

Exploring the nineteenth century garrison
world, near and far.

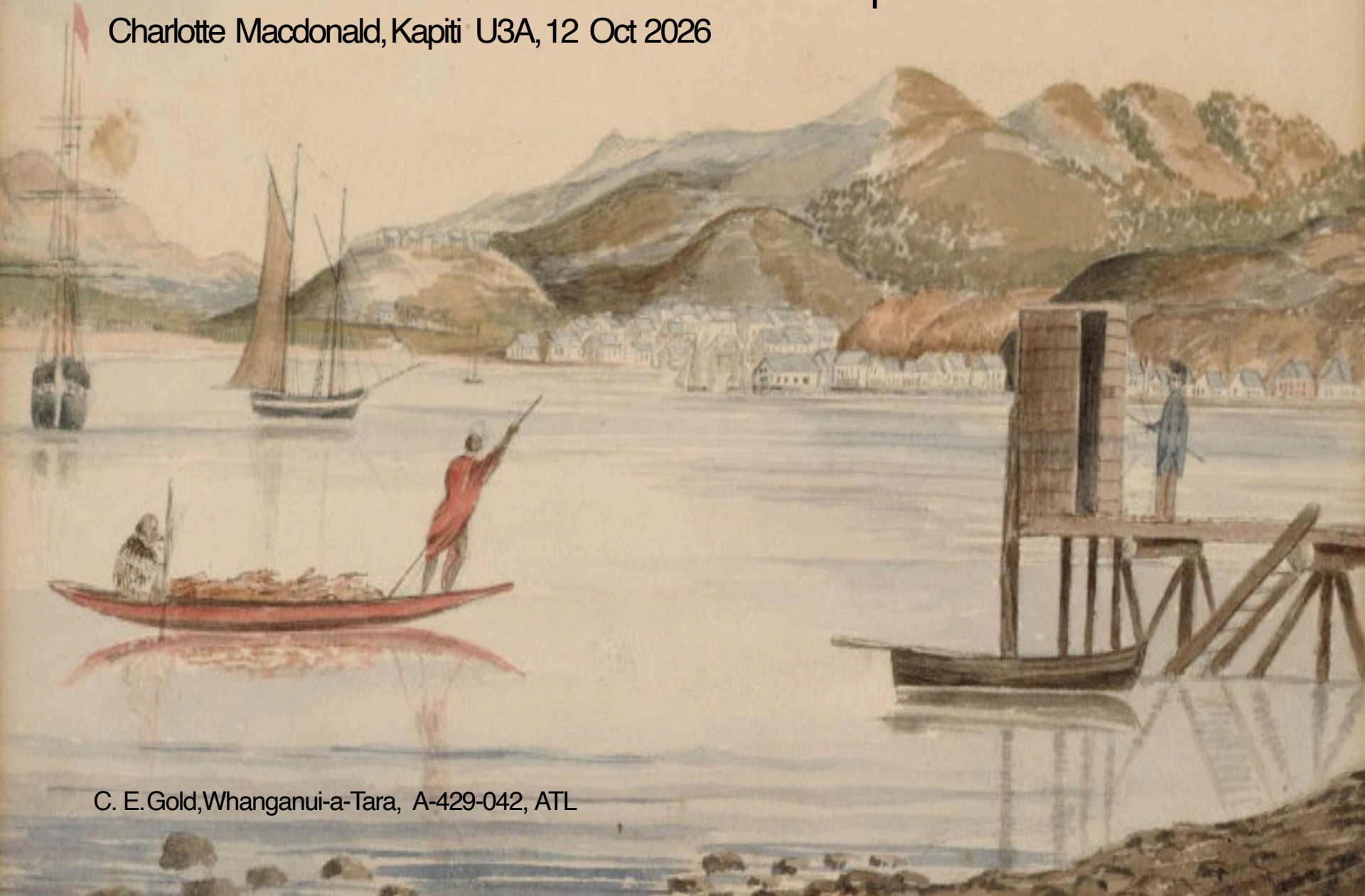
Redcoat soldiers in New Zealand and
empire

Kapiti U3A

Mon 12 October 2026

Exploring the nineteenth century garrison world, near and far. Redcoat soldiers in New Zealand and empire

Charlotte Macdonald, Kapiti U3A, 12 Oct 2026



C. E. Gold, Whanganui-a-Tara, A-429-042, ATL

NEW ZEALAND COMPANY, EMIGRATION.

