saved a large tub full of rain water intend to have a washing on Monday, washed all the children's heads. The Tam O Shanter abreast of us 8 o'clock, ship on her course and a good breeze.

Sunday, 27th September

All well, the wind changed ahead through the night and is now right ahead. The ship has made little progress for the last five days. Public worship as usual. The schooner Naiad close by us, 8 o'clock wind still ahead. John said his questions etc. as usual.

Monday, 28th September

Fine morning, all well; head wind, supposed to be losing rather than gaining on account of the strong currents against us, the weather unusually cool to be so near the line.

Tuesday, 29th September

All well, beautiful morning, wind changed favourably. Never saw the children look better, the twins so lively and healthy. Susan is much stouter and Tibbie tho not stout has such a nice healthy colour, everyone remarks the change on Colin he is much stouter has more colour and a most faithful appetite, the warm climate seems to agree with them all. We have very nice hot rolls every morning for breakfast and the children get the same for their tea, for supper they enjoy them very much.

Wednesday, 30th September

All well, head wind. A niece of my Skye maid very ill, threatened with water in the head, she was sickly when she came on board, she is about [30][3] years old. Forgot to say got a good many things washed on Monday, today one of my domestics is ironing them. A long time on deck with the children.

Thursday, 1st October

All well, beautiful morning, wind ahead. Macquarries's child rather better. Colin's straw hat thrown overboard by Alistair Macdonald, very angry about it, gave him the one I brought in Greenock, the Macdonalds very much spoiled by both father and mother. Capt. Gray and J.B.S. have some hot arguments, she shews a great deal of temper occasionally. I sit between them and never let on I hear them, she says very rude things sometimes.

Friday, 2nd October

Beautiful morning, wind ahead. My little darling Tibbie is very unwell today, she has a bowel complaint, is very feverish, scarcely raised her head all day, her gums are inflamed, her eye teeth must be the cause of her illness, the Dr. has ordered a warm bath for her and a dose of Calomel in the morning with Senna leaves to work it off.

Saturday, 3rd October

Fine morning, wind ahead. Poor little Tibbie still very unwell, medicine operated well, Capt. C very anxious about her, I saw her so ill at Portobello that I hope for the best, her appetite is quite gone, got arrowroot from the Dr. made it thin for a drink; 6 o'clock Tibbie is lighter this evening, she is playing with my work-box. The Macquarrie child better.

Sunday, 4th October

Fine morning, ship keeping her course better. Tibbie still far from well but rather better. Dr. scarified her gums, I hope this may relieve, the fever has left her almost entirely but she is very weak and reduced, she took a little sago and arrowroot today, she sleeps very well at night, seems to have no pain, a little of the bowel complaint still continues but not so much as to account for her being so weakened and reduced, her hair cut as close as possible, does not vomit.

Monday, 5th October

Fine Morning. Tibbie rather better, Dr. hopes she has got the worst over. Capt. Gray takes such an interest in her, got the cook to make a sweet cake for her and told the Dr. and her father anything in the ship was at her service; she gets a little wine in her sago or arrowroot, she takes but little at a time and takes it often. The ship made considerable progress since yesterday. Capt. Gray expects to cross the line tomorrow.

Tuesday, 6th October

The Macquarrie child has just expired, her complaint general debility and latterly water in the head. Tibbie still continuing better, I trust she may continue. The body of the Macquarrie child committed to the deep, Capt. Gray read prayers over it. Crossed the line at 2 o'clock. Passed the schooner Naiad which we had not seen for several days. Ship going at a good rate. Discovered a baker from Paisley stealing soap in the hold, he is confined to the poop.

Wednesday, 7th October

Ship made good progress last night. My little darling not quite so well today. I begin to feel very anxious, her father is very desponding, God grant his fears not be realised, she has no pain but continues very weak and reduced, her appetite gone again. Dr Campbell unremitting in his attention to her, a great comfort she has everything she could have on shore except milk which she would not be allowed to take in her present state.

Thursday, 8th October

Fine morning, ship making great progress. Tibbie much the same. John and Louisa not well, took no breakfast, suspect John has put his stomach wrong by going down to the hold with Capt. Gray's brother (who has charge of everything out of the provisions) and eating a quantity of raisins and sugar. Louisa was found in the steerage yesterday and confessed she had been eating raisins and flour scones there; a [doze] of medicine will put both to rights. Lat. 4-55 S. Long. 27-14 W.

Friday, 9th October

Long 28-58 Lat. 6-38 S. Fine morning, John and Louisa quite well. My little darling worse, Dr. dreads conjection of the brain. At 12 o'clock directly under the sun. Poor little Tibbie's head shaven and blistered tonight.

Saturday, 10th October

Fine morning, ship made great progress. Isabella slept well, the blister did not seem to pain her, I understand it never does in a warm climate, it rose very well. Dr. thinks her much better, her eye has quite its natural look which it had not yesterday, she is livelier than she has been for some days, took some chicken soup for her dinner and chewed the bone of a fowl. Capt. Gray nursed her for a long time, she allowed him to look into her mouth when he discovered she had cut a tooth, she has very little fever and her pulse is generally from 86 to 96. No chance of calling at Rio Janeiro. Lat. 9-1 S. Long. 30-36.

Sunday, 11th October

Fine morning, ship continues to make good progress. My little pet continues rather better but dreadfully reduced and very weak; she took chicken soup and picked a small bone, Dr. says her illness proceeds entirely from cutting her eye teeth that on shore she would perhaps suffer more, the climate here is so much in her favour. Lat. 11-50 S. Long. 31-43 W.

Monday, 12th October

Dear little Isabella much worse, I can see the Dr. has little hope of her. I never despaired of her until today. I trust I may be strengthened to bear this severe trial which I fear awaits me. Capt. Gray came into my cabin to see her; ill and weak as my little darling was she stretched out her hands to him, her nursed her for a long time, she has a little bowel complaint, what she passes very green and bilious. Fine morning, strong breeze. Spoke a Brig from Rio Janeiro to Trieste. Capt. Gray boarded her and we all wrote letters he refused to take them as he would be obliged to ride quarantine 14 days if he carried them. No observation.

Tuesday, 13th October

Isabella still the same, continues free from pain, sleeps a great deal, the pupil of her eye contracts so naturally Dr. does not think her head affected, her evacuations not frequent but very green and bilious, think her digestive organs so weakened they do not digest her food, her appetite quite gone but drinks a great deal, takes arrowroot for a drink as thick as she can [...] (beautiful morning) drinks it with a very little white wine in it, pulse about 90, skin quite cool. A son of Frazer the smiths ill of the jaundice. Lat. 16-39 S. Long. 32-9 W.

Wednesday, 14th October

Isabella much the same, her pulse rather stronger, still continues to drink the arrowroot; her father deeply distressed, gentleman very considerate in keeping the deck quiet above our cabin, Dr. prevented the piper playing in the evening. Capt. Gray told the Dr. that in the case of my little darling recovering he would keep 8 or 9 fowls for her own use. I never can forget his consideration and kindness, she was such a dear engaging pet, she was a pet of everyone's, when thirsty her cry is a "drink of water" Mrs Macdonald is most attentive comes in even at night to see how she is Capt. C. has gone to sleep in the boys' cabin and Tibbie sleeps with me, with one of the servants night about on a mattress beside us, it is now McMillan; tapers are of use by keeping the drink in a tin for five minutes over the lamp makes it quite warm. Smith's son better. A woman delivered of a daughter today, both doing well. The man that had the small-pox allowed to come on deck for the first time, his bedding thrown overboard and his clothes towed after the ship for several days. Lat. 18-44 S. Long 32-5 W.

Thursday, 15th October

Isabella rather better, her pulse a little stronger, still very little hope of her recovery, still drinking a good deal, gets thin chicken soup occasionally; for a change she did not sleep well last night but did not seem to have any pain. Dear little lamb she likes to much have me beside her in bed, even during the day she gives me her little hand to hold or sometimes puts it across my neck; she does not vomit, altho she does not eat she takes a good deal of nourishment in drinks, nothing seems to put her bowels to right, she still passes very green stuff but has no stool oftener than twice in the 24 hours. Beautiful morning, ship going at a great rate at 12 o'clock. Lat.20-8 no observation for Long. A cry of land turns out to be Trinidad, an uninhabited island in Lat. 20-20 S. Long. 29 W. seen at the very time Capt. Gray expected which is very gratifying as it shews how very correct he is in his calculations. It seems to be a complete mass of broken rocks, puts me in mind of a large fortification.

Friday 16th October 1840

Isabella seems very uneasy and cross today, she wanted out to the cuy she was quieter there for awhile, towards evening she became easier, still I cannot say she is any better, she will not suffer anyone to look at her gums but often works with her mouth as if she has pain in them. The schooner Naiad abreast of us today again. Beautiful day. Lat. 21-46 Long. 27-42 W.

Saturday, 17th October

Isabella much easier than yesterday, but I think weaker, she sleeps a good deal. She vomited while Capt. Gray was nursing her and would not leave him to get shifted; he got her clean night gown and dried and shifted her, it was curious sight to see the rough sailor handling her as well and gently as I could do. ½ past 2 o'clock spoke the Naiad. Capt. Gray wanted a particular chart from him which the Capt. had not; if she calls to the Cape is to report us. Fine day, met another schooner, but did not speak her. Lat. 22-45 S. Long. 26-6 W.

Sunday, 18th October

Isabella much the same, I think her rather livelier, she vomited a great quantity of green bilious stuff, Dr. ordered her a dose of calomel and senna leaves after it, her stools are still greenish. Today when I was at dinner she asked for a bone of fowl she seemed to like working at it in her mouth, if she took any of the meat off she spat it out. Since Monday I have not left her for a moment. Capt. C brings my meals from the [...], do not feel at all well today, Dr insisted on my going on deck this evening. Mrs Macdonald sat with my little lamb;

while I was out found myself so weak could not walk for any time. Tibbie still drinks arrowroot or rusks made as smooth as gruel; her father pounds them to powder in the mortar of the medicine chest; her pulse seldom exceeds 90 and her skin not feverish, she is more restless at night than at first. Beautiful day fair wind but little of it. We are now out of the tropics. Naiad in company. Lat. 23-26. Long. 25-1.

Monday, 19th October

Poor Isabella much weaker, she passed a very uncomfortable night, she vomited a good deal and the medicine operated what she passed at first was green; as usual towards morning she had one or two stools which the doctor thought much more natural; she drinks a great deal today and vomits occasionally. How often we think and speak of what you would feel if you saw your little pet so reduced and changed in appearance. I think if I had her on shore I would not be half so distressed, altho she has every comfort here she could have anywhere. A beautiful day, the little wind that is not quite so favourable. Lat. 24-15 S, Long. 23-24 W.

Tuesday, 20th October

Isabella thought a little better but very weak; the last stool she had Dr. said was quite natural in consistence and colour. I cannot help having slight hopes of her still. 3 o'clock my little darling not so well, the vomiting has begun again, all she drinks seems to turn to bile in her stomach, she has a great thirst, I think she asks for the drink from an idea it will take away the uneasiness she feels, her pulse about 90 today but feeble, a fowl was boiled down to make jelly for her, this will shew you that nothing that is thought good for her is spared upon her. Capt. C and I think that Dr. Campbell assisted by Dr. Sutherland (with whom she was a great pet) have done everything for her that could be done, yet what would I have given that Chrichton could have seen her. Beautiful day complaining of too little wind, only came 20 miles the last 24 hours. Lat. 24-33 S. Long. 23-18 W.

Wednesday, 21st October

My dear little lamb very weak today, she has not strength to speak, she tried to say Mamma but could only articulate "Mum Mum", her bowels seem quite natural, the vomiting still torments her occasionally but not as much as yesterday, she is quite sensible, seems free of all pain for which I am very thankful; she cannot last long in the weak state she is in, her father feels the trial of parting with her as much as I can do, she became so very engaging. One of the emigrants knocked down by a boom falling on his head, it cut him but not severely. Fine morning fair wind and all sails set, in the evening a squall rose, caused all the sails to be taken in. Lat. 25-40 S. Long. 26-48 W.

Thursday, 22nd October

Dear little Isabella alive and that is all; she was taken very ill last night with violent pain, we thought in her bowels. Capt. C put the Dr. up, he gave her an injection which gave her immediate relief, he said the pain was caused by flatulence, she slept soundly till near morning, her hands have a slight convulsive movement today, she is laying quite quiet seemingly in a state of torpor; twice I thought she knew me, her eyes certainly followed me, her breathing quite regular, she still swallows a teaspoonful of drink at a time. This is a very wet, cold, windy day.

Friday, 23 October

My dear little lamb lingered in the same state all night, she expired this morning at 8 o'clock; she resigned her breath as quietly as if she were going to sleep without the slightest struggle. What would I give to be on shore with her dear little body, the idea of committing it to the deep distresses me very much, she has made a happy change from the cares and miseries of this world, it is hard to say what misfortunes may await us from which she has escaped. The Doctors did not seem to understand what her complaint was, both agreed it had been brought about by teething and that she would have had the same on shore. She will make me a sad blank for a long time 12 o'clock [...] My little darling's body has just been committed to the deep. Capt. C tells me Capt. Gray was so much affected, he could scarcely read the funeral service; he made such a work about her, she was very fond of him, could hold his face

between her little hands and kiss him. John seems to feel her death a good deal, the others did not mind it. Her father feels this sad bereavement very much.

Saturday, 24th October

Fine morning, dry and little wind not favourable. Often speaking of your distress and my mother's when you hear and sad blank in our family, as I have scarcely been out bed today have nothing to remark. Louisa's stomach out of order for two day, quite well today. Lat. 30-23 S. Long. 25-48 W

Sunday, 25th October

Lat. 31-25 S. Long. 19-14 W. Fine morning, wind the same as yesterday went into the cuddy for the first time for a fortnight to attend divine worship and went on deck afterwards; find myself much the better of fresh air; day so cold, put on my tartan cloak; have got a blanket put on each of the beds, put on my flannel petticoat this morning. Boys have got their old tartan surtouts on, girls have got their flannel petticoats. Susan missing her dear little sister very much, searched the bed for her, was like to break my heart hearing her calling "where's poor Tibbie?" Wind more favourable, ship going 7 knots an hour. Attended the meals in the cuddy for the first time.

Monday, 26th October

Soft morning, all well. Occupied in getting up the luggage and changing the dirty for clean clothing, very glad to get my saxony gown out of the hold and worsted stockings. Weather very cold. Mary Cameron in great distress at getting a black silk gown and red merino stained by the sea; rejoicing mine being so secure. Mrs. Macdonald, who thinks herself wiser than any other body would not be convinced in Greenock of the necessity of getting a tin box for her silks, should not be surprised if she suffered for it. The needles I am using in my workbox getting rusty.

Tuesday, 27th October

Fine morning, weather getting colder, wind not quite for us but ship keeping her course. Some of the gentlemen amusing themselves shooting at birds of which we saw a number. An addition made to our number by the birth of a daughter to MacLachlan from Portobello, it is the poor woman's first child, both doing well. Drimintoran Macfarlane (who is very stout) and Dr. Sutherland climbed up the main mast, Mr Macdonald went up near the main top, the other two did not venture nearly so far; the sailors got a hint and lashed them all fast to the mast until they agreed to pay a fine. Mrs Macdonald instead of being proud of her husband's dexterity made such an attack on her husband at tea for making such a fool of himself that astonished the gentlemen, not that she was violent as so very sarcastic, they admired how good-naturedly he took it. Capt. Gray spoke to Capt. C afterwards of her temper, I was not there. Lat. 32-50 S. Long. 12-53 W.

Wednesday, 28th October

Very cold morning, good breeze of wind but not quite so favourable as we could wish. A Paisley woman delivered of a daughter, the women do not seem to suffer as much as at home. Lat. 33-9 S. Long 9-59 W.

Thursday, 29th October

Fine this morning but quite calm, the gentlemen firing at birds etc. Capt. Gray killed an albatross with a hook and line a bird with a body about the size of a goose, between the tips of the wings it measured 9½ feet. Row between the mate and one of his sailors, the sailor put in irons. Mrs. Macdonald discharged one of her servants for insolence, she is sister to my Mary Cameron, they are a forward, pert set. My maid has been quite spoiled, she has been tolerably obedient and submissive since she and I had a row soon after coming on board; I will not keep her after her six months are out. My Skye maid has improved very much, she is so careful and interested in the children.

Friday, 30th October

Fine morning, all well, fair wind, ship going 8 or 9 knots an hour. The sailor in irons attempted another row but failed in it. 8 o'clock, a stern sail torn, wind becoming a gale, a good many sails taken down, always frightened at the sound the sailors make particularly when blowing hard. Susan still missing her sister, said today "poor little Tibbie [alway] to Balla"...odd how long she recollects you, she speaks a great deal and very plain, her dear little sister did the same.

Saturday, 31st October

Gale continued all night, did not sleep, the vessel rolling and pitching so much, every light thing in the cabin rolling about; a portmanteau in which I had a bottle of ginger wine and a bottle of raspberry vinegar I got from Capt. Gray rolled about so much that the bottle broke and I lost the contents, fortunately nothing in the portmanteau suffered. While the children were at dinner all their soup plates rolled to one end of the table, they got great praise for saving the plates and their contents by their exertions. How Colin's would have gone had I not been beside him. Mr Macdonald always presides at the young people's dinner. We have only three sails up and two of them reefed. 2 o'clock wind changed against us. 8 o'clock wind more favourable, still blowing very hard, ship keeping her course. Children amusing themselves wonderfully well confined to the cabin all day, altho we are still 400 miles west of the cape they call this a Cape gale; a much heavier swell in the Sth. Atlantic than north of the line. Lat. 35-44. Long. 2-25.

Sunday, 1st November

Stormy but all well. Alarmed last night by a call for Capt. Gray who with his usual dexterity was immediately on deck; it seems a heavy squall came on which laid the ship over till they took in most of the sails; it relieved one very much to hear Capt. Gray return to his cabin whistling. A dreadful smash at breakfast all the cups and saucers and plates on one side of the table took a rapid journey to the other and several were broken and Capt. Gray nearly scalded by the quantity of hot coffee that came upon him; three of the gents followed their cups till the side of the cabin brought them up together; it was a very laughable scare particularly for me who sit so snug. Gale did not abate till evening, no public worship today, children and I passed most of the day sitting in bed telling stories on part of the Bible to the 3 big ones. Capt. C took a good sleep in the boy's cabin. We got very little rest last night. Lat. 25-12. Long. 43 W.

Monday, 2nd November

Passed a comfortable night, a fine morning, wind not favourable. Mr Macdonald had a long conversation with the culprit in irons, advised him to ask the Capt.'s forgiveness, said he was told it would be in vain to do so, said he could read but had no Bible, would be very glad to read one if he had it. Mr Macdonald gave him one and a prayer book; poor wretch he is to be pitied, he is brought off the poop to the cuddy every night, it is melancholy to hear his irons clanking every movement he gives. I am busy mending Capt.C's stocking in the heel; have a washing of the children's things today. The mate saved rain water for us on Saturday on the condition of washing a few shirts for himself. Lat. 35-10. Long. 28 East

Tuesday, 3rd November

Fine morning wind ahead, all well; alleged that my better half and Dr Campbell are the greatest gamblers when the wind does not answer. The prisoner has been released I am glad to say. Colin is making progress at school as the lessons are given in my cabin I always hear how they are coming on. Catherine has a very good method with young children. Louisa has commenced hemming her papa's coloured neck-cloths, she is nearly as far with her lessons as Colin. Lat. 34-40.

Wednesday, 4th November

Little wind and not favourable, fine bright day, all say this weather is very unusual so near the Cape. Forgot to mention the first pig killed Saturday last, children had a roast of it on Sunday with which they were delighted, no one more than Susan, it was as delicate as lamb,

so different from the pork on shore. The children were tiring of preserved meat which they were getting from some time. We are to have a sheep and pig killed every week, the pigs are very small; we have good soup every day and the children the same and fresh meat every day preserved beef; our potatoes are done , except a few we get when there is any fish on the table; we have a curious dish for breakfast once a week, a fish pudding, the day we have that we get no rolls. Lat. 36-6. Long. 2-29.

Thursday, 5th November

Fine morning, all well, quite a calm. A barque in sight going the same course with us, the first we have seen for many days. Capt. Gray always at Mrs Macdonald and I to go on deck, I sometimes walk when I get the support of my husband's arm. Nothing to remark. Lat. 36-41 Long. 3-9.

Friday, 6th November

Beautiful morning, all well, a calm all night. 8 a.m. light breeze not quite favourable, ship is making a little way on her course, ship we saw yesterday making for us but not so near as to speak her. You would scarcely believe how much Susan speaks of her dear little sister, always asking where she is, to me it is heart-rending to hear her. Capt. C, has brought from Capt. Gray a wooden water pail, with a lid on it of good size. Ee manage to save a little of our allowance of water every day by keeping it in the pail we have as much at the end of the week as washes a few things, so that tho I did not get my washing at Rio Janeiro we can keep ourselves quite clean, till the end of the voyage. Louisa since the cold weather began wears her dark silk with a pinafore and the nainsock Sunday. The boys in their old surtouts.

Saturday, 7th November

Beautiful morning, light breeze for us. Mrs Macdonald and I went down to steerage and women and girls berths for the first time. Quite delighted with the cleanliness of them. Capt. Gray takes a great deal of trouble in obliging the emigrants to keep their places in order, he drives them to deck in good weather with a small cane calling "[...]" the only Gaelic word he can say. The ship in company for two days is the Isabella Stewart from London to Sydney out 35 days. The wind is now fair all sails set, we have such a great many large whales today some of them quite close to the ship; saw also the little Blenheim today in the steerage, firm, stout, thriving babies none of the mothers ever had a [...].

Sunday, 8th November

Beautiful morning, all well, fair wind and all sails set. Isabella Stewart is behind us. Public worship as usual. 6 o'clock wind changed against us. Heard John his questions, hymn, and as usual told him the story of Jacob and his brother as reward for saying them well. Lat. 38-19. Long. 7

Monday, 9th November

Beautiful morning, all well, a calm. Capt. C as usual desponding at the long voyage we are likely to have. Have got Cook's Travels from Dr Sutherland, very much interested in his account of New Zealand, as I can depend on his having written the truth.

Tuesday, 10th November

Fine morning after a wet night, the ship keeping her course and going 6 knots an hour. Walked on deck for an hour and ten minutes with Capt. C's arm. Susan running from one end of the poop to the other humouring the motion of the vessel much better than I can. John is quite a sailor, knows the name of every rope and stick on board; the other day his father went on deck and was horror-struck to see him near the top of the main mast he was afraid to scold him till he got on deck.

Wednesday, 11th November

Fine morning, all well, and continuing to go at a great rate. Never saw such coarse, rude boys as the Macdonalds you would never suppose them to be a gentleman's children. Catherine has been a good deal spoiled, she has been taught to consider herself very well informed from

never being in any society and a difficulty she has in expressing herself from a wish to use dictionary words, she is very prosy and tiresome.

Thursday, 12th November

Fine morning, ship going at a tremendous rate, 9 miles an hour all night rather too high a wind to my taste. Capt. Gray calls it a glorious breeze. 12 o'clock off the Cape of Good Hope farther south than 300 miles. The gentlemen form two card parties every night in the cuddy, as I have more light to read or write in my cabin I always go there at 8 o'clock. Mrs. Macdonald comes to me with a bit of biscuit and cheese and a glass of porter or ale; if I do not pick up it will not be for want of good things, I am now as strong as ever again. Mr. Macdonald never tastes spirits and instead of the brandy and water the others take at meals he divides a bottle of malt between himself, his wife and I; the water for drinking is all filtered and most excellent, I never would desire to take better, the Thames water always improves after a while, during the hot weather it was rather warm, now it is quite cold. I do not feel so comfortable tonight as it has the appearance of being rather stormy. Lat. 39-45. Long. 18-33.

Friday, 13th November

Rather a stormy morning but much more moderate than it was during the night. The mate put under arrest last night for insolence to the Capt. when found fault with for not taking in the mainsail during the heavy squall that nearly tore it to pieces. I was very much alarmed that something was wrong about the ship when I heard the noise on deck. Capt. C complains today that I do not allow him to sleep when it blows hard. Got a severe fall in my cabin today, fell against the scritoire and struck my hip-bone to the edge, so painful could not sleep on that side. Wonderful how the children escape. Steward taken ill today. Mr. Macfarlane absent from breakfast for the first time, made his appearance at dinner and got so ill had to leave the table; he is a great, vulgar, harmless beast of a man. The breeze moderate and continuing favourable. Lat. 39-21. Long. 22-56.

Saturday, 14th November

Lat. 39-38. Long. 26-8. Fine morning, moderate breeze in our favour, all well except the steward who is still confined. The mate restored to his duty. Busy giving a good cleaning out to my cabin. The weather warmer than last week, was several times last week obliged to get a bottle of hot water for my feet. Capt. C walks a great deal on deck sometimes for hours at a time, he enjoys excellent health.

Sunday, 15th November

Beautiful morning. Louisa coughed a good deal last night; a good many complaining of cold. Dr Campbell has a [...] on. Ship going 8 miles an hour. Public worship as usual. Steward still confined, his complaint is erysipelas in his arm, he is getting better. 8 o'clock breeze still continuing. Heard John his questions etc. as usual and read memoirs of Mr. Vense, author of the whole duty of man, got it from J.B.S. Lat. 40-2 Long: 29-10.

Monday, 16th November

Fine morning. Louisa coughing much less; bathed her legs last night in hot salt water and gave her a warm drink in bed which has done her much good. The steward at his duty again. The breeze continued all night and the ship has made great progress. 11 o'clock a very large ship in sight. 2 o'clock spoke her, she is the Vernon from London to Calcutta, left 17th Sept. she has a steam engine and seemed about 1000 tons, she is a splendid looking ship, saw 8 or 9 ladies on board so gaily dressed; when they left London the Egyptian Question had created a sensation likely to end in a rupture with France; the Capt. promised to report us from Calcutta overland. All day on deck, much warmer. Lat. 40-25. Long. 33-12.

Tuesday, 17th November

Stormy morning, sea running very high, ship going at a great rate can carry very few sails. Capt. Gray still calls it a glorious breeze. Another added to our number by the birth of a daughter to a man from [Risley]. Mother and child doing well, this is the 5th birth on board

all doing well. 8 o'clock the gale increasing shockingly, the Capt. anticipates a stormy night, does not intend going to bed for some time. I expect a very sleepless, uneasy night. John, on my asking him about the wind was forsooth amused at my being frightened and told me that the sailors thought nothing of this breeze. Lat. 40-23. Long. 37-29.

Wednesday, 18th November

Stormy morning. Louisa's cough quite gone. The night was very stormy I could not sleep I was so frightened; I often thought when the vessel went to the one side she would never rise again; a great deal of vivid lightning; the children slept quite soundly, even if I were not alarmed it would be impossible to sleep the sailors made such a noise shortening sail etc. add to that the tremendous noise of the rushing of water at the stern and the noise of the wind. The ship has been going at the rate of 8 or 9 miles an hr. To my great delight the gale is lessening. 8 o'clock fine evening with a light breeze in our favour. Capt. Gray told Capt. C today that he knew all Mr Macdonald's history, that he had failed for £10,000 and of his intemperate habits. Mr Macdonald told Capt. C that he has hopes of getting a situation from the Company as he had letters from some of the Directors to Col. Wakefield; he says it will be useless for him to go to his land as he has no subject to stock it or improve it. (Of course we are very doubtful however time will soon shew). His wife and daughter are to keep school he says in Port Nicholson. Catherine is fit to teach none but mere beginners, what her mother means to teach I cannot fancy. I forgot to mention that we nearly lost one mate last night the vessel gave such a tremendous lurch to one side he was thrown with so much force that he went completely out of her into the boat at the side, if he had fallen a little further up or lower down he must have gone overboard. Mr Macfarlane absent again today. I hear his illness is occasioned by his being quite drunk in his cabin last night; he must have got it from the steward or have a private store, yet he is a great protegee of J.B.S., he pays her great deference. From this date back to the 1st of October has been written from the [...] within the last week, the principal events copied from Mr Macdonald's journal, the rest supplied by my own memory.

Thursday, 19th November

Fine morning with a light breeze in our favour. Had such a comfortable night's rest last night, went on deck and had a good walk, air very chill. Children all running so healthy, we have from 50 to 60 children on board under fourteen; there is a great change for the better in the appearance of most of them. Read a good deal while Wilson's Tales of the Boarder, they are very stupid. Still mending stockings in the heel, work gets on slowly on board ship. At noon out lat. was 40-35. Long 44-34 East. Breeze freshening, ship going about 8 knots an hour, this is what I call a comfortable breeze. I forgot to mention that when a sheep is killed my Skye maid is employed to make the haggis, and very good she makes it.

Friday, 20th November

A wet morning with a very stormy breeze in our favour. Ship going from 8 to 9 knots an hour, so high a wind during the night that several sails had to be taken in. 10 o'clock day cleared up; just finished patching John's surtout. Breeze rather increasing at noon, our lat. was 40-28 S. Long. 40-8 E. Had a black pudding for breakfast today and some small ones of pigs blood garnished with fried pork; a strange dish you will say, however it seemed to very much relished; one of our pigs met with a strange death yesterday it was choked in a small cask of yeast the cook had prepared for baking bread. Catherine confined to her cabin for some days from a chilblain bursting on one of her toes, she has been obliged to poultice it. The woman who was confined the other day very ill, threatened with inflammation of the womb. Capt. Gray has hopes of being in New Zealand by Christmas Day. 6 o'clock blowing a strong gale, Capt. Gray busy making the ship what he calls snug for the night. I anticipate a sleepless, night, Capt. Gray advising me if I ever came to sea again to take a cot in preference to a berth; he sleeps in one himself. Mr. Macfarlane obliged to go to bed before dinner again, his mind they say is not quite right. Dr Campbell says it is a slight attack of [delerium] tremens; a long discussion about him in the cuddy, no one spoke more of drinking than Mr. Macdonald, he has little idea his own character is so well known, we are often much amused to hear him talking with such coolness of drunkenness to hear him you would think he had

never exceeded in his life. Capt. Gray told Capt. C he heard Mrs. Macdonald's temper was the cause of her husband's drinking.

Saturday, 21st November

A strong breeze in our favour last night, was very stormy tho not much afraid: I could not sleep neither could Capt. C from the noise. The children fortunately are never disturbed. We have had a good run since yesterday, upwards of 200 miles, if I had my wish I would prefer quieter sailing tho not quite so fast. The woman who was ill is much better today. The children and I have been all day in our cabin. I have been time about at the stockings and reading the Border tales. The weather very cold, Capt. Gray is in great glee at our getting on so fast. At noon we were lat. 40-30. Long. 53-27 East. Capt. Gray has very kindly made out a note from his own log book for me of the lat. and long. for each day during the time I gave up my journal. Mr. Macdonald does not understand lat. or long. and does not put it down in his journal; now you will be able to trace our progress every day on the way. 6 o'clock wind increasing, in daylight I am quite ashamed of the nervous fears I have at night. I sometimes fancy that the man at the helm is falling asleep and not steering, then that we have too much sail up and a squall will lay her on her beam ends, next I begin to smell fire. Every vessel I have ever heard of lost at sea comes to my recollection. I was not in this state when I came first away, my mind I know is weakened, but thank God my bodily health is now quite good. 8 o'clock busy looking out clean things for the children and giving them a Saturday washing. Wind has fallen considerably. Capt. Gray very angry at my Skye woman for refusing to make haggis on Sunday. I did not interfere. A great quantity of sea weed passed the ship, Capt. says it has come from Desolation Island. Lat. [...]

Sunday, 22nd November

Desolation Island. Passed a very comfortable night. Wind still fair and blowing a stiff breeze, threatening rain and altogether a very cold, comfortless day; passed most of the day in my own cabin; John learnt his questions etc very well. Had public worship as usual. A very large whale seen quite close to the ship. Catherine has come to the cuddy for the first time for several days. 2 o'clock so cloudy could not take an observation; just been superintending the children at dinner and a capital one they had; pea soup capital roast pork and rice and baked plum pudding, I fear they will miss the good fare they have when they get on shore. Colin is the only one of mine that take the preserved milk with his porridge he likes it very much. Immense numbers of birds about the ship.

Monday, 23rd November

We have today what I call a very comfortable breeze sending us on from 6 to 7 knots an hour; so cloudy could not take an observation. Miserable Macfarlane quite deranged, he took Capt. Gray to his cabin and begged of him to take charge of his land orders and some other papers as he knew they were to be stolen from him. Capt. Gray got Capt. C to put his seal upon them and made him witness the sealing of them; unfortunate wretch he is to be pitied altho he has brought it on himself, he did not come to dinner. I forgot to mention it was only last week that Little John's biscuit and gingerbread were done. I have a few rusks still. Susan would not look at them while the ginger-bread lasted, she is now very glad to take them. You could be amused if you heard how J.B.S. wishes to shew off occasionally last night she said she was so astonished when she first came to the Highlands at the barley bread and the quantity of eatables put down to breakfast, in her country (of course England) nothing was put down but toast, butter and tea, altho they had plenty of eggs they never thought of having them for breakfast. I asked how they used them, she said puddings for dinner. I asked if she never saw a boiled egg till she came to the Highlands, she said her father and mother occasionally took one.

Tuesday, 24th November

A light breeze not quite so favourable as we could wish. Very cold, had not courage to go on deck. Capt. C has had his usual walk. Macfarlane very ill today, Dr. has taken him in hand; he awoke the Capt. out of a sound sleep very early this morning to complain to him that all the passengers were leagued against him, that John Cameron had stolen his shoes and that Dr

Campbell his shirts and a great deal more nonsense. At noon we were at lat. 40-4. Long. 64-17 E.

Wednesday, 25th November

Beautiful morning, much warmer than usual. Very little wind but favourable. Superintended a complete cleaning of my cabin, sewed Louisa's bonnet for the 20th time, had a long walk on deck. J.B.S. and I had a hot argument, at least it was warm on her side, about Dr Johnston's tour through the Highlands; I got Dr Campbell to join me, she said Dr Johnston was quite correct in all he said of the Highlands, we said he was not, and gave as our instance of it what he says about the want of wood; she was very ill pleased at me for saying she could not judge from her own observation as she had only seen one poor small corner of the country, she certainly improves less on intimate acquaintance than any person I ever met with, she has such a disagreeable temper, and like many weak people such an opinion of herself. Saw a shoal of about 20 small whales called the Bottle Nosed whales, some of them came close under my cabin window, they average from 12 to 15 ft in length. Macfarlane much better today. Capt. Gray is determined to keep everything in the drinking way out of his reach. Dr. Campbell told me today he thought he was athirst and that it was a great effect on on his mind, he is always worse at night and cannot bear to be in the dark. 6 o'clock breeze freshening sending us along 4 knots an hour; at sea 13 weeks today and three calendar months. So cloudy could make no observation.

Thursday, 26th November

A fine morning with a strong breeze in our favour, sending the ship along at a great rate. We had a good breeze all night. Poor Macfarlane very ill, his head has been shaved and blistered; he has taken umbrage at me and was telling Capt. Gray the most unaccountable things of me, he says my John has been mocking him all day, this of course, is all nonsense. Luckily he stands in great awe of the Capt. I was a good while on deck, Dr. Campbell and I were discussing our New Zealand prospects. We expected to pass in sight of 2 islands called St. Paul's and Amsterdam. If the weather permitted Capt. Gray intended to send a boat's crew to fish; immense quantities of firm fish are got close to them. The wind we have at present has sent us to far south that they will not even see them, this is rather a disappointment. At noon we were in Lat. 40-55. Long. 70-23 E.

Friday, 27th November

Blowing rather hard in our favour with a heavy swell; a very strong wind during the night, ship going at a great rate. At 3 o'clock this morning the wind changed so suddenly from one side of the vessel to the other that she was in danger of being taken aback the man at the helm was thrown completely over the wheel. Capt. Gray was on deck immediately to save his masts (it was blowing strong and a good deal of sail up) he put the the ship as quickly as possible round to the wind, until they shifted the sails. I was very much frightened at the extraordinary rolling of the vessel and the noise on deck. Mr. Macfarlane is quieter today but still far from the right, he has not made his appearance in the cuddy. I did not venture on deck the wind was so high. I was reading during the forenoon Colbourne's Magazine extracts in it from Mrs Trollope's amusing novel the "Widow Married". At noon we were in Lat. 41-9. Long. 75 E. 6 o'clock glad to hear from Capt. Gray that the glass is rising; a strong favourable breeze still continuing.

Saturday, 28th November

A fine morning. wind not so strong but favourable. Sea much smoother, ship making good progress. Got a fall in my cabin which hurt me a good deal; I had Susan on my knee, saving her made my fall worse. Sat on deck a good while, this is the clearest day we have had for some time. Wind very sharp and cold especially in the morning and evening. A capital sheep killed last night, had no idea such fat mutton could be had on board ship. Discovered today that Susan is cutting the last of her teeth, she is in perfect health but complains of a sore mouth. At noon we were in Lat. 44-3 S. Long. 70-10 E. In 16 days we have run 2,800 miles from the Cape, this will show you what strong favourable winds we have had. Macfarlane made his appearance after dinner in the cuddy, he seemed quite and more collected, his eye

had a rather restless look I did not like, he came from one end of the cabin to the other and sat close to me which I did not altogether like. I forgot to mention a sensation John caused Thursday night about 9 p.m. I sent Mary to bring him to bed, as she was passing through the cuddy John came to into my cabin without being observed by her or anyone; Mary of course could not find him anywhere, she then alarmed his father, the Capt. and all the gents searched every corner of the ship, at last they were almost sure he had gone overboard and were so sure of his not being in my cabin that they would not look in as they knew it would alarm me so much. I thought they had all gone crazy on hearing the cry from one to another that John Campbell was found when he was seen coming out of my cabin to go to bed; he and I were quite unconscious of the hubbub about him. Capt. C was some time before he recovered from his fright.

Sunday, 29th November

A gloomy morning and cold, a strong favourable breeze ship going at a great rate. Public worship as usual; put their best tartan surtouts on the boys, very smart they looked. Alexander and Campbell MacDonald have had a fight; their father would not allow them to get any dinner, this is a dreadful punishment as this is a pudding day and they dislike porridge so much, they take very little breakfast; what I consider much greater faults are often overlooked. Mr. Macfarlane continues better, he still has some symptoms I do not like, he is so restless, never sits in one place five minutes. All beginning to talk now a great deal about our arrival, our destination and discussing our future plans. Capt. C bought from Capt. Gray two larger stone butter jars for 4/-each, we have had the best salt butter I ever tasted on board. At noon we were in Lat. 41-19 S. Long. 83-29 E.

Monday, 30th November

A gloomy morning, strong favourable breeze; ship rolled such a lot during the night Capt. C got no sleep; she still continues to roll very much. In my own cabin all day running children's stockings in the heel. Astonishing how quickly the time passes, there is so much sameness. So cloudy no observation could be taken today. Capt. Gray expects a hard gale tonight, the glass has fallen very low. 6 o'clock wind has increased very much, every prospect of a stormy night, sea running very high; Capt. Gray making or rather getting things snug for the night. I feel rather nervous consulting my oracle (as I call him) John Cameron very often as to his opinion of the weather, he is such a sailor that he knows everything about a ship, he is a very nice lad and has been well educated he is very fond of children. Susan calls him Shon. Macfarlane is today as ill as ever, I fear there is no hope of his recovery. Dr. Sutherland very ill with ear-ache did not rise till dinner time.

Tuesday, 1st December

Such a night as we passed, the wind was high till 12 o'clock, when it shifted a little and blew very hard indeed. I would call it a storm if I was allowed. About daylight it modified a little. Capt. C never closed an eye from the rolling of the vessel and the noise of the sea and wind. Fright made me pass a sleepless night; a cask of empty bottles on the deck was thrown down and rolled on the deck, it made a tremendous crash. One old religious man of the emigrants said he was sure we would all go to the bottom as a judgment on the Capt. for ordering a pig to be killed on Sunday. Children slept quite soundly through it all. John does not mind blow high or low. Colin does not like a hard breeze for fear the ship 'cosses'. [Lucy] does not suffer any inconvenience except when she finds difficulty in keeping her feet. Susan keeps her feet better than any of them, when it defies her to stand she sets herself sitting on the floor. The morning is still blowing stormy and a very heavy swell, the sun is bright. We were in Lat. 42-23, Long 91-59. Dr. Sutherland has made his appearance, he suffered all night from pain in his ear, Macfarlane is a little better today, he is restless as ever; the black handkerchief on his head gives him such an odd look. 6 o'clock every prospect of getting a good night's rest, a quite favourable breeze blowing, the sea has gone down very much.