**THE COURT OF DIRECTORS
NEW ZEALAND COMPANY**

Are prepared to assist in Emigrating to their Settlements in New Zealand,

**AGRICULTURAL
MECHANICS,
FARM LABORERS,
AND
Domestic Servants**

Of good character, who will assist themselves by defraying a portion of the cost of their passage.

The Directors will receive Applications accordingly, until

WEDNESDAY, the 9th AUGUST.

From persons of the above description desirous of proceeding on those terms by the Ship

A J A X

Appointed to Sail from the London Docks on

Monday, the 4th September next.

Further Particulars and Forms of Application may be obtained at New Zealand House,

By Order of the Court,

Thomas Cudbert Harington.

New Zealand House, 9, Broad Street Buildings, London,

24th July, 1848.

Hawkshead, c.1840s

Wm Swainson, ATL

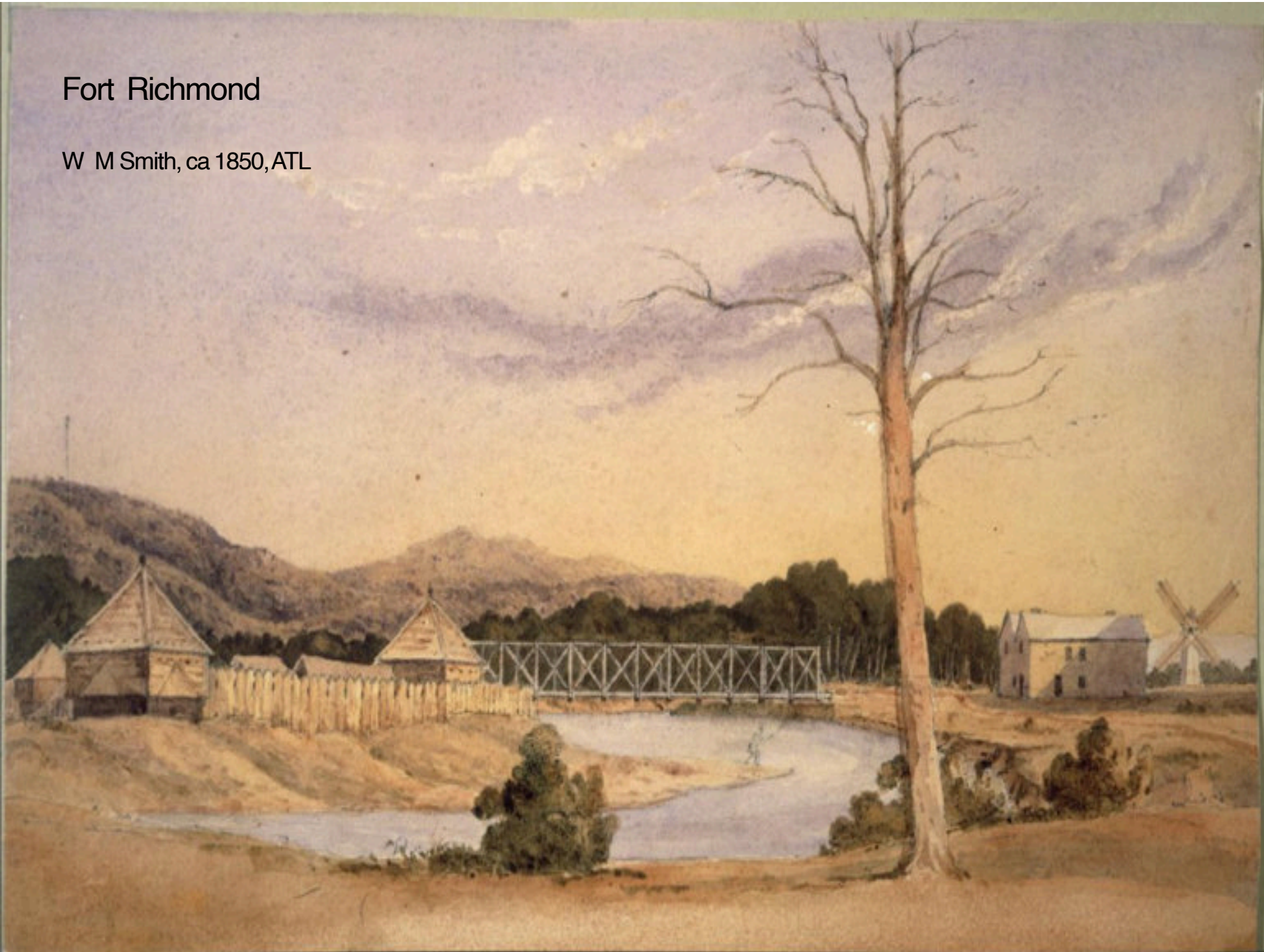


Fort Richmond, Samuel C Brees, c.1845, ATL



Fort Richmond

W M Smith, ca 1850, ATL



Mary Swainson, aged 19 years, mid-1845

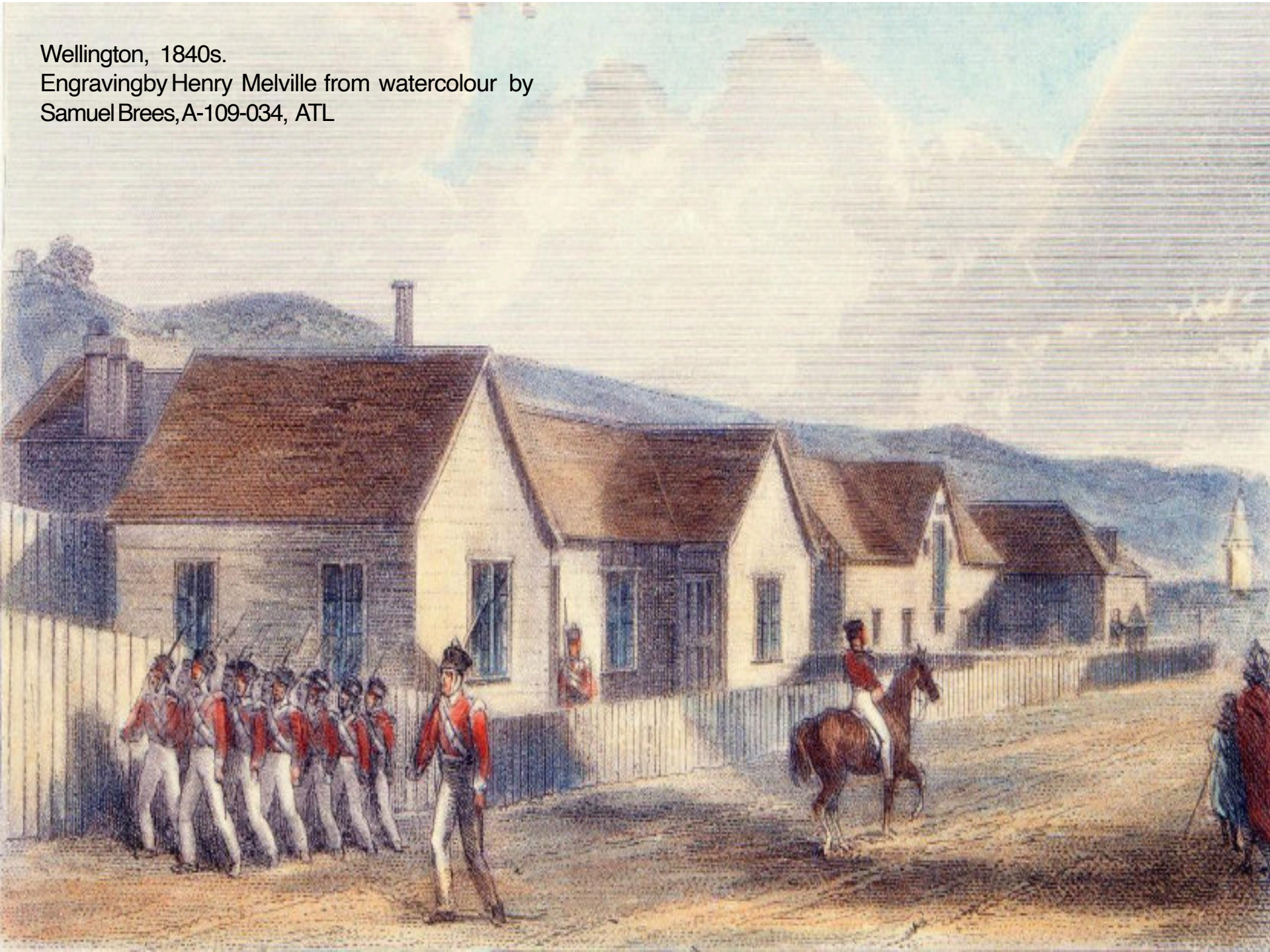
‘Can you fancy me having learnt to load a gun, and fire one?’