Wednesday, 2nd December

Wind high but favourable, very cold showers of hail: glass continues low. A woman been very ill for some days with a falling of her womb and stoppage of her water. Dr. complaining

of her husband not attending to her. She is a low country woman, married to a Cameron, she was of dissipated habits the whole frame is relaxed, her youngest child is 18 months old. Macfarlane is rather better, he said to Capt. C he was afraid he might have done or said anything to him or I to offend us was so foolish at times he did not know what he said or did, poor wretch he is much to be pitied. Capt. Gray is most attentive to him. Dr. has not much of his recovery. Dr Sutherland has not made his appearance today he still complains of earache. Mr. Macdonald has a cold. My better half never enjoyed better health, he never has any of his old ailments, headache, heartburn or rheumatism, during the hot weather he felt a little bilious. Not one in the ship except Capt. Gray takes so much exercise. 12 o'clock blowing heavy squalls with showers of hail bitterly cold, our lat. 42-36. long. 95-15 E. J.B.S. is very courageous now, she and Capt. Gray amused me very much with an argument about the killing of the pig on a Sunday and baking hot rolls, she had a good mind not to eat them unless they were baked Saturday. Capt. G said he could not help it, there were many things on board ship they would not think of doing on shore. I am amused of Capt. C when he speaks of her says "that poor silly creature she is not worth minding."

Thursday, 3rd December

A strong favourable breeze, it is 3 weeks today since we passed the Cape, in that time we have run 3,800 miles. Capt. Gray never had such a run except once coming round Cape Horn in winter. I must confess I would rather prefer quieter sailing even if it was a little slower; the reason given for such constant high wind is our being so far south. So much motion cannot venture on deck; children contrive to run about the low deck. 6 o'clock glad to hear the glass is tending upwards, wind moderating. 8 o'clock prospect of a sound sleep tonight. This morning Colin looking out of window announced a shoal of bottle nosed whales. Lat. 42-32. Long. 100-60.

Friday, 4th December

Blowing very hard with heavy showers of rain. This has really been a very stormy week. 12 o'clock blowing a gale, one of our sails torn, some of the sails taken in. Could get no observation. I am getting so accustomed to high wind that I have got very much over my fright. Not so cold from the wind having a good deal of North. Busy reading another number of Colbourne's magazine. J.B.S. keeps entirely in her own cabin from having only one servant she is obliged to nurse a good deal: she and I are good friends but seldom meet except at meal times. She goes off to her own cabin very soon after dinner; I like to sit with the gentlemen particularly in the evening, when it blows hard it gives me the courage seeing them so unconcerned. Susan often visits Capt. Gray in his cabin, he gives her raisins; tonight she came to me in very bad humour and calling half crying "bad Capt. Gay". She had been with him and did not get any raisins; she has a very interesting gab, I never had any at her age that spoke so much or so plainly; she still speaks occasionally of her little sister, odd how long she misses her. 5 o'clock heard a tremendous fall on deck, John immediately called out that was either Mr. Macdonald or the hen-coops. Capt. Gray came convulsed with laughter to tell us it was Mr. MacDonald, he was not hurt. lucky for Capt. G the little wife did not see him laughing at her husband. Pleasant prospect for night wind increasing, glass falling, very little sail up, the little there is reefed.

Saturday, 5th December

Blowing hard still with a high sea, we had a harder gale last night than we have ever had yet. Capt. Gray is my authority for this, fortunately it was favourable; the emigrants were very much alarmed, the vessel shipped a good many seas, some of the water found its way down the hatchway which made people think she was sinking. They are like me easily alarmed; we are most uncomfortable today from the rolling of the vessel, I am obliged to sit in bed as the steadiest place a write this. Lat. 43-36. Long. 108-35. The last week has accustomed me so much to high wind that I was not frightened last night and even slept a good deal. Capt. C never can sleep when the vessel rolls. What an awful place this must be in winter, if you ever cross the seas you must leave Britain in August or September so as to be in the high southern latitude with summer weather; we never have had good weather for more than 2 or 3 days at a time; in winter there are often weeks of it. Macfarlane has been more composed for some

days, he is still far from right. J.B.S. takes a great interest in him, she says from their being (with the exception of Capt. G) the only lowlanders. In the cabin she complained to me how little trouble the gents took to amuse him etc., now you must know he never was intimate or a favourite with any of them: was it not ridiculous? to suppose that young men would give themselves trouble about a great vulgar fellow who brought on his own complaint by intemperance. Capt. Gray takes more trouble with him than I could expect. 6 o'clock a beautiful evening, wind and sea gone down, all our reefs shaken out and more sail put up.

Sunday, 6th December

A beautiful morning, very little wind, ship only going about a mile an hour, warmer than it has been for a long time. Our lat. 43-28. Long. 111-24 E. For the last 26 days we have run 4,531 miles of long. beside some degrees of latitude. Poor Macfarlane consulting Capt. Gray what he could advise him to do on arriving in New Zealand; thought himself his best plan would be to marry some decent well-behaved woman that would take care of him, he was afraid he could have no choice but to take on one of the emigrants, a great deal of laughing and joking about this after dinner today. Public worship as usual and heard John his questions etc. Have been wearing your mousseline de laine shawl for some time to keep me warm. Today so warm glad to put it off. A great change, so quiet at dinner without the sandbags or puddings as they are called. 5 o'clock breeze freshening, going 4 miles an hour, children all enjoying themselves so much on deck. Susan has a very sore thumb, a small splinter of wood ran into it close to the nail, it was not observed until it had festered under the nail. Dr. C cut it open today, she stood the operation wonderfully well and went immediately to tell Capt. G what had been done to her.

Monday, 7th December

A delightful breeze carrying us along 7 miles an hour, went up on deck and had a short walk; still working at children's stockings they will keep me busy till we arrive at our destination. Flora Macdonald not well, confined to bed with a slight bilious attack. Macfarlane has taken a melancholy turn, never speaks and only sits in the cuddy at meals; the moment he swallowed his dinner went off to his own cabin. Sinclair who reads and prays to on Sundays knew Macfarlane before, he is constantly with Macfarlane and as the latter has been reading his Bible several times we think he has taken a religious turn. J.B.S. is delighted at this I should doubt his mind being in a fit state to receive proper views of religion. 6 o'clock Susan brought into my cabin crying bitterly, complained of one of her arms and would not allow it to be touched; on stripping her found it very much inflamed and swollen about the elbow. Mary Cameron denied firmly that Susan has got a fall or that there was any cause for it. I was alarmed until the Dr. examined it and found a blue mark which shewed she must have got a fall; he bandaged it and rubbed it with [soal] linament. Lat. 43-35 S. Long. 114-45 E.

Tuesday, 8th December

Blowing hard, still favourable, was awoke at 4 this morning by the noise on deck in consequence of a violent squall of wind coming on so suddenly that Capt. Gray came on deck almost naked. One sail was torn completely and two very much injured. The emigrants so frightened most of them ran on deck. J.B.S. came out of her cabin to collect the information from the steward. Capt. Gray's cheek festering it gives him great pain, brought on by cold; he was not able to breakfast with us this morning; he is very hoarse from additional cold caught this morning. Susan's arm quite well. 10 o'clock wind increased blowing strong gale, our lat. 43-44 S. Long. 118-55 E. 5 o'clock sitting in the cuddy looking at Mr. Macdonald and Capt. C playing drafts, all of a sudden it became very dark, we were startled by a loud peal of thunder and a vivid flash of forked lightning followed by the heaviest shower of rain I ever saw; we had none so heavy even between the tropics; after this the wind got rather lower and it cleared a fine evening. 8 o'clock wind freshening. Daylight till 8 o'clock. At 8 o'clock in the morning with you it is the afternoon with us.

Wednesday, 9th December

A strong favourable breeze. You could have laughed if you had seen me dressing this morning; I had a basin of water on the locker washing myself, another large basin of water

beside me Capt. C was going to use, he was leaning against the scrittoire strapping his razor, the vessel gave a tremendous roll, in attempting to save both basins I lost both and my own footing, to the bargain, basins, water and I were thrown against the side of the cabin with such force that Capt. Gray thought some of us were going to pay him a visit. Before I could recover my feet the next roll drove my accompaniments and I with equal force against the other side. I think I hear you say where was Capt. C all this time, just looking on laughing heartily, his excuse for not assisting he could not risk spoiling his good razor by throwing it down. In the hurry fortunately I escaped all but the water. I often think of Mary's weakness in her limbs, if she was here she would be obliged to find strength in them. Our Lat. 43-48 S. Long. 122-54. 12 o'clock bright sunshine, had thought of going on deck till I heard it was very cold. Capt. Gray killed a large porpoise before dinner, the liver of it was very nicely dressed and put down on the table. I tasted a small bit from curiosity and would not know it from sheep's liver. The sailors consider a porpoise a great treat they say it eats like beef steak but drier and coarser. A sheep killed today so good it would not disgrace any market. My Skye maid is to make the haggis tomorrow, she equals Lezy Taylor at them. Macfarlane still in a melancholy mood, he complained to Capt. Gray that J.B.S. was making a game of him, the little woman was so astonished she would scarcely believe he would say so of her.

Thursday, 10th December

The same strong favourable breeze continuing, ship going at an average from 8 to 9, miles an hour; all night very cloudy threatening rain, the thermometer up to 60; this is higher than we have had it for three weeks. The carpenter when pumping the ship this morning brought up some sand from the bottom of the vessel, one of the emigrants who saw it said it was easily seen we were drawing near land when the sand was coming into the ship with the water, we could not see that two weeks ago. Capt. Gray says it is time to look about us if the ocean has become so shallow. When we were at our wine after dinner today Flora Kennedy would be rising with you by candlelight to clear out the dining room. How often we speak and think all you are about; I have no doubt you are often employed in the same way about us little thinking I daresay of our sad bereavement; dear little lamb if she had her teething well over I have little doubt she would be alive and well now. The other children are all so stout and healthy. Susan seeming to have forgot the taste of good milk, she takes her porridge with the preserved milk for some time as well as ever she did at home; she sits down every evening with the big bairns to her tea and roll, for dinner she takes soup, rice and sauce and occasionally a bit of meat, she is stout and rosy. Lat. 43-40 S. Long. 127-12 E.

Friday, 11th December

Beautiful bright day blowing a hard but favourable gale. About 8 o'clock this morning, squall with a heavy shower of rain which obliged them to furl one of the sails. We have had a fine run since yesterday. At 12 noon to 12 today 204 miles, we are in lat. 43-51 S. Long. 131-56 E. Some of the emigrants are much afraid we have passed New Zealand, we are so long of arriving, their remarks are very amusing, one old 79 pensioner from [...] who was 20 years in the regiment is quite an oracle among them, he certainly shews he has doubled the Cape more than once. I am giving the last mending to John's surtout that it will bear. Colin quite whole as he has worn it as much as his brother; it is too cold for their french shirts. Louisa has fairly worn out her dark silk, she is wearing her crimson velvet, it looks well with a clean pinafore; she has still two of her prints clean; my saxony is my constant wear it is most useful and black cap equally so. J.B.S. being to be rather ill off for caps, she envies me my black one, she wears an old black merino and a shawl handkerchief, on Sundays, she puts on an old black silk. A collar keeps a long time clean here, I wear mine a fortnight without being at all dirty. Macfarlane still the same. Capt. Gray to oblige him to come up to the cuddy refused to send his meals down below to him, he comes to dinner but prefers wanting his breakfast to coming up for it. A tremendous row tonight again between the 1st mate and Mr. Macdonald's culprit (I mean the sailor to whom he gave the Bible) the rascal got hold of the mate because he had found fault with him when both were up in the rigging and threatened to throw him overboard. The Capt. gave him a sound drubbing with a stick and hung him for an hour by a rope round his waist over the ship's side to clean the chain plates near the waters edge. Then he was pardoned.

Saturday, 12th December

A very strong breeze in our favour with occasional showers of heavy rain. Emigrants say we are so long of getting to Van Dieman's land they are afraid Capt. Gray has passed it by and may miss New Zealand in the same way. We are today Lat. 43-58 S. Long. 135-32 E. I forgot to mention that we have a Venetian and Russian on board as sailors, the former is the cleanest and best behaved sailor in the ship, the latter is the dirtiest, both speaking a little English. Busy in the evenings giving the children their Saturday washing and looking out clean clothes for tomorrow. Curious how reconciled the children are to the ship, they never ask when they are to see land except Colin. I am certain John will regret leaving the Blenheim. It is a great blessing they're all so stout and healthy. Capt. Gray expects it to blow rather hard tonight.

Sunday, 13th December

Rather a gloomy morning, it cleared up about 10 o'clock. A beautiful breeze as fair as it can blow, a firm strong breeze last night carrying us along 9 miles an hour. The sea was more luminous last night than I have seen it yet. I sat a long time at my cabin window, I never saw anything more beautiful, you would fancy the sea was covered with large balls of fire. Had public worship as usual, heard John his questions etc. sat a long time on the poop, too much motion to walk, we expect to be only another Sunday on board. Our lat. 44-8. Long. 148-11. Macfarlane is much better, for two days he has attended all his meals in the cuddy. We expect to see Van Dieman's land tomorrow evening. Capt. Gray expects to pass within 5 miles of the land. I do not think that I mentioned that J.B.S. work is knitting worsted stockings, last week she turned a tartan frock for Duncan; her daughters are very idle particularly Catherine she does nothing but read except while giving lessons to the children and occasionally some slow worsted work, she fiddles at. It is alleged by other young men that Dr Sutherland is looking sweet at her; they have a great deal of joking among themselves about it. Dr Sutherland is the smallest man, except Jimmy Macdonald, I ever saw and very plain looking; he is generally in very high or low spirits, speaks very like Christian Tait, he has been well educated but not by any means I should think a clever youth; he is much more of the gentleman than Dr Campbell, his father was a respectable proprietor in Caithness but was obliged to sell his property; he has two brothers in the Company's service in India. So much for Catherine's beau. His fortune is between £400 and £500 and 100 acres of land. Dr Campbell may be a good doctor but you never would think so from his manner, he speaks with such a Highland accent and expresses himself so ill, you would think he had not spoken English till he was at least twenty. I must say he is most attentive to his duties and most obliging; we have always found him particularly so at all events we have not a very polished party, we have what is better a very merry and social one. I forgot to say Dr Campbell tho not so little as Dr S is very small likewise and plain looking. John Cameron looks a giant beside them, he is both tall and stout and very wise in every respect.

Monday, 14th December

A fine fair morning but cold, a favourable breeze carrying us on about 7 miles an hour, everyone on the qui vive expecting to see land, a constant lookout from the mast head. Capt. Gray on making up his reckoning at noon found he was further south than he had expected, consequently we will only see land from a great distance. About ½ past 12 there was a cry from the mast head of land in sight, shortly afterwards those with sharp eyes could see it from the deck; you cannot fancy what a sensation this caused amongst the people who for 16 weeks have seen nothing but sky and water except the desert island of Trinidad. As we were about 30 miles distant I only saw the land like a dark cloud, it was the south part of Van Dieman's Land. Capt. Gray says we would be in Hobart Town last night if that had been our destination. While off the land in the evening we had heavy showers of rain and the smoothest sea since we left the tropics. We were delighted to find Capt. Gray was quite correct in his reckoning. 6 o'clock the land more distinctly seen, some of the gents saying it was like the port of Ardnamurchan. We have only been 32 days from the Cape to Van Dieman's land an unprecedented quick passage; we have not been 34 days without an adverse wind, this is looked on as quite extraordinary.

Tuesday, 15th December

A beautiful morning, much warmer, the favourable breeze still continuing tho not so strong as we have become accustomed to, still we are progressing 5 or 6 miles an hour. A woman delivered of a son last night, this makes the sixth child born on board and all very fine, thriving children; this woman with all her former confinements had long and difficult labours, yesterday evening she did not feel herself very well, the Dr. desired her to go into the hospital, she thought they would have plenty of time to remove after she was taken ill, however matters came so quick upon her that the child was born before she could be removed; Dr. C was very angry at her and no wonder, think how unpleasant for him going about her before so many women and married men who sleep in the same place; to crown all not one stitch had she prepared for the child, it was rolled in an old petticoat of the mother's. She is a carpenter's wife from Skye. All the other women had their baby things so neat and tidy, particularly the low country woman; they come up on Sundays so clean and dressed some of them in white frocks and nice little hoods. Macfarlane is much better, he has been seen to smile once or twice at table does not now trouble capt. Gray with his confidential commentations. Today our lat. is 43-23 Long. 149-18. Went up on deck at 2 o'clock beautiful warm day, very little wind, ship making very little way I am sorry to say, beginning to think of our packing, hope to be in New Zealand on the 22nd. 6 o'clock very little wind almost a calm. After tea the Capt. killed with a hook and line 6 large albatrosses, one or tow of them measured 10 ft 8 inches between the tips of the wings, some of them, almost pure white were beautiful birds they are very valuable on account of the quantity of down on them. We have had the most glorious sunset this evening I have yet seen, as I cannot do do it justice in the description I will not attempt it. Bye the bye I may well mention that it is as well J.B.S. and I are to separate soon, I do not think that she would continue long good friends, when she is in bad humour she is so rude in contradicting me in any opinion I offer as if she must know better than anyone; I never came in contact with so ill-tempered a woman; I really pity her husband, I have heard him at times say sharper things to her than I could think him capable of, she can make herself pleasant enough when she chooses and did so for a long time after she came on board.

Wednesday, 16th December

A beautiful bright morning, there is a light breeze not quite fair; in the morning at 12 o'clock it became more favourable; for 35 days we have had a fair wind till today, the fishing for birds commenced early, 3 monomoths were caught before breakfast, this is a bird very like the albatross but smaller; one beautiful large albatross was caught likewise. Capt. Gray has some of the emigrant women busy plucking the birds on deck. I have been ransacking my repositories for some duds of clothes for the little stranger that made his appearance the other day; it has been in the mother's coarse petticoat. Our Lat. 43-33 Long 151-57. J.B.S. in very good humour she wishes evidently to be very agreeable to me to make up for some very disagreeable words we had last night; you will laugh when you hear one of the arguments we had was about the roasting of mutton, she said she never had mutton roasted without plenty of butter rubbed into it, I said I never used it unless the mutton was poor and dry from from being long kept, she said mutton must be dry without butter that old Mrs. Macdonald who was such a good housekeeper always used it; she appealed to John Cameron if his mother did not use butter to baste the mutton, he said he was not sure, he thought she did not; I said I knew his Aunt did not, that she had superintended the roasting of a good many joints with me not long since without using a bit of butter certainly not [...] was busy with us both during our dispute the gents were all present and highly amused at us. So warm put on one of my gingham.

Thursday, 17th December

Fine morning, tho not bright, a light breeze not quite favourable making some way notwithstanding. A very fine sheep killed yesterday just as fat as our Highland mutton but of course will not have the same flavour; one still remaining which is promised to Mr. Macdonald if we arrive in New Zealand in time to spare its life; he will pay at least £3 for it, this does not look like a want of funds. The children at their plum pudding today were

calculating they would only have one other on board the Blenheim and that will be on Sunday, 2 days of pancakes, Saturday and Tuesday. The lat at noon 43—32, Long. 154-28 E.

Friday, 18th December

Beautiful bright day, sea as smooth as the Clyde a light breeze favourable, for some days the crew have been employed scraping the masts before giving them a new coat of paint, discovered this morning the fore mast was very much decayed and sprung under the top, the carpenter is putting a piece of wood in where the decayed part was dug out, it will help to strengthen it; this will oblige Capt. Gray to remain a month in New Zealand to get a new mast put up; most extraordinary it did not give way with the strong winds we had and the press of sail we sometimes carried. Capt. Gray is sure we will have our Christmas dinner on board, he says if we are only making the land on that day he will be so anxious and constantly on the poop he will not enjoy himself. I have been occupied a great part of the day making out a list of every article we have on board, it is a tolerable long list. Lat. 43-3. Long. 157-12. This morning about 2 o'clock I was startled out of a doze by a mouse that was scrambling about the bed, falling on my shoulder, it then got under my night-gown; I nearly went distracted when I felt it creeping on my body, I jumped out of the berth and it required some persuasion to get me into it again; I gave myself great credit for not screaming. You would be amused to see my Skye woman and Capt. C hunting the mouse in the cabin this evening, they got hold of it after a hard chase.

Saturday, 19th December

Beautiful weather still continuing, neither too hot nor too cold. Thermometer at 8 o'clock this morning was up to 65, a light but favourable breeze all night and still continues; ship as still as if it were at anchor. Our cannons, which amount to 4 were taken out of the hold today (except one which is always on deck) to get them in readiness to fire a salute on casting anchor at Wellington. Capt. Gray applying to J.B.S. and I for old flannel petticoats to make cartridges; I told him mine were too good to use for such a purpose; it is so warm we are sitting with all our cabin windows open. Lat. 42-35 Long. 161-12. J.B.S. very busy packing all day. I proposed beginning on Monday, on saying something about it Capt. Gray said none was allowed to pack till just about to cast anchor, that packing early was sure to bring on a foul wind. J.B.S. proposing taking her things down again for fear of reflections. Great preparation in steerage of bonnets, caps, gowns etc for landing. Our party will not give the New Zealanders a high opinion of Highland beauty; I never saw so many very plain looking.

Sunday, 20th December

A beautiful morning and warmer than yesterday or since we left the tropics; a light favourable breeze. You cannot fancy what a change to us the ship going as quietly as if she was at anchor from the tossing we were accustomed too all the way from the Cape till we sighted Van Diemens land. Public worship as usual. John busy at his questions. Lat. at noon 41-59 S. Long. 164-26. Constant betting and calculations when we shall see the first peep of New Zealand. My better half busy calculating our distance etc. every day even Mr. Macdonald begins to understand and take an interest in lat. and long.

Monday, 21st December

A beautiful bright day, breeze very light but favourable; so warm, thermometer up to 66 in the Capt's cabin with the windows open. If the climate of New Zealand is at equal to this it must be delightful; of course the land is much warmer than we have at sea. Both my domestics busy today cleaning out my cabin, washing down the paint on the sides and roof, determined to deliver it up in good order. I got, by Capt. Gray's orders, 3 gallons of water for this purpose; intend to have the boys' cabin scrubbed tomorrow. Forgot to mention some time ago, looking over old papers in the scritoire discovered a contract of marriage between Duncan Campbell, Capt. C's great grandfather and an ancestor of Miss Nellys and Florence Cameron either a daughter or widow of John Cameron younger of Calcutta. It is written in such an old curious style I could not make more of it out; the date is 1739. If you ever see Miss Nelly tell her of this. 6 o'clock almost a calm, ship only going 2 miles an hour. Lat. at noon 41-26. Long. 167-11.

Tuesday 22nd December 1840

A beautiful day, Capt. Gray complaining of the want of wind, afraid the change of Moon on Wednesday may bring a gale. We expect by that time to be in Cook Straits where it will be anything but pleasant to encounter bad weather. This forenoon a great many whales in sight, some of them came so close to the vessel I could have tossed a biscuit on their backs, even I, blind as I am, saw their mouths and the air holes through which they blow the water quite distinctly; they were sperm whales, Capt. Gray said some of them must have been at least 80 feet long; the children were astonished beyond measure at their size and the noise they made spouting up the water; even Susan called out there was "Jemmy Ducks", this is a Bogie they tell her lives in the sea. At dinner, quizzing Mr. Macdonald at the figure he would cut driving his sheep and four hens he has bought from the Capt. into Wellington. Capt. C saying he would have plenty of shepherds for his stock. Louisa in deep distress at having lost a purse given to her by the carpenter for a kiss; it was made of the skin of the foot of an albatross; by Colin's advice she tied a line to it and towed it out the cabin window and of course lost it. J.B.S. getting her cabins cleaned out today. The emigrants are to be roused at 4 o'clock tomorrow morning to clean out their places; there has been much scraping of the ship decks for two days. Lat. at noon 40-2. Long. 169. 8 o'clock breeze freshened so much that the ship is going 8 to 9 knots an hour, expect to see land early tomorrow. Boys for some days in their french shirts, very angry with John came in with the knees of his trousers covered with tar, he got off one of the boats. Would not allow him to go on the poop all day. Colin is always so neat and tidy.

Wednesday, 23 December

A beautiful morning, rather cloudy, a delightful favourable breeze carrying us along from 7 to 8 knots an hour; the ship made great progress during the night. Capt. Gray turned all hands up in the steerage at 4 o'clock to commence the scrubbing, such a chattering and noise as the women made. The largest shoal of porpoises about the ship Capt. Gray ever saw; the 2nd Mate killed one, Capt. Gray speared another; the line broke and carried off the harpoon sticking in its back, it must have died immediately. This is the second harpoon lost in the same way. A cry of land at about ½ past 10 o'clock, everyone in such a state of excitement so anxious to get the first peep of land of our adoption. It was Cape Farewell on the north of the South Island; it appeared to be very high land, we soon lost sight of it. Cooks Straits are 80 miles broad at the entrance. We have fairly entered them. The sea is quite green in colour. Capt. Gray hopes to anchor in Port Nicholson tomorrow afternoon if the breeze continues as it is at present. The land we saw today was so far off that we could only see the outline. Lat. 40-18. Long. 172-24. Capt. C had his straw hat blown overboard tonight.

Thursday, 24th December

During the night we had a strong favourable breeze. 11 o'clock the ship lay too still, 3 o'clock in the morning when the day begins to dawn, Capt. Gray took this precaution because he had never been here before and the Straits are so narrow in some parts that the navigation is rather intricate. Just when the moon changed last night a very sudden squall came on, it was violent while it lasted. Fortunately it didn't continue long from the ship laying too, we felt it more I confess I felt very anxious and often wished myself out in the blue water again. Capt. Gray sat up all night, he seemed very anxious, this place is so subject to sudden gales of wind. This morning almost calm, great fears spring that we will not cast anchor today. About 11 o'clock a smart breeze sprung up to our great disappointment right ahead of us; we have been tacking all day and making no progress. Capt. Gray says with this wind it will take us 4 days to make out Port Nicholson, a fair wind would bring us there in 6 hours; this is very tantalising, we are about 60 miles from our destination, we have had land in sight on both sides all day; about 7 this evening we came within about 8 miles of the North Island; it is very high land and very precipitous. Near the coast we could see large trees on the tops of the hills altho there were none on the side next to the sea. A large butterfly (of course a New Zealand one) was seen on board the ship; we smelt the land quite distinctly this evening and saw fire on shore. I have been busy packing all day. Capt. Gray quite disconcerted that we will not be able to enjoy his Christmas dinner from not being at anchor. 8 o'clock the breeze has died away completely, it is a complete calm.

Friday, 25th December

A beautiful bright sunny day, so warm cannot bring myself to think this is Christmas Day. A very light breeze sprung up about 11 o'clock against us. Capt C saying we may be a week of anchoring. All very merry at dinner; a favorable breeze came on about 6 o'clock which, with a good allowance of wine, put the gents in famous spirits. A lovely evening, went up on deck to look at the emigrants dancing, they got some grog to keep their Christmas. Capt. Gray expects to anchor tomorrow at breakfast time. Sat up til 11 o'clock at which time the vessel had just got through the narrows and lay to for the night.

Saturday, 26th December

When we went to bed last night it was blowing a light breeze, a beautiful starry night; judge of our astonishment on awakening this morning to find it blowing very hard gale right against us. Capt. Gray mistook another bay for Port Nicholson; instead of anchoring as we expected at 9 this morning we were obliged to pass Port Nicholson and were driven out 30 miles from the land; it was quite one of those storms Pollock describes as so frequent in the straits; altho blowing so hard not a cloud was to be seen in the sky and the sun shining so bright. I was dreadfully alarmed, if we had been in the open sea I would not have minded it. I dreaded one of the sudden shifts of wind that Pollock describes, likewise which might drive us on the shore; my fears got so much the better of me I believe I afforded great amusement to the gentlemen. The gale commenced at 2 o'clock this morning. Capt Gray thinks it will moderate about that time.

Sunday, 27th December

A beautiful mild morning, just as Capt. Gray expected. The wind went down and changed in our favour about 2 this morning. The Capt. is in rather a dilemma about finding out the harbour; there is not proper chart of it published; he is not sure which of the bays it may be. Very stupid of the Company not to have some signal put up to show the proper entrance. Went up on deck after breakfast, we were off the bay thought most likely to be the proper entrance. To make sure the Capt. lowered a boat with six hands, they were to make a signal if they found we were in the right place; besides this we had five cannon fired with the hope of bringing a pilot to our assistance. Before the boat had gone any distance from the ship Somes Island and Wards Island were discovered from the masthead which made the Capt. so sure he had at last found the proper place that he made sail into the bay. You may fancy the state of excitement we were all in, the children calling out everything they saw or imagined they saw; Louisa even the length of saying she heard the New Zealanders speaking. At length a ship was seen at anchor which was the first symptom we had of being near Wellington The town consists of a number of small houses some wooden and some thatched, both on the sea beach and a few on an elevated plain behind. We were much disappointed at the wild appearance the country presented. The Bay is so very extensive it would contain the British navy and more, and surrounded on every side by hills wooded to the top. The climate would be delightful but for the high winds that prevail. I am told a very short way inland the weather is much milder that you would scarcely feel a breath of air when blowing a hard gale in the harbour. We counted 12 ships of all sizes at anchor before the Town. The moment our anchor was out a number of boats came off from the shore to us. Some of the gentlemen were very superior in appearance and manner to what I expected to see. We were much disappointed to find that the Surveying Department had been slow in its operations there was no chance of getting our sections for some time, even those who came in the [Royal] Merchant have not been provided with theirs. Our land will be 80 miles from Wellington at Wanganui. To make up for this we are told by all who have seen that part of the country that the land is more level and much easier cleared. Indeed the fine harbour at Port Nicholson is all it has to recommend it. Up the river Hutt about 8 miles from Wellington there is very fine land but heavily timbered and of course a great expense, the clearing of it from being so near the chief town where there is always a demand for everything it will pay the expense well. Some of the natives came on board dressed in European clothes. As I have brought the ship to an anchor I will now close my journal. Our proceedings from the 27th I will give you in a letter which I will dispatch by the first ship which sails and that I hope you will receive long before this comes to hand, as I intend sending my journal home by Capt. Gray and he returns

by Manilla and China. I hope it will afford you some amusement, I have been very particular in putting down everything, as I knew nothing would be too trifling to interest you. I have enclosed for your amusement an invitation card I got to a Ball. Now that the voyage is over I must say I thought very little of it, and were it not for the severe trial we met with I think I would have even enjoyed it; to be sure we were most fortunate in weather, ship and Commander; to give you an idea how attentive Capt. Gray is, from the Tuesday we entered Cooks Straits till we anchored in Port Nicholson on Sunday he never went to bed; he is rather blunt in his manner, I always liked him and found his most attentive and kind, were it nothing more than the love he had for the dear little lamb who is no more I would always feel a deep interest in his welfare. Sometimes he and Mrs. Macdonald were rather sharp to each other, she always brought it on herself, I have heard her say very rude things about him; I never saw a woman with less common sense or less command of her temper. I will give you an instance of her rudeness. We had very fine English ham for dinner so there would not be enough to go over all the cabin passengers at breakfast; next morning there were only a few slices put down for the ladies. Donald, who is very fond of good things no sooner spied the ham than he asked for some; Capt. Gray said there was none for him, his wife called out " O yes Donald there was some ham but I suppose Capt. Gray wishes to keep it for himself, so from my sitting next Capt. Gray I had an opportunity of seeing that he would be the last man to do anything of the kind. I have seen him help about soup and not keep a drop for himself.

And now my dear Mother and Sister I will bid you goodbye and may God bless you.

Your most affectionate

Jessie Campbell

JESSIE CAMPBELL'S LETTERS

The letters of Jessie Campbell to her family, from Greenock, Petone and Wanganui.

The texts are taken from the typescript (Ref: qMS-0369) held at the Alexander Turnbull Library. The punctuation and spelling follow the typescript, and may differ slightly from other versions of these letters.

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- 25 August 1840: from Jessie Campbell on the *Blenheim* to Isabella Cameron:

The "Blenheim" 4.30 p.m.

My dear Isabella

Here we are at last and I am glad to say the accommodation is even better than I expected, our cabin, when put in order will be very comfortable. I am in better spirits today strange to say, than I have been since I saw you. The children are very good and have had a comfortable sleep.

Ewen came on board with us and is still here, he is to put this into the P.O. for you. I.B.S. is quite brisk, when I came on board she came to ask me what she could do for me. We came alongside in a Helenburgh steamer and got drenched with rain, there was terrible confusion with baggage & our scritoire and No.9 came on board and was put into the hold on Saturday last, we cannot get them out till tomorrow night, tonight we do the best we can. Tibby never looked better than she does and is so merry. The emigrants have all been mustered today, I have not been out of my cabin as yet not even to see the Capt. Gray I mean. They say if the wind is fair, they will sail at daylight.

I am quite ashamed of dear Ewen's making presents to us, he has given me the writing portable box which I know he valued and Grandfather's tales for John. Ewen is off — I must have done — Your much attached sister

J. Campbell

- 25 August 1840: from Ewen Cameron at Greenock to Isabella Cameron:

Tuesday evening 8 o'clock

My dear Isabella,

I have just ascertained that the *Blenheim* will certainly sail this night at 11 o'clock — a steamer being engaged at that time as a tug. Jessie & the Capt. I left at about 6 o'clock in wonderful spirits, they seem hquite pleased with their cabin and I have not the least doubt that will be very comfortable.....The wind is really fair at present. With best regards to all at Viewforth — in haste

Your affect. Brother

E. Cameron

- 29 August 1840: from Jessie Campbell on the *Blenheim* to Isabella Cameron:

29th August 1840

My dearest Isabella

I have opened my letter to tell you that we have been becalmed since yesterday and have not yet made out Holyhead, the packet from that place is just seen approaching, our Capt. has signalled for it to come alongside, I hope to get my despatches all landed today. We are all in the best of health, you never saw Tibbie looking better. Capt. C. was just wishing this morning you could see her peeping out of her cot like a little mouse and laughing at her Papa, she is a greater pet with the passengers than poor Cocky. The ship is going rather better at present but still very slowly, it is very tiresome. The more I know Capt. Grey the more I like him, my husband seems a favourite with him, he is so obliging to him and his whole conversation is almost entirely addressed to him. Drimintoran's business about the wine had put him out of favour.

I have not time to write more as the packet is close at hand.

My dearest Isabella, Your most affectionate sister —J Campbell

We are busy today putting our cabin in order and sorting the scritoire and screwing nails in to hang things up. Some of the gentlemen have nice books, the time as yet never hangs heavy. We get our allowance of water every morning, & English pints for washing and everything. We find it quite sufficient with management, the children drink the black coffee and tea very well when made sweet for them

Just off Dublin Bay.

I must beg of you to write to Mrs. W. Campbell give her my love and say I would write but their movements are so uncertain. I do not know where to address. I see the Jane Goudi arrived safely at Sydney. I have not heard from Charles yet.

- For details of the voyage, see Jessie Campbell's Journal.
- 8 November 1841: from Jessie Campbell at Petone to Isabella Cameron:

Petone, 8th Nov. 1841

My dearest Isabella,

This will be the 4th letter besides my journal which I have written to you, my last was written in June and announced the birth of William Patrick on 13th May exactly a week after Capt. C. sailed for Sydney. In case my letter may not have come to hand, I may as well mention that I never suffered so little or had so good a recovery. My medical attendant Dr. Stokes, was very attentive and skilful. I had no midwife, my servant and Mrs. Butler were the only attendants, how much I would have given to have had my old friends Crighton and Coley. Miss Beals arrived a few hours after Baby was born and very kindly remained until I was by the fire-side. It was a great trial having to part from my husband at such a time, you may fancy what his anxiety must have been for the ten weeks of absence, he did not get any of my letters, he

did not know of the birth of his son, not whether we were dead or alive until his return to Wellington.

Willie is now almost 6 months old, he is very like John, is hardly ever heard to cry and he has never tasted medicine. My mother will be surprised to hear he had not the least of the yellow gum.

The other children are all in rude health, John is a tremendous fellow in size & strength, he is already of great use. We have had no man for almost 3 months, John brings the cow home regularly from the bush. When his Father is from home, he goes to the Pah to buy potatoes from the natives and makes as good bargain as I can. He has great confidence in himself, in some respects he is the better of this, his greatest fault is being very obstinate. When he takes a thing in his head, it is no easy matter to convince him of being wrong.

Colin is taller for his age than John, he is quite healthy and much stronger and more active than when you saw him. We think he shows symptoms of being wormy which makes him thinner than he was some time ago. If he had advantages, I think he would be a tolerable scholar, his judgment is very much improved, he learns by heart much quicker than John. He is the only one who takes a pleasure in keeping himself neat & tidy. A rent in his clothes distresses him beyond measure.

Louisa is a sad romp, from being so much with the boys, she is very hoydenish. She is growing very tall and is thinner which has rather improved her appearance. Her abilities are better than her brothers, she has an immense mop of hair.

Susan Anne, I am sure you would think a dear little pet, she has dark blue eyes, rosy cheeks, and small regular features. She talks continuously and is not the least shy, which makes her very engaging to strangers.

I am delighted to say that altho' the Capt. continues thin he is in excellent health, he takes so much exercise it keeps him down in flesh, he never has heartburn and much less rheumatism. I am not quite so stout as I was, my health is excellent, the only thing I complain of is having too keen an appetite. The children are ravenous, it is quite delightful to see how they enjoy their food.

Now that I have satisfied you as to our health, I will begin with all that has happened since the month of June which was when I wrote you last.

Mr. Butler died on the 18th of that month, we miss him very much. On the 15th of July Capt. C. returned from Sydney he returned a month sooner than I expected. I got quite hysterical between joy and suspense when in the dusk of the evening he popped in among us, he brought with him a good deal of livestock, viz. 3 cows, one died on the voyage, 2 mares, 2 goats, 5 turkeys, 5 geese, 6 ducks, 6 hens & a cock.

The vessel went into a harbour in the S. Island and waited for a favourable wind, the Capt. while there got two large pigs for a small blanket each. He got a present of 2 sheep laid in for stock on the vessel from one of the owners, so that we have been living in clover for some time.

I shall send you a newspaper so you may see the prices of things in Wgton. Altho' we have 5 cows, we have only one giving milk, she has enough for the children and rears a very nice calf besides. Last week I got 8/9 for ½ lb of butter and expect the same this week. The eggs I have sold have more than paid the original cost of the hens. We are fortunate in having our milk cow very quiet which is a rare thing to be met with in this country. Some of the other cows will calve in a few months. The Capt. sold one his mares and a cart for which he got £75, he had a handsome profit by them. Our two goats are heavy in kid. The Capt. has also 4 bullocks and a dray and a yearling ox, he has likewise bargained with an agent here, to give him 20 young heifers which are to be imported from a superior herd in N.S. Wales. A ship load of the same kind came to the Colony some time ago. Unfortunately Capt. C. was absent at Wanganui, they were immediately snatched up by others, 40 head were bought by Mr. Macdonald for which he paid £480, he has six months in which to pay this, has got people to back his bills in the meantime. He expects to sell them at a good profit before his bills became due.

We were astonished at his making so large a purchase, the Capt. took some trouble to find out all about it. Mr. M. is trying to turn over every penny just as he did at home, I have no

doubt if he avoided his besetting sin he would do well. I think he is more drunken here than ever he was at home, for the last fortnight he has scarcely been a day sober. On first coming here he was so steady and clever and so pushing that he was very much respected, he is fast losing his respectability. Many people have cut out his acquaintance, many people thought we were related to him. I take every opportunity of denying all relationship. I should feel it now assuredly a most disgraceful connection. His favourite is the blacksmith from [-] in fact he does not care who he drinks with.

I feel deeply for his miserable wife, the eldest son is very fond of his glass and every penny he gets is spent on gin. I wrote you before that he was deprived of his situation for being drunk - and was re-instated. Everyone is astonished that his situation has not been again taken from him.

It is thought Col. Wakefield is not aware of how he is carrying on. I likewise wrote you that Catherine had an offer of marriage, her parents were very anxious for the match but she was determined in her refusal. I have since seen her admirer, he is very vulgar in manner and appearance. He is an agent here for one of the wealthiest houses in Sydney. He offended I.B.S. beyond measure by whistling a valse on Sunday. I said to her some allowance should be made for the poor man's state of mind.