‘Pray do not let this alarm you...’

Letter to her grandparents in Manchester, England

Wellington, 1840s.

Engraving by Henry Melville from watercolour by
Samuel Brees, A-109-034, ATL



Te Rauparaha
c.1843-45

Isaac Coates, A-255-018. ATL



Rauparaha.

Kapia Chief.

Ōhaeawai

Cyprian Bridge, ATL



Paremata Barracks, 1847

Destroyed 1855

Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa



Fort Britomart

PA-1-0-347-67,ATL





Barracks wall remnant



Rutland Stockade, Whanganui. Whanganui Regional Museum



GARRISON WORLD

Redcoat Soldiers in New Zealand
and across the British Empire

CHARLOTTE MACDONALD



Mary Swainson, aged 23 years

Writing to her friend Isabel Percy, in England, March 1849, announcing her engagement to John Marshall, paymaster with the 65th regiment:

‘I think that you and all of my friends would approve, as much as my New Zealand friends do, with one regret that he is in the Army. I must tell you that he is very different from redcoats generally, being quiet and steady in his habits and tastes He is rather more than ten years my senior and as he is the Paymaster of the 65th Regt... will be kept at headquarters, and above all I shall not have to live in Barracks...’



W Peebles, A rough view of the barracks square, 1849
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki 1921/6/1

Auckland waterfront 1850s
U/278 AucklandArt Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