What will Brodie say when he hears our manservant left because he did not consider £30 a year, bed, board and washing, sufficient wages. The Capt. is so active that with assistance of John, we do very well without a man. My Skye servant has got married, she was so plain looking I thought I was sure to have her for some time. Her husband is a smart good looking young man who came out in the Blenheim from Skye. Likewise I gave her at the rate of £15 a year.

The Capt. got his grant of land in N.S.W. in the government township of Ulladulla on the coast. If he is spared 2 years he will require to go back to Sydney to get his title deeds. He hopes to be allowed to dispose of his grant. He met with great attention from Macpherson Grant, Ballindalloch, he & a brother officer had gone into partnership and bought a station with sheep, cattle, enclosures etc. of which they got a good bargain from some unlucky homo who was in great need of ready money. Mcpherson was in Sydney when the Capt. was there preparing.

- 8 May 1842: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Ewen Cameron:

Wanganui May 8. 1842

My dearest Brother

I have just heard the dear expeditious Brougham is to return to London direct. I am so glad to have an opportunity of writing Home at last. No vessel has left the settlement direct for London since the Bailey sailed last November.

With what delight I received your letter about the end of February and both Isabella's marked Nos.1 & 2. When I last wrote I was busy preparing for our removal to this place. I shall begin with an account of all our adventure since that time.

We embarked on board the Clydeside on 24th Nov., with all our luggage, poultry, 3 goats, 2 kids, 2 cows, the rest of our cattle were to follow by land, and an arduous undertaking it was to pack up with only one stupid woman servant to assist.

We narrowly escaped shipwreck at the entrance of the river, the Clydeside was too large a vessel to be easily managed in so narrow a space. The pilot from nervousness put her on a reef called the North Spit among the breakers — For a short time we had no hope that all our lives would be saved, even now it makes me nervous to write about it. One gentleman who had a life preserver and had taken a fancy to Susan said he would take charge of her. I was the only one on board with children.

While we were sitting awaiting our fate, they were getting the boats out to try and get the women ashore.

The vessel gave a tremendous bump and we slid into the proper channel. In a short time we were safe at anchor inside the bar. Oh, how thankful I was. Capt. C. was so composed he gave their liberty to a pup and a cat we had on board shut up in a box.

To add to our distress poor John was very ill altho' his complaint must have been coming on for some time, we did not observe it until on board the Clydeside.

Immediately on our arrival, he was put under the care of Dr. Wilson, his complaint was a very rare one, viz. St. Vitus dance. It was distressing to see at times, quite worn out with the involuntary motion of his muscles. For many weeks he was as helpless as a baby, could not walk or even feed himself. His speech became very imperfect and for some time left him so entirely he could not ask for his wants. He spoke so like his Grandmother, nothing that Dr. Wilson could say would convince me that it was not a paralytic stroke altho' the convulsive motions were so different from paralysis.

When John took the turn his recovery was very rapid, he is long ago as well and strong as ever. His illness was caused by worms and an accumulation of bile. He has grown very big and strong.

We are so fortunate to have them all at school here and making very good progress, they are taught by Miss King an Irish lady who came here with her brother. She is an old maid and very capable of doing them justice. Her method is excellent, she is so kind and at the same time determined. They have books called the judgment books in which she gives an account of how each task was said and of their conduct. This is brought home every night and has a most excellent effect. Our treatment of them is of course regulated by this account. Colin who used to be so backward is doing wonders, he generally brings home the best character, he has quite a craze for writing — from Aunt Isabella he must have taken this turn — certainly not from Papa!

Miss King encourages them to write letters to her, Colin's and Louisa's productions are very amusing. Miss King takes great pains to give them a taste for reading, lends them story books. She has three pupils besides my three, unfortunately for poor Louisa they all boys. Two of them are English, the sons of Mr. Dawson our police magistrate, they are about John's and Colin's ages and very nice gentlemanlike boys. I consider it a great advantage for my children having such companions, the third is a son of Dr. Wilson, a little fellow half Spanish half English about Louisa's age. She gave him such a thrashing the other day that he had to go home. My children will speak a queer lingo half English, half Scotch, half Irish.

Miss King says Louisa has better abilities than the boys. I think Susan will be the cleverest of them all, she is very smart and promises to be very good looking.

Willie is a great stout fellow with a quantity of fair curly hair, he is very good tempered and has never had an ailment since he was born.

Capt. C. is in excellent health and spirits, he is still very thin. I suppose he will never be stout again. He finds himself more able to take exercise than when he was stout. I do not think you would know him, his thinness and the dress he wears have changed his appearance so much, he wears a broad blue bonnet and a round blue jacket and occasionally the French shirt which proves a most suitable dress in the summer. He is delighted with the climate, it is so temperate, there no country in the world where the thermometer ranges so little.

We like this place much better than Petone. We occupy at present the best house in the place, it belonged to a Missionary. Living is very cheap so far as pork and potatoes go, which are the principle produce of the country. We buy everything from the natives by barter, will get a basket of potatoes weighing 20 lbs for a fig of tobacco or a tobacco and pipe. I have bought a basket for a needle and small quantity of sewing thread. They will give a good pig for a single English blanket which costs in Wellington 11/-.

The natives are very inferior to those at Petone and such thieves that we never admit them.

I am glad to hear such good accounts of my dear Mother's health. How often we speak of you all and wonder what you are all about. You cannot write too often, the postage is trifling, it is too bad of Colin to forget me completely.

And now my dear Brother, it is time to bring this long scroll to a conclusion.

Capt. C. joins me in love to you.

Believe me your most affectionate sister,
Jessie Campbell.

It is 2 o'clock in the morning, John Cameron is busy beside me scribbling home.

Will my mother believe that all summer 6 o'clock never caught my better half nor me in bed.

We had this evening to tea, McLeod of McLeod's only brother, he and Mr. Brodie came down here to look at the place and are so pleased they intend to settle. Brodie has often been at Fort William markets and knows McDonald.

- 4 December 1842: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Isabella Cameron:

Wanganui Dec. 4, 1842

My dearest Isabella,

I fear I shall be obliged to make this a shorter letter than usual. When I tell you my reason you will not complain, for the last fortnight I may say I have had no servts., the damsel I've had since coming here chose to get a beau and left me at 10 minutes notice to prepare for her marriage. I cannot get her place supplied here, the only help I have is from a smart little girl about 12 years old who comes in every evening. You may believe I have very little time – I have tried to write at night when all were gone to rest but felt so sleepy and tired I was obliged to give it up. I wrote some time ago to Wgton. I hope Mrs. MacDonald has succeeded in getting a servant for me, the one I had was a most useless, ill tempered gypsy and after all she is to be married to an excellent steady tradesman, a blacksmith who came out in the Blenheim. I often think what a host of admirers Flora Kennedy would have here — where such drabs get good husbands.

I received all your letters by Capt. Gray on the 17th. Nov. and the box in perfect order. My gown did not suffer the least damage — and most extraordinary all the shoes fitted as well as possible. How can I sufficiently thank you and my dear Mother for all your kindness. My gown is most suitable and will make a very pretty winter dress. I wish you could have seen the children on Sunday when they got on their Edinburgh shoes, Maggie might well say of them "So proud as you are". They said everyone noticed their shoes — the truth was, they obliged everyone to notice. I can assure you the Capt. thought much of his present, the sitting room is the only place he will honour with the slippers on, the shoes are a perfect godsend to him, his stock was getting very low — he says it would be long before any of his own friends would remember his necessities. The purse is very pretty and carefully put up in the scritoire and only gets the air to be shown to strangers. I can assure you all our friends here give you great credit for the judicious contents of your box, I only regret the expense of so many things.

John is beside me perspiring at the letter to his Grandmother, I do not know what he is saying but it seems hard work to judge from his face. Colin and Louisa were most anxious to write to thank Grandmama but as they would require my assistance, I have persuaded them to put it off to another opportunity. Your little notes gave great satisfaction.

I wrote a long letter to my mother in Octer., very little has occurred since, worth mentioning. The Capt. has had a few attacks of his old enemy rheumatism, he thought it was caused by the unusual wetness of Winter and Spring. Since the Summer set in he is as brisk as ever before. Up at 5 o'clock every morning.

John Cameron has gone to Wellington on business of his own also to purchase cattle for the section, if he can get any to his mind. We miss him very much, he makes himself very useful, he sleeps on a sofa in the sitting room, makes his bed every evening and in the morning clears everything away and often even sweeps the room. I often tell him, what would his friends at home say if they could see him with a scrubbing brush cleaning his canvas trousers or in the evening mending them, he can patch as neatly as I can. One evening the Capt. asked to our great amazement for a needle and thread and set to work putting strings in a night shirt which I had long forgot to do, he finished the job tolerably but has never been induced to follow John's example in that respect since.

The boys make their own beds and Louisa dresses Susan – this is the country for making young people of use.

I wrote to my mother our reasons for building in the town section. John drew the plan of the house, the walls are of clay which makes the warmest house, the natives will thatch the roof, the sitting room and our own room will be boarded, off our room will be two small ones for the children, a room for John and a store room will be the whole concern with a kitchen outside.

The Capt. often takes a stroll to see his country sections and each time seems more pleased with them. The chief to whom they belong made us a present lately of a dish of eels from our own lake, which had a superior relish coming from our own property. John Cameron shot a brace of wild duck the last time he was at the lakes, which we all thought superior to anything we had ever tasted.

Col. Wakefield has not returned from Auckland, he is daily expected accompanied by Shortland who is doing all he can to make himself popular during his short reign, he has done much good already and it is to be hoped will do still more by getting us settled on our land. The Chief, to whom our place belongs, says when he gets the price of the land he is quite willing to give it.

I wrote to my mother about Drimantoran having lost his situation, alas miserable man, the accounts we had a few days ago are still more wretched, he is a ruined man. Everything he had was seized for debt. His son Adam saved him from being sent to jail by giving up the little pittance he had saved. God help his poor wife I feel deeply for her, with all her faults she is well principled. He, poor wretch, is lying dangerously ill, scarcely expected to recover, I think his death would be a happy release to his family, he has brought such disgrace upon them. Adam is very steady and a sensible lad. Donald's death was a blessing, he was as drunken as his father without his abilities when sober. Catherine's intended has not returned from Auckland, all this blow up has occurred during his absence. I wonder what he will feel about it when he hears of Macdonald's disgrace. The Capt. and John Cameron were thankful to be at such a distance from him, they would not like to have intercourse with a man spoken of as he is.

I cannot tell you how vexed I was to think Capt. Grey and the old Blenheim were so near – and yet not to see them, he was off for Taranaki before we even heard of his arrival. I would have given a great deal to see him and the old ship again.

It was so kind and considerate to apprise you of his coming here, I would have written to him if I had known of his arrival.

8th Dec.

We were much astounded and I must say not altogether pleased to receive a letter from George Wright dated Port Nicholson, he had taken out his passage to come here so that we expect him daily. What he is to do here unless he commences saving – I am sure I cannot tell, he cannot be a burden upon his uncle I am determined I will work hard for my own family but for no other person, I can assure you the prospect of a grown man being added to our family is not a pleasant look out for me who have so much to do. Precious little trouble his mother would take for me or mine, she would have taken her brother's last farthing from him if she could.

The salaries given in Wellington to clerks are so small in proportion to the expense of living that without a home he can scarcely support himself.

Cattle are the only thing that pay here, but it requires judgment, experience and money. Of all this John Cameron is possessed, so that instead of being a burden upon us as George would be, he is a very acquisition. He was busy making oars for the boat when he went away, he intends making some of the doors for our new house, in short he can put his hand to anything, even to the nursing of Willie who is an immense pet of his, besides he is well enough informed to support his own side of an argument rather stiffly which makes him a pleasant companion for the Capt. he is quite au fait in all farming matters and gardening.

The Capt. and his brother Justices are in a great fix at present, trying to get rid of Mr. Dawson, our Police Magistrate. All the inhabitants with very few exceptions have petitioned against him. It is too long and uninteresting a story to tell you all the reasons for this, besides the

faults found with him in his Magisterial character, he was accused, before his marriage of a crime too horrible to mention, at first few believed it, but although frequently requested to clear himself, he has never taken the least trouble to do so, which leads everyone to believe the horrible accusation to be true.

My husband has not for months, sat on the Bench with him. I pity his poor wife, she is a pretty ladylike creature. I had a note from her yesterday in deep distress at the ill feeling manifested against her husband she naturally considers him very ill used. He has two very fine boys by a former marriage.

- 9 March 1843: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Isabella Cameron:

Wanganui, 9th March, 1843

My dearest Isabella,

Your 8th letter I received yesterday, I cannot tell you how grateful we all feel for your regularity in writing, every letter has come safely generally five months after being despatched. I feel truly vexed that you have been so long in hearing from us. I know how my dear mother and you would be fretting from anxiety about us. There is direct communication from Port Nicholson to England so seldom that our letters take a much longer time and for some time after coming here, John's dreadful illness prevented my writing. This is my 6th letter since the Bailey sailed, my last was dated the beginning of December. I trust you have received some of these long ere this.

We are all in our usual busy state and enjoyment of good health, the Capt. as thin as ever but in excellent spirits. His old enemy rheumatism has troubled him more this year than usual. We hope when we get into our own house, which will be very comfortable, that he will not be so subject to it.

I expect an addition to the family the end of May, I feel so light and active I am tolerably sure of having but one. Fortunately Willie is a stout strong little fellow except for feeding him and putting on his clothes he is independent of all nursing. Certainly children mature earlier here. Willie is not so good looking as he was when the warm weather commenced I was obliged to deprive him of his beautiful curls, the loss of them has disfigured him very much.

Susan still promises to be very good looking, she is fair complexioned with good features and dark blue eyes, an old fashioned little body, she sits beside me at dinner if I forget to enquire for the other children's character book she is sure to remind me by asking "Well children, what kind of characters have you got today?"

John is growing very fast and carries breadth along with his height, he is a sensible boy, notwithstanding that we complain of his carelessness at school, he is making tolerable progress. Miss King takes great pains with all of them. John's great fault is obstinacy from having too much confidence in himself. I sometimes think he is a little inclined to indolence but this will soon be worked out of him. I cannot say he shows a decided taste for reading, he does sometimes take up a book, he is a great trifler in learning his lessons, when he does attend he learns them very quickly and has a capital memory, he has quite a craze for gardening and is forever collecting seeds and plants for his own little plot. The other day he came to tell me he had such a prize, this turned out to be a present from Mrs. Wilson, of some very nice seeds.

I hardly know how to describe Colin, he is very tall and thin, much better made than John and if he can possibly manage it, always neat and tidy. He is very thoughtless and passionate, is rather a favourite of Miss King's who says he is easily managed, kindness or rather — will make him do anything, he can learn his lessons well, but very often will not. Altho' smart enough in some things his judgment is not so sound as John's.

His constitution seems to have changed completely, he never knows an ailment and has a never failing appetite. He has a great deal of spirit nothing will daunt him, to give you an instance of this lately. On a dark night a pig got into our henhouse, on being desired to find out what it was, John hung back. Colin immediately marched out armed with a stick as big as himself, and strutted back in a little to laugh at John for being so frightened of a pig!

Louisa has better abilities than either of her brothers, her greatest failing is a violent temper. I often wish she were near you to manage her, she is very affectionate and has a decided taste for reading, she continues very big for her age, I think she has improved in looks, her figure promising to be good. She and Colin have commenced Geography and very proud they are. They all write from dictation every day which is a capital plan.

I hope I have not tired you with this long account of my little ones, I have tried to give you an impartial account of them.

We had, about 2 months ago, a very unwelcome addition to our family circle, in the shape of George Wright, his mother is certainly a most extraordinary creature, I may call her a most imprudent woman, only think of her sending him off here with only £5 in his pocket? The consequence was he arrived here perfectly penniless, had not even what would pay his passage from Wgton. My better half had to lend him £3 on his arrival a sum small as it may appear he could ill afford to pay, between what he has paid for a lot of cattle lately and the expense of this house building ready cash is rather scarce. It was a great hardship to pay out of the little hoard I make by my milk and butter etc. besides this where there is but one servant and such a family, a grown man makes a great addition to my toil. Even his ships linen was done here, formerly my own servant was able to do all our washing but now I have occasionally to hire a woman at 3/- a day. There is not the slightest chance of his getting a situation here and if he got one in Wgton. — if he is fit to keep it, he is the very essence of ignorance and stupidity and so vulgar that I am ashamed to hear him speak. He is totally unaware of his own deficiencies, on the contrary he has a great opinion of himself. His uncle says "If that lad would hold his tongue and not show his ignorance by his silly remarks and questions".

His mother has much to answer for — a creature who has been more neglected in every respect — I have never met with.

Mrs. Wright of all her father's family had the least claim upon her brother and I look upon it as a particular hardship upon me to have to toil for her son.

My own friends, whatever assistance they may have been to us, have certainly never been a burden upon my husband and I am determined that here George shall not remain. I have strongly recommended his uncle to make him work his passage Home again. I should enjoy his mother having him back after she thought of herself so nicely rid of him, she did not even write a line by him. Mrs. Gray wrote to me that she thought he would be very useful to her brother.

The broad Scotch sounds so horrid where most of our own society is English and all speak so well. Instead of [...] George says always he is [...] the other day he said he had been paddling the canoe. You can read all I have said of him to his aunt Grace I know I have written warmly on this subject but I cannot help it. People have a most mistaken idea at Home that the Colony is the fittest place for a man who is too stupid to do well in own country. On the contrary it requires greater energy of mind and ability to succeed here. Situations are not so easily got at Wgton. as when we first arrived, more young men have come out than supply the demand of them, and certainly neither George's manner, appearance nor education are likely to procure him a place. John Cameron is still an inmate of our house, and a valuable acquisition he is. He provides so much for the house, such as tea, flour etc. that his living with us is a great assistance besides his own labour which he does not spare. He is the person to do well here, he has so much prudence, good sense, energy of mind and activity of body. My better half was most fortunate to get him for a partner.

He has worked as hard at that new house of ours as if it were his own, I hope it will be his house until he gets a wife.

John made a good purchase of cattle when in Wgton. and we now rent a section of land about a mile from the town for £5 a year — which has excellent grazing for the cattle.

Our new house has a shingle roof and clay walls it will be very comfortable, we expect to be in it in 4 weeks, we will have a garden and a small plot for flowers in front. Capt. C. was determined to build a good house as he will be sure to let or sell it when he goes to the country.

The missionary of whom I wrote as being so troublesome was drowned a few months ago crossing a river on horseback. Since his death the natives are more favourable to the whites, and there is no doubt when the long looked for Mr. Spain makes his appearance and finds what is to be paid for the land, that all disputes will be settled. We heard yesterday that Mr. Spain was at length actually on his way here.

I hope in my next to be able to tell you that we have at length got possession of our land. Capt. C. says he would be quite happy if he was settled on it.

We like this country more and more, the climate is so fine, every animal and vegetable seems to thrive. The soil about the town is poor and sandy but even that produces wonderfully. We have quantities of vegetables in our present garden. My better half never relished vegetables because they are the produce of his own and John's toil. We have great quantities of Cape Gooseberries. I have made some jam of them which is very good.

I have so much milk that I have actually made some small cheeses, the rennet made from pig's stomach, which does very well. We have pumpkins not yet at their full growth which already measure 4 ft. in circumference.

For the last week we have had a most pleasant comet visible every night. Capt. C. says the famous one of 1811 was not nearly as brilliant.

Our summer is now drawing to a close, we still have splendid weather. When the mornings were longer, Capt. C. was up every morning at 5 o'clock, is not this a change? I never dreamt he would ever be so active — and better than all he is so much respected, he and Dr. Wilson are bosom friends, it is quite an extraordinary event if they are two days without seeing each other! and such arguments as they have! The Chess players have not met for some time, when the evenings are longer they will have their usual meetings.

One of our visitors, Dr. Allison, came out in the same vessel as Maclachlan, Miss Mackenzie Gramy and husband, he says Mac bore parting with his wife very coolly. I doubt she is not likely to see him again.

Dr. Allison is a very pleasant sensible young man, he must have a good deal of credit as he and his brother have 6 sections the brother is quite a lad.

I am sorry to hear they are likely to have such bad times in the Highlands, last year Capt. C. congratulated himself on being out of the country. I may say I have greater ease of mind here, than I have had since my marriage, the reason is nothing is done unknown to me, and I know exactly what expenses we have and how we are getting on. In every respect this is a great comfort.

The last time I wrote I was very much harassed, being without a servant for two months, I did the whole work of the home except the washing. I have now one I that had for a short time at Petone, she is from Skye and came out in the Blenheim, she is a strong able woman and milks the cows, she travelled from Port Nicholson here by land with John Cameron and the cattle, her brother also. She is the second white woman to travel that route. I hope to have her for some time, as she does not speak good English there is not so much chance of her getting a husband.

I mentioned in my last letter that Drimantoran had gone all wrong, everything he had has been seized by his creditors his subject (capital) it is thought may pay 12/- in the £, God knows what his family will do, his dissipation has destroyed his mind so completely that he will be quite a burden to the family, his memory is quite gone, only think of his asking John Cameron what ship he came out by. It is quite deplorable to see him such a wreck, the Almighty bestowed talents on him that should have made him a credit instead of a disgrace to his country. Catherine's intended is still in Auckland, he is highly spoken of as a most respectable man. My servant says he is from Lochaber but left it when just a boy and his parentage is not genteel. Adam is very steady, he is the sole support of his mother.

I had a note from Catherine lately mentioning they had letters from the Bank and that Margaret had written to me her letter has never come to hand, all yours arrive safely! It is laughable if a letter Margaret has taken two years to consider should have miscarried. You and my dear brother Alexdr. are the only members of our family who seem to recollect they have a sister in this part of the globe. I trust to hear that Margaret has got safely over her

confinement. What a heavy charge she has with such a large family. I must now bring this long and illegible scrawl to a close, and hope you will be able to read it. Now my dearest Isabella, I must have done, my husband joins me in kindest love to you and my mother.

Believe me your most affect. sister,
Jessie Campbell.

As I know you feel an interest in everything regarding the children, I may as well tell how careful they were when I was without a servant. Louisa every morning dressed Susan and Willie, Colin swept the room and set breakfast. John boiled the rice and infused the tea, by the time I came from the cows all was ready for me, John and Colin always work the churn for me.

- 27 June 1843: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Louisa (Campbell) Cameron:

Wanganui, 27th June 1843

My dearest Mother,

A lady has offered to enclose a letter in a small parcel she is sending to her friends in Yorkshire, she assures me of its safe transmission. I am delighted at having so early an opportunity of announcing to you the birth of another grandson on the 27th May. I was safely delivered of a fine stout little fellow, and have only to repeat the tale of most women in this country that I suffered nothing in comparison to what I would have at home.

Dr. Wilson was my medical attendant (midwives are not known here) my kind friend Mrs. Wilson did everything for me that you could have done, she came every day to dress the baby until I was strong, in short as I often told her, she was both mother and sister to me. I will give you an instance of her care of me. I had a slight threatening of my old pains two days after the baby's birth and had recourse to my old remedy — bottles of hot water — one of them broke in the bed. Mrs. Wilson heard of it late in the evening she guessed, as was really the case that I would not be at the trouble to get my bed so thoroughly changed as I should, she immediately came up and made everything dry and comfortable, except our own family, I have no relation of whom I have such regard.

When the baby is strong enough to be taken to church, he is to be named Ewen Alexander, he is very like Susan Anne.

We got comfortably settled in our new house 3 weeks before my confinement. I was saying the other day, if you could have a peep at us, how pleased you would be to see us so very comfortable, the house is an excellent one for the country, commodious and well planned. Many a hot argument the Capt. and John Cameron had while planning it, the walls are of clay with a roof of shingle, all the partitions inside are of wood, the walls outside are whitewashed which gives it the look of a clean English cottage. The accommodation consists of a sitting room on one side as you enter from the outer door — opposite is our own bedroom — opening from our room are two smaller rooms, one for the boys and one for the girls. On the end of the passage is a small place to be used as a laundry or pantry opening from it is a small store room. John Cameron has a very neat room, the first place he has had he could call his own since he came to N.Z. The rooms are very warm, a capital brick fireplace in the sitting room and what is more in this country it does not smoke in the least.

Capt. Campbell enjoys excellent health, his appearance is improved by being thin, he suffers nothing from rheumatism. Since we came to this comfortable house he is in excellent spirits, he has just the life he likes, he works hard during the day, and during the long winter evenings we very often have some friends in to play Backgammon or chess or perhaps Dr. Wilson pops in to have an argument, we can always have a pleasant society whenever we wish for it. The class of settler is very respectable in general and their numbers are gradually increasing. I am always so busy I have less time than inclination to be sociable.

I wrote to you some time ago that our troublesome missionary was drowned. The Bishop has supplied his place by sending Mr. Taylor, a clergyman educated at one of the English

universities and different from his predecessor in every way, he has a very ladylike wife and four children so neatly dressed.

Mr. Taylor brought a letter of introduction from Mr. Busby to Capt. Campbell it is a blessed change for this place to have a clergyman officiating every Sunday. Mr. Taylor preaches pretty well and reads the service beautifully. It is now time for me to give an account of the all important subject, the land question. I rejoice to say that after all our disappointments and delays, we have at last a certain prospect of getting our land very shortly.

Mr. Spain and Mr. Stafford were down here last April and after passing a month, the natives agreed to give up the land for so much additional payment, the only delay arises from Col. Wakefield declining to make this additional payment without referring to the Company. If they decline to pay (which is very unlikely) Government will take the whole matter into their own hands. The natives are very anxious to have the white people settled among them, they cannot live now without tobacco, blankets etc. all of which the Pakehas or White people provide them with. Our old native here, came yesterday with a present of a fine eel. He told the Capt. he was anxious to give him the land, but could not do it until they got more payment.

The settlers would at once advance the required payment but fear if they do so, the Company may refuse to repay them.

We are all delighted with Mr. Spain, he spared no exertion in settling the question, he is a most pleasant gentlemanlike man. All the good people here paid him great attention, there was such a slaughtering of poultry, giving him dinners. Capt. C. supplied the market with good beef. He sold a fat cow to a butcher, the only one that has been killed in the place. A regular invited dinner party is such an event in this part of the world that very few are provided with the necessaries for a dinner table. My things were in constant requisition and so the Capt. followed his spoons etc. and got his own share of the good things that were going. My dinner party consisted of 8 and their fare of fish, beef, chickens and ham, brown soup, cape gooseberry jam and dried peaches. Mr. Spain's mother in law, an old lady of 78, came to N.Z. with his wife and family. She stood the voyage well until one stormy night she was tossed out of her berth and broke her collar bone. She recovered from it much sooner than could be expected.

Mr. Spain's residence is in Auckland. He walked with Capt. C. to see our country sections and was delighted with them. On getting to one spot from which there is splendid view he exclaimed he had seen nothing like it in this country. The Capt. and he became such friends after this!!

I will now give you an account of my domestic concerns. Since January, I have had a Skye girl who came out on the Blenheim. I am counted fortunate in having her, she is honest and sober, milks the cows, is strong and not likely to marry in a hurry as she does not speak good English. Her wages are £16 a year.

Some purchases made last summer have increased our cattle to 40 head. I still get 3/- per lb. for fresh butter and 2/6 for Salt. 3d per pint for milk. I made a good deal by my dairy during the Summer and Autumn. We get nothing from our own land except the comfort of growing our own wheat and potatoes. As for raising crops for sale, it is not half so profitable as cattle.

Labourers' wages have lessened very much the men we had working at this house got 15/- per week, a year ago they would not have worked under £1 and rations.

The natives have a very large crop of Indian corn and potatoes this year which we get for very little from them, the meal of the Indian corn makes very good porridge and cakes and very good puddings, we have had no oatmeal for a long time, the children's breakfast in general is mashed potatoes or rice and milk, bread and milk for supper. They thrive well on their fare, as they are all so strong and healthy. John carries breadth and well as height he is a very sensible boy of his age, he is very useful to his Father, he is doing pretty well at school. Miss King takes great pains to give them general information and to give them a taste for reading. I hope by the time John is ready to begin higher branches we may have a good schoolmaster to send him to. In cyphering he is in the rule of three. Colin is a tall fishing rod but perfectly strong and healthy he has not the sound judgement of John nor the same confidence in himself. He puts me very much in mind of Donald McDonald, he can apply but

is so very thoughtless, yet he is a favourite of Miss King. I consider it an advantage for both boys to have the example of such a steady well principled young man as John Cameron.

Your grand-daughter is the cleverest of them, she promises to be as greater reader as Papa, every spare moment she has is devoted to her books, her memory is excellent. From the growth of her body and her mind, you forget she is only 7 years old. She is a great romp too and a famous hand at destroying her clothes.

Susan has not yet gone to school, I have no time to give her lessons. Willie is a strong rambling fellow, gives no trouble except to find him and put on his clothes, he runs about all day and goes to bed at 6 in the evening. We intend to send Susan to school when she is 5 years old. Miss King is now our nearest neighbour, I like her very much, she is a sociable, well educated person, a younger sister who was in the [...] for some time, has [...] here, she draws very well and was engaged by a naturalist to make drawings of the plants he collected. Their brother has been very unfortunate, a vessel in which he had valuable property coming from Port Nicholson here was wrecked and lost all. He has an excellent library of which the Capt. takes advantage occasionally.

By the bye I must not forget to mention how grateful he feels for the newspapers sent him. Our Stirling friends are most mindful of his newspaper reading propensities, and my dear brother, Alexdr. has not been behindhand.

We still have George Wright as an inmate, there is not the slightest chance of his getting a situation, his education has been so neglected I doubt if he would be able to keep a situation, it was cruel of his friends to send him. It is very hard upon us with our limited means and large family to be burdened with him. He found out his uncle's agent in Wellington and drew upon him for £3, and £3 12/- paid for his passage, makes £6 12/-. Capt. C. paid on his [...] His clothes are beginning to wear out and Capt. C. proposes to advance him a sum to keep him a week in Wellington, and if he does not succeed there, let him work his passage home. It would be long before his Mother would think of sending me as much as a pair of shoes for one of our children, not even the scrape of a pen by him she seems to have expected as a matter of course that his uncle would provide for him, he is so stupid, does not seem sensible of the wretched position he is in. I expect when Mrs. W. gets tired of her younger son he will be sent here likewise, she provides easily for her sons by paying their passage and £5 to boot! I consider George a bad companion for my boys, and keep them separate as much as possible, his association seems to have been very low indeed.

I wrote you some time ago of the miserable state of the Drimantorans, their son Adam, is the sole support of the family. The father will never do any good and his memory is completely gone, with very little hope of recovery. Alexdr. is likely to turn out a ne'er do well, has gone as cowherd to Angus McMaster their old servant, this seals his fate!

His poor wife, God help her, though much troubled with a stomach complaint, is obliged to do everything as they cannot afford to keep a servant.

Flora is very useful to her mother, but my servant, who was with them for some time, says Catherine was quite the fine lady, did nothing to assist her mother. Her intended has not yet returned from Auckland, she hears from him regularly. From a reduction of the surveying staff he lost his situation, he has been wanting the acting Governor to fulfil his promise of giving him another place, by the last accounts he was on the eve of being appointed Protector of the Aborigines either here or at Kafia, a place further down the coast. I do not know what his salary will be, probably £200 a year. Catherine has been very fortunate. Mr. Campbell has been highly spoken of by all. Mr. Spain told me he was a most honourable well principled young man.

Since commencing the above, I rejoice to inform you that the natives have agreed to allow the whites to take immediate possession of their land and trust to being paid afterwards. My gentlemen propose getting the natives to build a small hut on our land and when the season is far enough advanced, they will go there and begin operations, they hope to have some land under cultivation this year, yet they promise not to disturb me from my present abode until they have a good house for me. Our house on the town section will repay us, will let or sell well. I trust you will be able to read my scrawl, if they are not very legible, you must either suppose me writing with a great disturbance about me, or so sleepy I hardly see my pen!

We attribute the favourable disposition of the natives to Mr. Taylor's influence, what it is to have a good man and a man of education as missionary.

Say to Isabella with my kindest love how grateful I feel for her frequent and long letters. I trust you have received some of my missing letters long ago, my last was dated Feby. or March. I feel grieved that your anxiety about us, is not more frequently relieved, almost all the settlers here have their friends at home complaining of not receiving letters. It is thought there is some mismanagement at Wellington.

My friends at [Spout Hall?] seem determined that we shall forget them and they are in a fair way of having their wish gratified, the last letter I received from them was dated 2½ years ago.

I am anxious to hear of poor Marget's safety, I trust this will be her last.

When you write Ewen give him my congratulations on the birth of his son. I intend to devote my first spare time to Alexdr. he and Isabella are all of our own family who seem to remember me.

Will you offer Mrs. H. Campbell our kindest regards, her long letter was most interesting, I hope she will believe it is not the want of inclination that prevents me answering it at present.

The boys desire me to tell Grandmama that they are still wearing their shoes. Colin says he recollects the day he and Louisa attacked you, he says "I was a senseless little boy then".

You and all our friends will rejoice to hear that we still continue to like the country, our only disappointment has arisen from not getting the land, altho' we have often had our hopes swamped I trust I may now write with certainty of our getting possession.

John Cameron is of great assistance, he is so active and can put his hand to anything, he is likewise very prudent and will not consent to any money being laid out that can be avoided.

The greatest complaint we have is one that is I dare say rather general everywhere viz. want of cash, if could only manage to export there would not be such a drain of money from the Colony, there is talk of flax, if it could be turned to account, it would be a great matter.

I hope you have received a letter from John, tell Isabella my dark gown has been most useful to me now, my own gowns were too thin for winter and I have not time to make up materials I have in the house, my work at present is making tartan surtouts for the boys. Now my dearest Mother, my paper warns me to have done with scribbling. Capt. Campbell joins me in kind regards to all inquiring friends, and our best love to you and Isabella.

I remain, your most affectionate daughter,

Jessie Campbell.

P.S. Kind love to our Stirling friends, tell Margaret she must not think I forget her if I do not answer her letter for some time. With a young baby and one servant, you may think how my time is occupied – besides I have to make and mend for the household. I have received all Isabella's letters up to 2nd. November.

- 2 August 1843: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Isabella Cameron.

[the beginning of the letter is not included in the typescript]

...I would be considered quite a Goth if I put on anything but white frocks, until he is shortcoated, which will be very soon. Mrs. Wilson presented him with such a pretty hood trimmed with white satin and a tiny pair of Barbery slippers ornamented with gold thread they are of yellow morocco. I hope Louisa will soon be of assistance to me, she sews very well for her age, she is making pinafores for Baby. She is clever at most things, it is a pity she has such a bold passionate temper. Susan is a mild gentle little body, easily offended but not passionate, she continues good looking, but I do not think she will have her sister's ability. My paper warns me to bring this letter to a close.

I am glad to hear that a vessel is to be despatched direct to London this month. Offer my best love to our Stirling friends I wish I had time to write to my aunt, though I am sure she will understand it is the power I want and not the will. John threatens to send another epistle to his Grandmama, I tell him that for a few years his letters are not worth paying postage for.

And now my dear Isabella, I must say goodbye, the Capt. joins me in kindest love to my dear mother. God bless you my dearest sister —

Your most affecate.

Jessie Campbell.

I think I mentioned in a former letter that one of Drimontorans sons had gone to be herdbooy with his own old servt. Angus McMaster is not this terrible? Catherine hears frequently from her intended, he bears a high character. The natives have had a glorious feast lately, a large whale was cast ashore a short distance from this, the blubber has been such a feast to them, they brought us a quantity of oil for sale it was most disgusting to see them licking their fingers and the bottles. We burn nothing else than oil. I see by the days paper that Catherine's intended has been appointed Protector of the Aborigines for the districts of Taranaki and Mokau, his salary I suppose will be from £150 to £200 a year. I suppose he is in Wellington by this time.

Will you believe it is nearly a week since I commenced this scrawl it is quite amusing to see the number of unfinished letter my desk contains. I see one for Aunt dated April and one for Jessie S- dated Nov. last. My baby takes up my time constantly, even my evenings I cannot reckon my own as I used to do, if I make my appearance to visitors, he must do the same, If I go out to call, I must take him likewise.

Petre

Aug.2 1843

- 17 October 1843: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Isabella Cameron.

Wanganui, 17 Oct. 1843

My dearest Isabella,

Your letter of May 8th I received last week, and much pleased we were to have such recent news of you and so grateful to you for writing so regularly. Believe me, my dear sister, if I do not write quite so often as you wish, it is not from want of inclination, scarcely a day passes that you are not in my thoughts and in my conversation occasionally. I plead guilty to the charge of remissness for being months before writing to you after our arrival here, but ever since I have written regularly every two months. I am grieved and astonished some of my letters were not received, this will be the [...] I have dispatched since April last (I mean April 1842). We have now a mail established once a fortnight between this and Wellington which is a great boon.

Your letters by the bye, lay 6 weeks in Wellington.

We were much pleased to hear such good accounts of my dear mother's health.

I fancy you now returning from your summer tour and very glad I daresay to be back in your own comfortable house.

Poor Margaret has really a heavy charge, especially in a country where it so difficult to get daughters well disposed of. Pity some of them would not come here. We have only one young lady here in Wanganui, and she is engaged to be married on her 15th birthday (in March) to Dr. Allison, he is Scotch, has a good deal of money, and altho' not very polished is very steady and well principled. The young lady is a tall, awkward, long faced tabby. And so stupid, I cannot fancy how the man can be so stupid as to fancy her. She is the daughter of Mr. Gilfillan who brought me a letter from Miss Picken. This marriage is a godsend to them, they are in wretched circumstances, perhaps Grace may know something of them, I wish you would ask her. Mr. G. talks as if he were a very clever artist and says he made £500 a year at home, [is] that was the case, his coming out here is a mystery! He says he lost all by the failure of a London Bank. He has presented me with 2 very pretty sketches but Miss Martha King says they are only copies.

His wife was confined lately. I took compassion on her and was her nurse for which they are very grateful. He has promised to give me a sketch of our lake section when he has more leisure.

The children are all well and growing fast. John is a happy boy today, he has on a jacket for the first time, he has become too big for my tailoring, he looks very tall in his new dress. He is much occupied with his garden at present. Last night he was boasting to his Father that he had strawberries in blossom altho' only transplanted [...] months ago. I am glad to say he begins to show a liking for reading, I am so anxious he should develop a love of reading, if books are properly selected is half an education. Miss King thinks the same and does all in her power to develop this taste. She is very well informed and very able to direct their choice.

Their Father and I make it a principle never to allow them to be idle, this we can manage better by having them so constantly with us.

Susan has gone to school, Henry Harrison, a smart boy of her own age, he calls her his little wife and Susan smiles and smiles. Ewen Alexander is a thriving little fellow, he has been short coated and had no caps since he was three months old, he is so good-tempered that he gives little trouble — a blessing for me.

Willie is a great pet of Papa's who generally finds him when his breakfast is ready, he bawls all over the place for his Papa, he has a great deal of chat.

John desires his love and thanks for your intention of sending him books, he hopes by the time they arrive to be old enough to understand and enjoy them.

I envy anyone who has the pleasure before them of reading Sir Walter Scott's novels for the first time. I wish John may yet have it in his power to show his gratitude to you and to my Mother for your remembrance of him and all of us.

George Wright has left us, and in such an extraordinary way that I must you give the whole account of his conduct tho' it is rather a long story.

I wrote to you before that he came here perfectly penniless and indebted to his uncle £6 12/- for his passage and money he got on Capt. C's account from Capt. Rhodes in Wellington. There was nothing for him to do here, so Capt. C. employed him herding the milk cows, which was his employment till then — and is now again.

He looked on this as most degrading employment, and complained to everyone who would listen what a shame it was (this we did not hear till latterly) and that he had nothing for it. He is a most unprincipled fellow and made use of such horrid language to the servant girl that she would not remain in the house — and came to tell me only think of him abusing me to my son John? We are now done with him, and happy riddance he is. His uncle does all the slavery he complained of, we could not afford to give wages to a person we could do well without.

He told John that Louisa had heard me say something against his mother but she would not tell him what it was so he had written to his mother about this. On questioning Louisa, all she had heard me say was, how foolish of his mother to send George Wright out here, he paid his mother a poor compliment to suppose I had anything bad to say of her.

I would not have taken up so much of my paper with so unworthy a subject, but I know he has been writing home a parcel of fibs and I wanted you to know the truth, as to his mother believing him or not, I am indifferent, his baggage is still here, I suppose he will send for it.