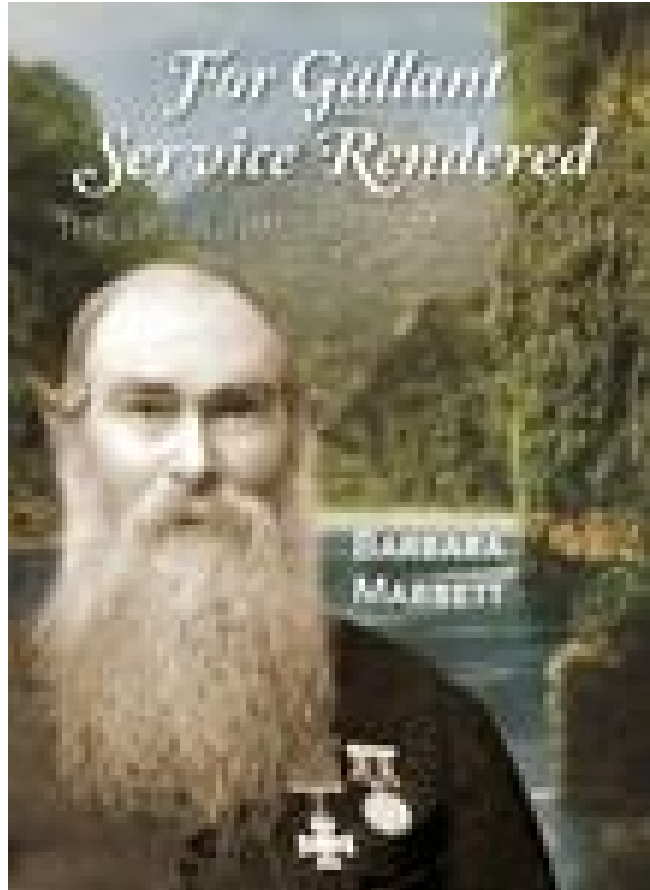




C. E. Gold, Whanganui-a-Tara, A-429-042, ATL



C E Gold, Pungasin Sunlight
A-288-036, ATL



Barbara Mabbett

For Gallant Service Rendered: the life and times of Samuel Austin

Steele Roberts, 2013



Regimental badges

Detail: 18th regiment, Royal Irish



King Tāwhaio
PA3-0184, ATL



Spencer Perceval Talbot Nicholl. Diary
MS-1712, ATL

My Journal
from Oct.^{br} 15th 1863 to Dec 31st 1864

Spencer Perceval T. Nicholl
43rd St. Sep 2

N.B. In case of my death
I wish this book to be sent
to my friends without being
read by any one
S.P.T.N.

My Home is
Morthys Mawr
Bridgend
South Wales.



Spencer Perceval Talbot Nicholl Diary
MS-1712, ATL

HILL & MILLARD,
MILITARY & COLONIAL OUTFITTERS.

SOLID LEATHER TRUNK



AND PORTMANTEAU MANUFACTURERS.

8 Duncannon Street,
TRAFALGAR SQUARE

• LONDON •

opposite St Martin's Church.



Royal Arsenal, Woolwich
London

My Travels in New Zealand.

We landed in Auckland the Capital of New Zealand on the 21st of January 1865. we marched from the Quay to the Barracks. they where wood houses. there was no room in the wood houses for us. so we made a tent pitched in the Barrack Square. & three Blankets served out to us. we could not sleep so well at night. for with sleeping on the ground our blankets got full of dust & sand flakes. with the exception of having to sleep on the ground I liked Auckland very well. for it was a very Pleasant Place. the Streets are Broad & there was Plenty of gardens to look at. & Churches & Chapels to go to. & the Public