The land question is in the same state as when I last wrote, nothing further will be done until the arrival of the new Governor. We have a warm advocate in Mr. Spain, he has exerted himself very much on behalf of the Wanganui settlers particularly. Papers in their own language have been circulated among the natives assuring them that they may depend upon the Government seeing them paid for their land and all their claims settled altho' it may take a little time.

In the meantime our cattle are increasing very rapidly. Next year the herd will be so large that a good many may be sold, and if the land question was only settled, Wanganui is in such good repute that we are likely to have an increase to our settlers, which would of course, cause a brisk demand for cattle.

I wish they could get as good prices for produce and cattle in the Highlands. Capt. C. sold a bull calf lately for £6, it was only six months old, the first cow he had here after getting two calves from her he sold to the butchers for £16 10/-, her first calf is now a fine bullock worth £17 or £18.

Even if we got our land I would be very unwilling to move from this on account of the children's education. Capt. C.'s heart is set on getting to his lake section, it is such a pretty place. The section we have got possession of is John Cameron's, it is only 1½ hours walk from this, we expect to have good crops off it next year.

It is quite amusing how ignorant some of the ladies here are of the knowledge most necessary for settlers' wives, a lady told me the other day that she could not make butter, the cream she kept for it always became so sour! She could hardly be persuaded that my butter was made from sour cream.

I think I mentioned to you that our Police Magistrate, Mr. Savory, was dismissed from his situation for various misdemeanours. My heart bleeds for his young and pretty wife, altho' she cannot see any fault in him and thinks he has been very ill-used by those who were instrumental in getting him dismissed. They have nothing but his half pay of a naval Lieutenant. His successor is not resident here, he is what is called an Itinerant Magistrate — his name is Macdonough, he paid his first visit about a month ago, he is about 30 years of age, very polished in manner, was born in Edinburgh. The Capt. knew his father, he was educated in Germany and was a Lieutenant in the [...] Regiment, he is very handsome, a pity we have no young ladies to be captivated, he has much small interesting chat for the ladies. However we are all much obliged to him for establishing a mail once a fortnight to Port Nicholson, and reducing the rate of postage from 1/- the oz. to 4d.

We have had weather unusually warm for the spring during the last fortnight, today it has broken up by a thunder storm, but not severe. I have never heard louder thunder here than at home, we still have an occasional earthquake but nothing compared to the one on 8th July, I am certain no house of two stories could have stood it. At Wgton. it was scarcely felt.

Capt. C. desires me to give you his love and thanks for the newspapers how gay Fort William has become, 3 balls in the season, what a change 4 years have made in that country. I would find myself quite a stranger there, the few friends who remain seem to have forgotten us. My last letter from Sporthale was dated 1840. Dr. Crichton notwithstanding his many professions of friendship, has never answered Capt. C.'s letter, he will never be troubled again.

Jessie Strone and her mother, I flatter myself still remember us with affection. I know Jessie will excuse my not answering her letter, I have so little time.

I am glad to hear the heir of the [R..] is still thriving, I daresay he will be a spoilt boy.

I almost forgot to mention that the "King William" has not yet arrived, I look forward with impatience to your letters by her — I feel half ashamed to send this epistle, so full of blunders.

My old acquaintance Miss Butler is married to a Mr. Barton from Sutherlandshire. I suppose Catherine Macdonald is married by this time, Campbell is at Wgton. [His] father continues in the same state, his memory quite gone. McDonough knows Campbell intimately and spoke very highly of him, she has been very fortunate.

Capt. C. and the children join in love to you and my mother.

Believe me my dearest Isabella

Your most affectionate sister

Jessie Campbell.

Offer our united love to Grace and Juliet, be sure to ask Grace about Gilfillan, he was Professor of painting at the Andersonian Institute and boasts of living in great style at home, I do not believe it. Kindest regards to Capt. William and Mrs. Campbell, old Aunty and all enquiring friends.

I must give you an account of the accouchement of a native woman which I heard the other day, I think it will astonish some of the good folks at home. She was delivered without going to bed — on the floor! And an hour afterwards went down to the river to wash herself and the child. Both are quite well.

- 17 March 1845: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Isabella Cameron.

Wanganui, 17th March, 1845

My dearest Isabella,

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter dated 17th Sept., about a fortnight ago, it made the Capt. and me very glad to hear you are so comfortable and happy. When I first heard of your intended marriage, I certainly felt some selfish regret at the prospect at being for ever separated from you, but I have your welfare too much at heart to grieve long at a change conducive to your happiness and comfort. My mother will miss you very much, at her time of life it is not agreeable to be placed among strangers with whom she can have no feelings in common.

I think it is very probable that this letter may find her with you. I am glad to hear she enjoys good health. Flora Kennedy must be everything to her, I should like to hear some of Flora's funny remarks on all the wonders she seen in her travels.

The Capt. and my little flock are well and I have likewise the good news to give you that the natives in this part of the settlement have agreed to give up the land to the settlers. We have had a small hut built on our lake section and two men have been employed for some time clearing the land.

John Cameron expects to go over next week to plough it up.

We owe this favourable disposition of the natives to the unremitting exertions of the Rev. Mr. Taylor our Missionary, he is a bright exception to most of his brethren. As to the final settlement of the to us all important land question, so much seems to depend on the authorities at Home, that I take it for granted that you know more about it than we do.

We have had undisturbed possession of John C's section for upwards of a year and a half, he spends most of his time there, returns to us on Saturday, going back on Monday with his little "valet" an English boy about 14 years of age, have got all the crops secured, the stacks thatched and they "took it coolly", there is not much danger of anyone disturbing them at this season.

I must now give you an account of some stirring events that have occurred here lately. About the beginning of January, some 200 natives came down the river from the Taupo country (about 150 miles from here) with the intention of fighting a tribe who live 20 miles from the coast and who had killed and eaten some of their relatives 8 or 9 years ago. The Taupo natives on arriving here, heard accounts of their enemies mustering so strongly that dared not attack them and here they remained to our great annoyance. Their Chiefs were very friendly to the Whites, particularly the principal leader, grey haired fine looking old man, but they could not control their men who took every opportunity of robbing the Europeans, they broke a pane of glass in our boys' room and hooked out all their blankets and sheets, one of the chiefs recovered most of the things but poor John lost a new pair of boots.

They at last became so audacious as to break into some house at night and ten of the inhabitants were forced to take it in turn to watch.

Our Magistrate became so alarmed that some collision might take place and wrote to the Superintendent in Wgton. how we were situated. He immediately came down in the Hazard sloop of war, at present commanded by Mr. Robertson, youngest son of Col. Robertson, he and the Lieutenant Governor or Superintendent, Major Richmond, had there been occasion for it, would have landed 50 men from the vessel. Major Richmond was determined to use forcible means to make the natives leave the place.

Fortunately the sight of the vessel outside the bar was quite sufficient to frighten them into promising to go away — they did so 2 or 3 days later.

In case of an attack Major Richmond desired the Magistrate to swear in 40 or 50 of the inhabitants as special constables to arm as best he could, each Magistrate was to have 10 men under him and Capt. C. was to command the whole.

Such a rummaging there was for fire-arms of all kinds, John Cameron casting bullets with as much glee as if he were going deer stalking. The Commander in chief you may believe was very busy he says he could compare his regiment to nothing else than Falstaff's ragged [...]

some of them did not know how to load a gun. I must confess I placed my whole dependence for our defence on the Blue Jackets.

It was arranged that on the firing of an alarm gun, all the women and children were to take refuge in a large wooden house and an hotel, they were to be guarded by 100 of our own natives headed by our Bishop Dr. Selwyn and some of his black coats who were here they came not to look after the whites but it happened to be visiting time. Notwithstanding these formidable preparations, I cannot say I felt much alarm. We often have hearty laughs now at all our war-like arrangements.

The natives on leaving this went up the coast, they came back about a fortnight ago on their return to their own country but only stayed two nights, their old chief Te Heu Heu sent word that he was so much ashamed of the thefts committed by his people, that he would not come to visit the whites, and did not allow his natives to cross to this side of the river. Major Richmond [...] in the Hazard. He is Scotch from Ayrshire the Capt. as usual knew some of his friends. I was delighted to see Capt. Robertson he is smart little fellow and very frank. The Bishop wished to have the policy of landing the men and asked Capt. R. to try the effect. Capt. R. very properly said "No, if I have the trouble of landing my men, it will not be for show but for mischief".

We had the honour of a call from the Bishop, he is handsome and so fascinating that while he was here I forgot my prejudice against him on account of his Puseyite doctrines and [...] towards other sects. He is very zealous certainly in his exertions among the Maoris but like most of our authorities he has too exalted an opinion of them, and seems to forget that tho' intelligent they are but savages.

Among the visitors we had during these stirring times, the Protector of Aborigines, stationed at Taranaki, he is a Maclean from [...] he attended Melfont school, North Ayrshire and knew the Glenmores. We could not find out who he was, except that he had a Grandmother and that the Grandfather was Minister of the Island of [Firee]. Although rough in his manner and appearance, he is a very shrewd and sensible person. I have every cause to speak well of him for he made a very kind offer to us. He wished us very much to send John to live with him that he might attend a school kept by an English clergyman in Taranaki and after returning home he wrote to Capt. Campbell and sent the school terms. We would have accepted of his kind offer but as Miss King has arranged with Mr. Taylor to give two hours every day to our two boys, we preferred sending John to her. Mr. Taylor's eldest boy aged 13 is under her charge and his father is so satisfied of her ability to carry on his education that he brought him home from the Bishop's school.

We are very well satisfied with the progress of the girls under Miss Martha King, they have both better abilities than the boys. Louisa's taste has matured her judgment. I am glad to see that Susan begins to show symptoms of the same taste. John is delighted with the books you sent him, he is ready with a good many of them, is busy with "Old Mortality" at present.

I have filled my paper with so much of my own concerns that it is high time I should tell you, how gratified we felt at yours and my dear Mother's affectionate remembrance of us, every article sent was what we stood most in need of. I cannot describe to you the pleasure the opening of the box gave to us all, the children are constantly writing letters of thanks to you and Grandmama, even Susan scribbles her gratitude and comes to ask me if it is sense she has written. The girls were so glad to have the nice shoes for their holiday parties.

The two little New Zealanders are very stout little fellows, they play together and give no trouble to anyone, they are such friends. Ewen is a very lively child, he attempts every word he hears. Willie is exactly what John was at his age. I am glad to say I have no prospect at any addition which is a great blessing with all I have to do.

The Capt. says Margaret's good qualities are quite thrown away in Britain where there is an excess of population, she would be an invaluable colonist.

You will, I daresay, see a good deal in the papers about our Governor and Government. Capt. Hobson was called King Log but most assuredly we have King Stork now. He never seems to know his own mind, makes laws one month and changes them next. Mr. Martin was a strenuous advocate for the settlers' interests until the Govt. bought him over by confirming his claim to a large tract of land. Because of the natives' complaints of prices of tobacco etc.

etc. Capt. Fitzroy took off all the duties on every article and to raise a revenue taxed the unfortunate settlers.

To favour Gov. officials, who are the only people with yearly incomes, anyone with £100 a year only pays the same as one whose whole capital amounts to £100, can anything be more unjust? He finds there is so little capital in the country that this does not raise sufficient revenue and he intends raising it. Our only hope is that a report we have heard of his being recalled may be confirmed. By his conduct to the natives and want of firmness he has caused them to lose the exalted opinion they had of the English. They say we are not strong, it is all talk with us that we are afraid to punish them. The report here is that he really is a coward, and the horse whipping he got at home confirms this opinion.

I wrote a long letter to my dear...

[Typescript breaks off]

- 9 September 1845: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Isabella (Cameron) Macgregor.

Sept.9. 1845. Wanganui

My dearest Isabella,

All your letters have arrived safely up to 7th Feby. last received about a month ago, we rejoiced very much to see by that how happy you were, you have so much to congratulate yourself on the important step you have taken.

A longer interval than usual has lapsed since I wrote last to you. I trust that you rest assured my silence does not proceed from decreasing affection. As my excuses would only be a repetition of those I have already given, I shall not take up my paper by repeating them. My last letter I am ashamed to say was dated in March, I wrote to end of April. Since then many stirring events have occurred in this Island. As I have no doubt you will see the whole account in the papers, it will be unnecessary for me to say much about them. Our prospects are glowing enough at present, we owe all our misfortunes to the present Governor who has inflicted upon us a man without principle or honour and upon whose word not the least reliance can be placed and to crown all, firmly believed to be an arrant coward. His conduct has been one continued tissue of absurdities and mischief even if he acknowledged it now, it would take years to remedy the evil he has been the cause of. It is said he is entirely governed by and advised by an old rascal missionary of the name of C— once a blacksmith, whose advice he has publicly declared to the Council, he preferred to any of his officials.

His conduct to the W. settlers has been most infamous, as indeed it has been to all the Company's settlements. About a year since he sent one of his Police Magistrates from Auckland such a report of this settlement – on receiving a favourable account from Mr. Symonds the magistrate, he, Capt. Fitzroy, wrote promising to settle the land question as soon as possible and wrote to the natives to the same effect, who were anxious to receive payment for their land. Some of the settlers offered to advance half the sum necessary with Government security. A short time later settlers and natives wrote the Governor imploring him to fulfil his promise, his answer was a flat refusal to do anything for us, desiring us to leave the place or if we insisted on remaining to make the best bargain we could with the natives. His reply to the natives was equivalent to telling them they could turn off the whites. Fortunately for us this malicious hint had no effect upon them, they said the Governor was foolish, but he would go back to England by and bye they said the Settlers were welcome to settle on their land, they would wait for their payment until a new Governor came. No reason can be assigned for Capt. Fitzroy's conduct except the malicious desire to destroy the Company's settlements as much as lay in his power. My "better half" says we shall never be right until we get a military man for Governor, those navy people are generally unfitted for a shore command, witness Capt. Bligh and several other instances. The settlers are so dispirited that many of them are leaving [...] an instance of the depreciation of land. I may mention that Capt. Campbell, 2 years ago was offered £200 for one of his sections, which he very foolishly refused, now I am certain he would not get £10 for it. Capt. Fitzroy's imbecility has been the

means of starting a war in the North which will not easily be quashed, he has learned what his cowardly undecided measures with the natives would lead to – the result has proved the warnings were given in vain. Fortunately for us the seat of war is near 500 miles from us. There has been already much waste of valuable lives and property, of course you will have the whole account of this in the papers.

Our little countryman Capt. Robertson has gone Home some time ago carrying with him the good wishes of every settler in the Colony. I was quite proud to claim him as my countryman, I trust long ere he joins his family he will be quite recovered from his severe wound.

We have just heard a rumour that Capt. Fitzroy is in such a desperate fright that he has sent his family off to Sydney, and sleeps himself on board the [...] sloop.

Although settlers here have now possession of their land from the natives, the payment of Mr. Spains award to them is so uncertain now and our being allowed to continue living on the land depends so much on that, the settlers are afraid to be at any expense improving their sections while affairs are so unsettled — indeed many are without the means.

We have got a tolerable road made over to our sections at the Lakes and several acres sown with wheat this autumn, we expect to have more than enough to supply us with flour. Cattle still fetch good prices in Wellington, the consumption of the troops helps to cause this. Down here we have no market for them and so few have a sufficient number to make it worthwhile to drive them to Wellington till next year it keeps us rather pinched, in Summer we hope to have a good lot of young animals to dispose of.

Money is now so scarce in this quarter that a great deal is done by barter. The two boys we have in our service have their wages partly paid in cattle, our pork we get by the same means, by disposing of a calf six months old we get pork to the value of £6. I do not get much money now for my dairy produce, but it helps to pay a good deal – for instance the shoemaker and tailor take it and my washerwoman is partly paid in this way. The Capt. says that Wanganui is the only place [heever]

I had a long letter lately from my kind Aunt McMillan of a later date than yours. I regretted to learn from it that Margaret, our sister, was laid up with [...]. I trust the attack was not a severe one, her life is so valuable that any serious ailment must alarm her family. Donald's death must have been a great trial. Although prepared for the melancholy event by your account of his illness, I was shocked to see his death notice in a paper which came to hand several weeks before [...] letter, I trust his poor mother's grief has been ameliorated long ere this and that He who never lifts a rod but in wisdom and for the good of his creatures [...] and do indeed sympathise with her on the blank and aching void caused in the heart by such a bereavement.

John must be a great comfort to his parents, I have no doubt the world will cure him of a great many of the foibles which made him such a disagreeable boy. I at one time thought of writing to Margaret, but her neglect and indifference to me has been so marked that I doubted on second thoughts if my letter would be welcome. I was very much amused to read in my aunt's letter that the Macdonald's gave as a reason for not coming to live in the house they built down here, the threatening aspect the natives assumed now. It is our boast that in no part of N.Z. are the natives so well affected to the whites, they seem quite aware of the benefits they derive from being among them. It is very laughable the wish some of them have to imitate the Europeans in their dress, particularly the baptised natives. A party of them have purchased among them a blue surtout, trousers and cap, shoes and a silk handkerchief. This dress is worn in turn every Sunday the affected air they assume and the flourishing of the silk handkerchief is truly ludicrous. One poor fellow could only get manage to a shirt (fortunately a long one!) and a bk. silk stock, he made his appearance in church one Sunday. This was his first and last appearance, I think Mr. Taylor must have interfered.

The Taupo invasion is the only cause we have had for alarm here. We were more frightened than there was occasion for. Mr. Maclean, the Protector, visited the Taupo country last April, he came down the river on his return journey to Taranaki and stayed a week with us, he gave a most interesting account of his travels. Nothing could equal the kindness and hospitality with which he was entertained. The old chief of the Hau Haus lives in a large house with

three fire places — has also about 40 of his natives, children and dependents under the same roof and no one dares approach the old man except his principal wife — except by invitation.

Immediately Mr. Maclean arrived a pig was killed and part of it very quickly cooked by the steam from a hole in the ground close to one of their hot springs. The old chief spoke in most friendly terms of the settlers. He has requested that a missionary be sent to live among them and has built a house.

The true reason for the Macdonalds not coming here was Catherine's marriage, her mother could not bear to leave her, the old man was likewise averse to leaving his Cronies. I heard from Mrs. Macdonald lately, her son Alexdr. had met with a bad accident going to the wreck of the [Ty...]. He is recovering his health. Her husband's constitution, she says, is completely broken up, he has lost his appetite and become so thin, she says, I would not know him. His death would be no loss to the family, he is quite useless to them. [...] goes on briskly again, I have heard on good authority that if he made £4 a week, he would spend £6. Catherine seems quite wrapped up in her baby and Grandmama not less so.

My little flock is quite well, the two girls are going to school at Miss Martha King's. They are both very well advanced with their education, Louisa's temper, I am glad to say, is much improved, she promises to be a great comfort to me. She does a good deal to assist, she darns stockings very neatly, she is at present making new collars for her Papa's and brothers' shirts, she is the most determined reader of her age I ever saw, no book comes amiss to her hand, History, Biography, Chamber's Journal is a never failing source.

The young man who gave lessons to the boys became such a bad character, we were obliged to give him up. John crosses the river to attend Miss King's, when weather permits, and Colin does the best he can with home lessons.

The two New Zealanders are boisterous little fellows, Willie has begun his letters. John is his master. Ewen has a great deal to say and speaks very distinctly.

I am sorry to hear such bad accounts of Susan Glenmore's health, it will destroy her poor mother if anything happens to her.

Offer my affectionate regards to the Strone family, say to Maggie that Mrs. M. sent a bit of her heather and heartease to John Cameron. Capt. Fitzroy is more likely to deprive him of his heartease than the young ladies at present. I prize the heather very much — the children had so much curiosity to see it.

I regret to tell you that I expect to be confined in November. I trust this will be the last occasion for I am heartily sick of the business.

If Ewen goes on as prosperously as he has commenced, my Mother is likely to have a goodly number of grandchildren. I regret that my kind brother Alexdr. does not get my letters I wrote him last March to say we could not invest his money for him in the present unsettled state of the country, I regret his losing interest all this time. Mr. Millar (Sydney) will not take any more at the rate of interest he gave the Capt. I think perhaps the best plan would be to invest at home. Capt. C. means to write to him shortly about it. I shall write next to my dear mother. I wish I had time to write to Mrs. Wm. Campbell, but at present I fear it is impossible. I regret to hear of Capt. William's illness. I should not like to see him so changed in appearance.

[the typescript for this letter ends here]

- Date unknown: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to unknown.

[the typescript for this letter does not include the beginning]

.....within the house shortly after coming here, we had 2 iron pots and a grindstone stolen, by the interference of the chief to whom Capt. C. made a present, they were returned, the grindstone was taken 40 miles up river.

We get quantities of pumpkins, the children are so fond of pumpkin pudding.

We are not so troubled with high winds as at Port Nicholson, the climate is warmer as we are nearly 2 degrees further north. We have frequent earthquakes but in general they are slight.

The river has no wood on the banks near here, I am told that up a little way there is plenty, it is a pretty sight on a fine evening to see it covered with canoes, skimming up and down or with one small white sail.

The missionaries seem to have thought it quite sufficient religion for the natives to sing psalms, morning and night and a most discordant noise they make, as we have 3 pahs in our neighbourhood we often feel inclined to stuff our ears.

You will be glad to hear that Capt. C. has at length got 2 sections but owing to some dispute with the natives he has not been able to settle on it yet, the dispute is between the natives and the Company, the former say they are not receiving sufficient payment for the land. We are every day looking for the arrival of a vessel with a quantity of blankets on board to satisfy their claims, they feel the benefit of having the Pakeha (white people) among them and would regret above everything to see them leave the country, so we are quite certain of getting our land as soon as their claims are satisfied. At present we do not regret it so much as nothing can be done till Spring and we are certain of having possession before that time. Capt. C. is reckoned fortunate in his choice, the sections are situated between two lakes which almost surround them and plenty firewood also wood for other purposes. The house is to be built so as to have the shelter of the wood and close to one of the lakes about 3 miles from Wanganui, the lakes are covered with wild ducks. The only kind of fish in them are eels but every bit of the 200 acres is available for the plough and the soil is said by a good judge to be as good as any in N.Z. Another advantage is that our cattle will have a range of 2 miles between us and the sea which is not to be surveyed – this enables him to dispose of his other two sections, he sent word to a gentleman in Wgton. who was inquiring about them, there has not been time for a reply yet. The town has been surveyed and the selection for it and for the rest of the country land, takes place in a few weeks.

The only drawbacks our sections have is that of being difficult of access, a few days labour will enable bullocks and a dray to get to them.

Dr. Wilson will be our near neighbour, his sections border on ours. I rejoice at this as Mrs. Wilson is my greatest friend, she is such a sensible well informed person, it is quite a treat to meet with such a woman. Unfortunately we are both so busy we cannot have as much of each other's company as we would wish.

Dr. Wilson and Capt. Thomas, our principal surveyor, are Capt. C's. cronies, the latter has been a great traveller and very well educated. By the bye he is a Sandhurst bird, I pitched upon him as such a suitable husband for Isabella, unfortunately he leaves here soon, we shall miss him very much.

John Cameron is still on the surveying staff, he and Capt. C. have entered into a partnership, this will be an advantage for both parties. John finds he has no chance of advancing in his present employment and means to give it up. He will live with us and manage the active part of the business. Labour is so expensive at present that agricultural pursuits will not pay for some time, they will only cultivate for the house consumption.

They mean to confine themselves entirely to cattle as the expense is small and they pay remarkably well.

John is a good judge of cattle and so very steady, he sleeps here except when surveying too far away to return here at night and always spends Saturday and Sunday with us. Capt. C. would make such an active settler, he is constantly working at something or other.

We have at present 5 cows. 4 of them are giving milk and have calves. We had a little Irishman as a servant for a short time who would have been an acquisition if he had not been too fond of gin, he milked the cows made the churn, baked the bread, in short if he had continued steady, I would have been independent of a woman servt. Every second week Dan or Dam as Susan called him, was sure to be absent without leave for 3 or 4 days. Capt. C. discharged him and now trudges for the cattle himself. Servants are a great curse here, I have a young girl from Arbroath whom I brought down here with me, altho' inexperienced I thought she would be obedient, once here she found out her own value. I can assure you I have enough to do with her, she neither can nor will work, the best I can say of her is that she is kind to the children. Necessity has compelled me to engage her for the next 6 months. She has two qualifications not often met with here, sobriety and honesty.

Capt. C. sold both his mares he brought from Sydney, he intended keeping the better one but the sight of £70 ready cash was irresistible especially as he did not think she was in foal, and there was no gentleman of that species down here.

He has 4 beautiful bullocks that are well broken in.

We brought several kinds of goods down which have been sold to advantage. Besides rearing their calves I make about £1 per week from my dairy I get 3d. per pint for skim milk, 3/- per lb for fresh butter and living being so cheap we are much more comfortable than at Petone. I may venture to say with certainty that if we were once settled on our own land —

[typescript ends here]

- Date Unknown: from Jessie Campbell in Wanganui to Isabella (Cameron) MacGregor.

[the typescript for this letter does not include the beginning]

.....And what strangers to each other, and how uncivilised mine will be in appearance compared to them, to give an idea of Susan's primitive ideas — she said, the other day, "What a fine lady the Queen must be, I daresay she never makes her own bed".

I am glad to hear that Margaret is recovering her spirits, poor Donald's death must indeed have been a sad trial. I recollect he was a great favourite of his mother's. Their friends at Kaiwarra are sadly used that they write so seldom to them, it is a shame when there are so many women that some of them do not write to such near relations. I am almost ashamed to send you this illegible scrawl, I am half asleep. I have often begged of my husband to write, but as he himself says, it is useless to do so. I will not ask you to continue to write so regularly as you have done hitherto. You cannot imagine what a luxury your letters are, I enjoy the Lochaber gossip as much as ever and above all it gives my husband and me the greatest pleasure to hear of your comfort and happiness.

When you write to Ewen, tell with my best love that I shall expect to hear from him occasionally, I know writing is a trouble to my mother and I can hear from him all about her.

I almost forgot to tell you that excellent prices are given for cattle in Wellington, this is good news for us as they are our main dependence. Wheat sells at 5/- the bushel, our harvest is begun, we expect to have fully as much wheat as we will require for our own use. We are using our own flour at present, every Friday I bake the whole weeks bread for the section and all are thundering loaves. Some of them weigh 7 lbs. I have got so into the way of baking and making yeast that my bread never fails and gives no more trouble than a batch of oaten cakes used to do at home! I often think what a desirable place this would be for a half-pay officer, everything except clothing so cheap. Pork 2d per lb. and much cheaper if bought by barter. Excellent bk. tea we got lately 2/8 per pound, green tea for 1/6 to 2/-. Good brown sugar 3d. Spirits are dear from the high duty, that does not signify to us, for the last year we have only used 2 gals. Spanish Wine is 1/- the bottle and good sherry 2/-.

My washerwoman only gets 1/6 per day. I get a woman in to sew for the same, she will make a pair of trousers for a boy in a day, so you see if the Capt. could have managed to be on half pay, he would have been quite a man of fortune!

I think notwithstanding my hurry I have managed to make my letter a tolerable length. When I sit down to write I forget I am not chatting to you.

Capt. Campbell joins me in kindest regards to Mr. Macgregor and with love to you.

Believe me, my dearest Isabella,

Your most affectionate sister

Jessie Campbell

Kind regards to Miss Nelly I am sorry to hear she is failing so much, she will leave a great blank. My affecate. regards to the Stroves, I hope Jessie forgives me for not writing to her. You may think how tired I am at night when I tell you I fell asleep the other night reading Martin Chuzzlewit!

- ca June 1846: from Jessie Campbell to Isabella (Cameron) Macgregor.

[the typescript for this letter does not include the beginning]

.....Broke off the treaty with the natives , sent the money on board ship by stealth, and departed himself at a few hours notice, his only excuse was, some of the inferior chiefs claiming land which a little patience and interference of the better natives would at once have made them give up. Mr. Symonds did not even take the trouble to explain his conduct to any of the chiefs who had settled everything with him. The disappointment to the natives was so great that we were rather alarmed for the consequences, however their conduct has been beyond all praise. They have sent a letter to the Governor offering to give the land for nothing, they say they do not mind the loss of the money so much as the loss of the white people. The unlucky man who claimed the land has been put in Coventry, they have begged of the whites to punish him by buying nothing from him or his people, notwithstanding that we have been here so long we dread that Mr. Symond's report to the Gov. will be the means of removing us, so much is the opinion of some of the settlers who had their land ploughed, they do not intend putting down any crop.

We are going on as usual, John Cameron is going to live at the lakes and is having a small wooden house put up, if this settlement is broken up, we intend giving a filly foal for those sections to secure a run for the cattle that we may not remove them at a sacrifice, the land can be chosen where the others go and we can move at our convenience. I cannot tell you how it grieves me to leave this place. I have no dread of the natives. Some of the old wives had such a cry or tangi over me the day Symonds left, that I had nearly joined them. The Capt. is an immense favourite, they all say he is a Rangitira (that is a great gentleman) he is very kind to them but never familiar and never loses his patience, from his deafness he has picked up very little of their language. I never attempt to bargain with the natives, they have no idea of the value of time and I lose patience, John is employed as interpreter for us all.

The Capt. is so broken hearted at leaving this place, that he intends going to Wgton. to see the Governor who is expected there soon, to try what can be done. Immediately on his return I shall write to let you know our fate. One of the reasons Mr. Symonds makes for breaking faith with the natives was the dread of giving so much money to the natives in the present unsettled state of the country as they might buy arms and ammunition, they never thought of such a thing, what they thought principally of buying was cattle and horses, one of Capt. Grey's wisest acts has been making anyone selling arms or ammunition to the natives liable to a fine of £500. Fitzroy never thought of any prohibition of this kind. Capt. Grey is a very young man to hold such a high position, he looks about 30, he cannot be much more, he got his commission in Sandhurst in '32 so he must have been there with Alexdr. he regretted that his stay was so short, it prevented him from making the acquaintance of the ladies of the place. His wife is very young, pretty and very clever, she was much pleased with the gaiety of Wgton., they gave a grand ball in honour of the Governor's visit. One of our richest and oldest settlers Mr. Crawford went home some time ago, returning last January, bringing with him a young wife very bright and very stylish, but stone blind. She was in that state two years before her marriage. She attended the ball given the Governor and danced the Polka, to see her move through the dance with so much grace, I am told no one would suppose she had lost her sight. Her eyes have not the glazed look that the blind usually have, still I think it must have been a humiliating sight to see a blind woman dance.

The Military are very much disliked in Wgton. I believe the principle reason is that they do not associate with the townspeople very much. Those storekeepers and auctioneers they consider in the same light they are looked upon at Home.

Although at such we have benefited by the Military from their consumption of beef. John Cameron went to Wgton. some time ago with 6 fat head and got £12 each for them.

The last time I heard from Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. [...] was so ill with rheumatism she was preparing to go to Sydney in hopes of the warm climate benefiting her, her baby is a very fine child, Catherine is so thin and haggard John C, says I would hardly know her.

Campbell Macdonald has determined on going to sea and is bound apprentice to Capt. Dawson of the Skiro Castle when her contract with the Government expires, she is to go Home and will be at least 5 months at Home. Campbell is to spend that time with his friends in the Highlands, he is at present with the ship in Auckland he is a very steady boy.

I have been as usual half asleep over this, I fear you will not be able to read it. I have much rejoiced to hear of dear Alexdr's return, I would like so much to see his journal, how fortunate his money was not invested here. I regret his losing the interest but it is better as it is in the present state of matters.

The Capt. is just ready to embark on board the little craft for Wgton. so I must have done, he joins me in kindest regards to Mr. Macgregor – With our kindest love to yourself –

Believe me my dearest Isabella

Your most affectionate sister

Jessie Campbell.

If you are not too much occupied, may I ask you to write to those friends most interested in us, there are some that I wish much to write to, but really and truly I am so slow at the pen that I have not time. If you write to my dear mother, tell her with my best love what a luxury the canister of arrowroot was for John during his illness.

SOURCES

The following is a non-exhaustive account of the main sources used in compiling the information on the website and in this book.

Public Records

New Zealand:

- New Zealand BDM records, searchable indexes free but inflexible search terms, details of registrations are subject to a high fee.
- Archway at Archives New Zealand, military records (WW1 available online, free) and indexes of other official records.
- New Zealand cemetery records on City and District Council websites – gateway through Christchurch Library website.

Overseas:

- ScotlandsPeople website, searchable index for a very small fee, images of registration details for a small cost.
- NSW BDM records, a free searchable index, registration details for a high fee.
- Victorian BDM records, searchable index for a small fee, registration details for a high fee.
- Queensland BDM records, free search, registration details for a high fee.

Reports, Letters, Diaries and Memoirs

- *Jessie Campbell's Journal*, now available on this website, based on typescript held in Alexander Turnbull Library.
- *Jessie Campbell's Letters*, available in Clan Cameron newsletters and now on this website based on typescript held in the Alexander Turnbull Library.
- *Margaret Perry Diaries*, Whanganui Regional Museum Collection
- *Alexander MacDonald: My Story*, transcribed by Michael Fowler, National Library of New Zealand.
- Napier Commission, report contained in documents at the University of the Highlands and Islands, and those relating to the Isle of Skye also available at <http://napier-skye.blogspot.co.nz/>. This is the 1884 report of a Committee of Inquiry into the Conditions of Crofters and Cottars in the Highlands and Islands

Books – Scotland

- *The Statistical Accounts of Scotland*, University of Edinburgh, EDiNA website. Parish reports for the whole of Scotland for 1791-99 and 1834-45, often prepared by the parish minister, and covering agriculture, education, trades, religion and social customs.
- *Morvern Transformed*, Philip Gaskell, 1968. Social and economic change in the Highland parish of Morvern in the nineteenth century.
- *Bygone Lochaber*, Somerled MacMillan, 1971. A history of the Lochaber region and the clans living there.
- *The Camerons*, John Stewart, 2nd ed. 1981. A history of Clan Cameron.
- *Cameron Memorial Inscriptions in Lochaber*, William A Cameron, 2005. Records of all Camerons referred to on headstone inscriptions and monuments in the principal burial grounds of the Lochaber heartland.

Books – New Zealand

General:

- *Blenheim, Greenock 25 August 1840, Kaiwharawhara 27 December 1840*, Donald D Cameron, 1990. An illustrated account of the voyage of the *Blenheim* and the settlement at Kaiwharawhara.
- *Unpacking the Kist*, Brad Patterson, Tom Brooking and Jim McAloon, 2013. An interdisciplinary study of Scottish migration, cultural adaptation and legacy in New Zealand.
- *From Alba to Aotearoa*, Rebecca Lenihan, 2015. A profile of New Zealand's Scots migrants 1840-1920.
- *New Zealand Wars: A History of the Maori Campaigns and the Pioneering Period: Volume 1: 1845-1864*, James Cowan, 1922, available online at the Victoria University NZETC website.
- *Brave Days*, Women's Division of the NZ Farmers' Union, 1939. A collection of stories and memories of the early days of New Zealand settlement, contributed by members of the Women's Division of the Farmers' Union

Regional:

- *The Cyclopedia of New Zealand Wellington Provincial District and Canterbury Provincial District* available online at the Victoria University NZETC website
- *The Beach Highway*, Paul Melody, 2004, stories of the early settlers of the Rangitikei district.
- *Early Rangitikei*, J G Wilson, 1914, available online at The Internet Archive, "A few notes, collected from various sources of the settlement on the Rangitikei River of a number of Maoris of different tribes. A short history of the purchase and colonization of the land between the Turakina and Oroua Rivers, and an account of the various pioneers."
- *Rangitikei: The Day of Striding Out*, S G Laurensen, 1979. A history of Rangitikei County.
- *From Sand to Papa*, Rex H Voelkerling and Kevin L Stewart, 1986. A history of Wanganui County.
- *Lakes District of Wanganui*, Marie Leslie, 1990. A history of the people and places associated with the Kaitoke area of Wanganui.
- *Early Wellington*, Louis E Ward, 1928, reproduced 1975, available online at the Victoria University NZETC website. "This work is an endeavour on my part to compress into one volume, events that occurred in the New Zealand Company's first settlement in New Zealand between the years of 1839 to 1850, with additional chapters containing a few incidents occurring up to the year 1870."
- *The Streets of My City*, F L Irvine-Smith, 1948, available online through Wellington City Libraries. The book records and explains Wellington street names and their associations.
- *Tawa Flat and the Old Porirua Road 1840-1955*, Arthur Carmen, 1956
- *The Early Canterbury Runs*, L G D Acland, 1930, 4th ed. 1975, available online at the Victoria University NZETC website. A history of the early pastoral runs of Canterbury.

Family Stories:

- *Poyntzfield*, Rob Knight, 1975, a history of the family of Thomas Urquhart McKenzie and Margaret Fraser of Lower Rangitikei.

- *Pukehou*, Ian Clapham, 1996. A history of the family of Duncan Fraser and Marjory Fraser of Lower Rangitikei.
- *The Sutherlands of Ngaipu*, Alexander Sutherland, 1947. A history of the Sutherland family of Lyall Bay and Ngaipu, Wairarapa.
- *Morvern to Glenmorven*, Frank Fyfe and Bebe Douglas, 2000. A history of the family of Hugh Morrison and Anne Turner of Wairarapa.
- *The Camerons of Kaiwarra*, M J Ulyatt, 2009. A history of the family of Donald Cameron and Christina McLean of Kaiwarra and Wairarapa.
- *The Camerons of "Springhill"*, Norman Cameron, 2009. A history of the family of Allan Cameron and Jessie Grant of Pencarrow and Wairarapa.
- *A McKenzie Family 1840-1990: from Argyll to Wairarapa, New Zealand*, Nancy Minton, 1990. A history of the family of Hugh McKenzie and Catherine McDonald of Wairarapa.
- *The Sons and Daughters*, Shona McRae, 1991. A history of the family of John MacFarlane and Catherine Cameron of North Canterbury.
- *Hardy Highlanders in New Zealand*, Jennifer Macdonald, 1991. A history of the family of John MacFarlane and Catherine Cameron of North Canterbury.
- *A History of the McFarlanes of Letter in Port of Menteith*, Katherine Agnes Macfarlane, 1933. A history of the family of John MacFarlane and Catherine Cameron of North Canterbury.

Newspapers

- PapersPast website of New Zealand newspapers at the National Library of New Zealand.
- Trove website of Australian newspapers at the National Library of Australia
- Google Newspapers Archive. Covers a wide range of newspapers from around the world, including the *Herald* from 1840.
- Gale Newspaper Collections, via the NZ Genealogical Society, Members access.
- British Newspapers 1710-1953, on findmypast.com. Subscription required.

Universities, Libraries and Museums

- National Library of New Zealand, including the Alexander Turnbull Library,. Significant holdings of a wide range of material, both online and hard copy, and including images, with very helpful staff.
- Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand Electronic Text Collection, significant New Zealand and Pacific Island texts and materials held by Victoria University of Wellington Library.
- Otago University, Hocken Library. The collections include books, ephemera, posters, newspapers, journals, music, maps, archives, manuscripts, photographs, paintings, drawings and film, relating to the history and culture of New Zealand, the Pacific and Antarctica, with a special emphasis on the Otago and Southland regions of New Zealand.
- Whanganui Library, including the digital collection Ripples of the Past.
- Masterton District Library and Archive: Includes the Heritage collection with a searchable archive of material relating to Wairarapa's heritage; Pictures Wairarapa, a searchable archive of photographs relating to the Wairarapa district; and Wairarapa Stories with links to stories about the district.

Genealogy Websites

- FamilySearch website for *Blenheim* passenger lists; and Probate records.

- Ancestry.com for family trees, electoral rolls and other data. Subscription required.
- findmypast website for a wide range of genealogical databases. Subscription required.
- New Zealand Genealogical Society. A range of services and information, primarily for members, but including CDs with a range of databases available for sale.
- Our Stuff! Denise & Peters genealogical website. A wide range of early New Zealand information, including passenger lists and jury lists.

Other Online Resources

- Hutt Valley Biographical Index and Genealogies (HBIG), a collection of Early Settlers Genealogies and historical information covering the Hutt Valley.
- Clan Cameron website
- Clan Cameron Association Scotland.
- Clan Cameron Australia genealogy website.
- Clan MacFarlane genealogy website.
- International Clan Chisholm Society, New Zealand Branch

and many, many more – often discovered through Google..

INDEX

Notes:

- The index does not include places such as Greenock, Wellington and Port Nicholson that run throughout the text.
- Similarly the *Blenheim* is not included, otherwise ships are listed under “Ships”, and military units are listed under “Military Units”.
- Given the number of similar names, both first and surnames, some effort has been put into distinguishing the individuals concerned.

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