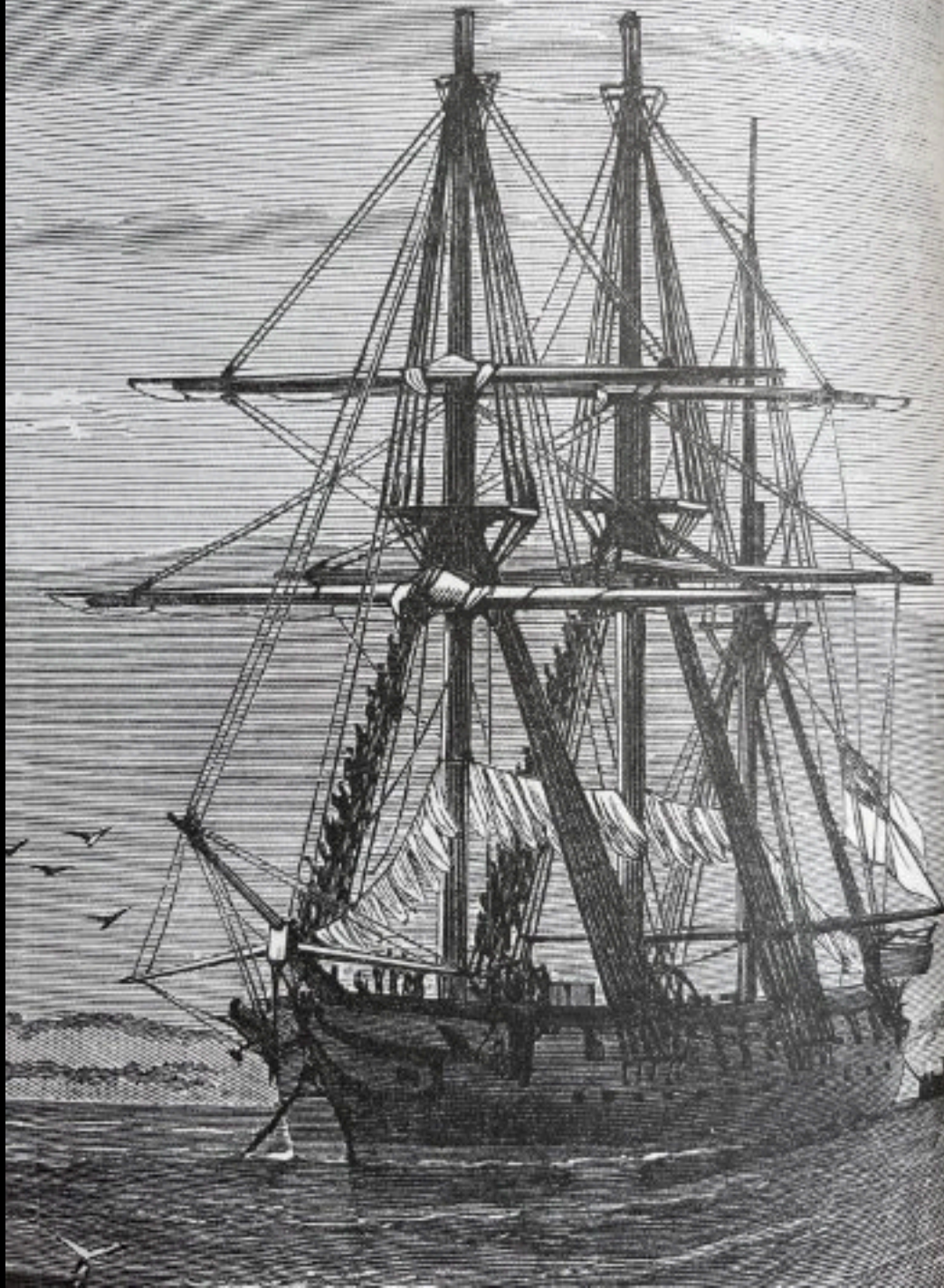
George Brier

'My Travels in New Zealand'

MS6/2 Te Ao Mārama Tauranga City Libraries

'...we could not sleep so well at night for with sleeping on the ground our blankets got full of dust & sand...'

HMS Niger



GORDON AND EYRE

The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have received the following communication from Jamaica.

"In a despatch from Mr. EYRE to Mr. CARDWELL, dated January, 1866, the following paragraph appears.

"It is also well known out here, that Mr. Gordon was universally regarded as a bad man in every sense of the word. Reported to be grossly immoral and an adulterer, a liar, a swindler, dishonest, cruel, vindictive, and a hypocrite; such are the terms applied to the late G. W. Gordon, and I believe abundant proof might be adduced of all these traits."

"THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING RESIDED IN THE ISLAND FOR MANY YEARS, AND HAVING HAD VERY CONSIDERABLE OPPORTUNITIES OF KNOWING AND FORMING AN ESTIMATE OF THE LATE MR. GORDON'S CHARACTER IN HIS VARIOUS RELATIONS IN LIFE, DO HEREBY PROTEST AGAINST THE FOREGOING ALLEGATIONS AS MADE BY MR. EYRE, AND DECLARE THEM TO BE UTTERLY WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

JAMES H. PHILLIPO, Senior Baptist Missionary, Jamaica.

WILLIAM ANDREWS, Attorney-at-law, Kingston, Jamaica.

ROBERT JORDAN, C.B.

JAMES BELL.

ALEXANDER FIDDES, F.R.C.S., Edinburgh.

ANDREW LYON, Common Councilman of the City and P. of Kingston.

THOMAS GEDDES, Missionary, Savanna la-Mar.

JAMES SCOTT, M.R.C.S.

ABRAHAM PINTO.

H. RANNS.

ROBERT GORDON, Priest of the Church of England; Head Master of Walmer's Grammar School, Kingston.

ROBERT E. WATSON, Baptist Minister." And 116 other persons.

Morant Bay Massacre
Jamaica, Oct 1865

Gov Edward Eyre
George Gordon, Member of
Legislative Assembly hanged
under martial law.

Attempts made to prosecute
Eyre for murder in England.

Royal Commission into
events.

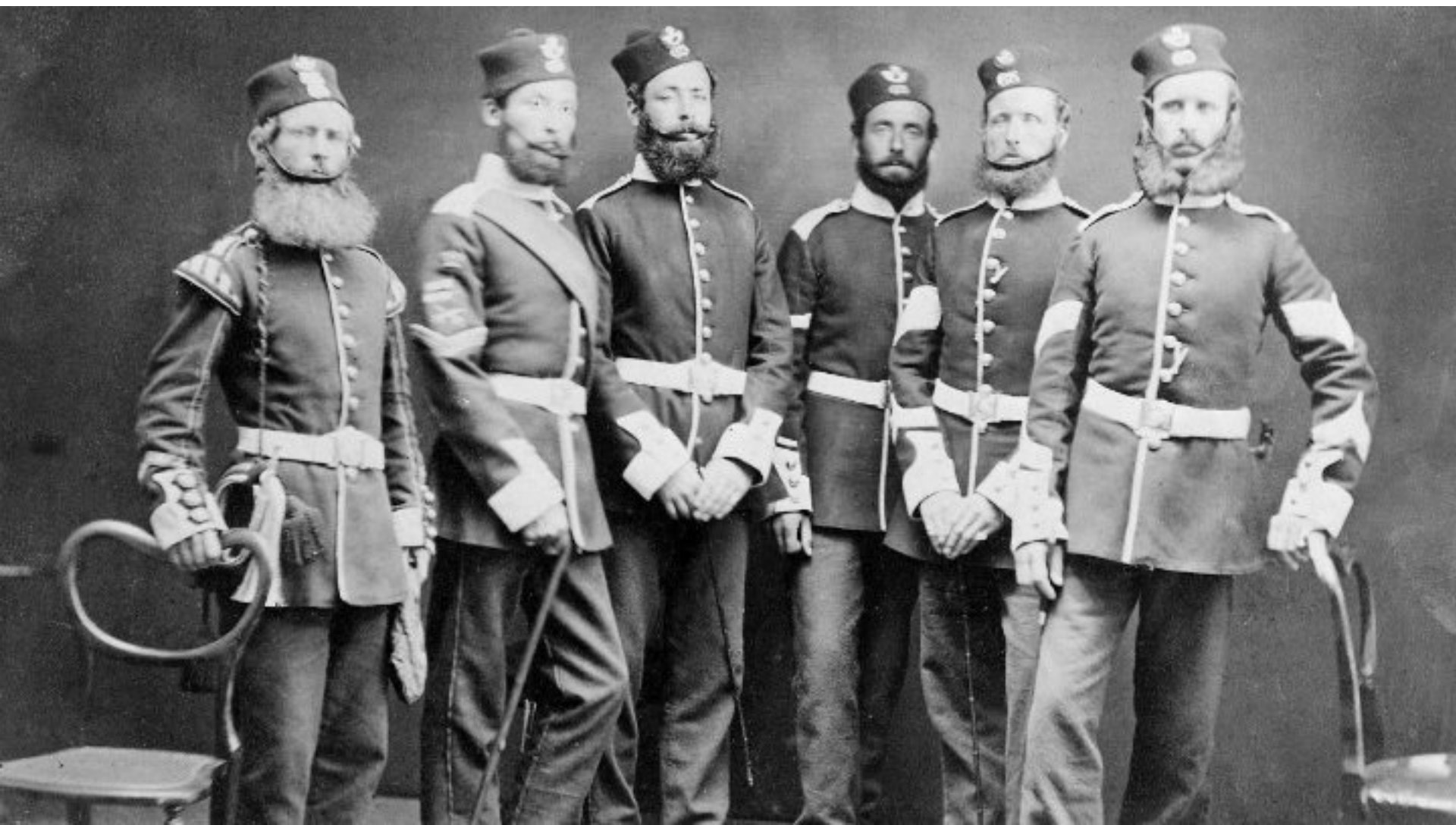


William Frost, 70th regiment

Auckland Museum Tāmaki Paenga Hira



Thomas Matravers album, p.26(d), Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries





Jemima Balneavis
PA1-f-027-44-2, ATL

JaneMaria Grey, with
children Frances and
William, 1857.

JaneMaria Grey married
William StansfieldHerries,
65th regiment

½-137188-F,ATL



Female Refuge, Sydney

City of Sydney Archives A-01000187





Janet Cherry
PA2-1841, ATL

New Plymouth



William Swainson and Mrs Rook,
1862

JamesD Richardson, Heritage Images Collection,
Auckland Libraries

