

John Newman COLLIER (1821-1901)

The Robinson Story: Ancestors and Descendants of Richard Robinson and his wife Ann Collier by Beryl D. Lyle (1991) p19
The [NZ] Company's Application Register for the barque 'Lady Nugent' that left Gravesend 21 Oct 1840 & arrived Wellington 17 Mar 1841
All the following gave their address as Hawkchurch near Axminster, Dorset

Collier, George, agricultural labourer, married, 34yrs, wife 40yrs of age. Children 2 boys aged 10yrs, 8yrs 4 girls aged 13, 6, 3 & 8 months
Collier, John, agricultural labourer, 19yrs
Collier, Jane, seamstress, 15yrs

Robinson, Robert, tailor and draper, married, 40yrs, wife [Ann Collier dau of George above] 29yrs, Children 4 boys, 9, 7, 4 and 1yr
Robinson, John, tailor and draper, single, 18yrs
Robinson, Richard, agricultural labourer, single, 16yrs

The Robinson Story: Ancestors and Descendants of Richard Robinson and his wife Ann Collier by Beryl D. Lyle (1991) p46
The eldest son John Collier – "at twenty years old, was described as 6ft tall, very strong and adaptable. He helped a bricklayer build a solid bonded store in Wellington, but unfortunately it fell down in the first earthquake.

1841 Census Penlay, Hawkchurch, Dorset

Thomas KINGMAN*	60yrs	Labourer	born in the county
Sarah KINGMAN	40yrs		born in the county
Sarah COLLIER**	75yrs	Independent	born in the county

* Thomas Kingman married Sarah Powell 31 May 1825 at Hawkchurch

** Is this John's grandmother?

Church of the Province of New Zealand Diocese of Wellington – St Paul's Church Marriages – Alexander Turnbull Library Ref fMS-Papers-1432
1843 No.10. John Collyer of this place, bachelor, and Sarah Prouse of this place, spinster, were married in the Courtroom by Banns this sixteenth day of May in the year 1843 by me Robert Cole M.A. Witnesses Charles Mills and Ann Collier her mark.

Lyttelton Times 22 Mar 1851 Advertisement - Bread and Confectionary

Messrs Collier and Masom, having now opened their Baking Establishment in London street, most respectfully inform the inhabitants of Lyttelton, that families and shipping can be supplied with Bread and Confectionary on the shortest notice and reasonable terms. N. B. Bread, the 2lb loaf, sixpence. March 13, 1851.

1853 Lyttelton Electoral Roll

John Collier, baker and a householder residing at Canterbury Street, Lyttelton.

Lyttelton Times 22 Jul 1854 Electoral Roll for the Town of Lyttelton

John Collier, baker, residing at Canterbury street; householder qualification.

Lyttelton Times 4 Nov 1854 Depasturing Licenses

I hereby give notice, in accordance with the Regulations for Depasturing Cattle on the Waste Lands of the Crown, that the undermentioned persons have applied for Runs in the Province of Canterbury.

No. 39 Jeanie Collier 28,500 acres bounded on the North by the River Otaio, on the East by the Sea Coast, on the South by the River Makakini, and Westerly between the Rivers Otaio and Makakini to the extent of 28,500 acres.

No.40 Jeanie Collier 28,500 acres bounded on the North by the River Makakini, and on the East by the Sea Coast, on the south by the River Hook, and westerly between Rivers Makakini and Hook to the extent of 28,500 acres.

Lyttelton Times 31 Mar 1855 Jury List

John Collier, storekeeper, Lyttelton

Lyttelton Times 20 Feb 1856 Jury List

John Collier, baker, Lyttelton

Lyttelton Times 12 Jul 1856 Supreme Court – Ware v. Hurley

Before His Honor Mr Justice Wakefield and a Special Jury. Mr Gresson, Provincial Solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff; Mr Dampier, for the defendant. Mr Gresson, in opening, gave a general view of the case, which was, to obtain a decree from the court to compel the defendant to complete a contract he had entered into for the sale of some land at Okain's Bay, and for which payment had been partially made...Mr Gresson called John Collier, who said – I was present at an interview between plaintiff and defendant, on the 18th September 1855. Defendant sold his land, at Okains Bay, to the plaintiff, for £37 10s, and the crops, then in the ground for £8. There was an agreement that defendant's cattle should remain on the run for one year. Defendant called on me to draw up an agreement, as he was a bad writer. I did so: reading it to him as I wrote. Plaintiff and defendant both approved of the agreement. The agreement now produced is my writing; the signature is that of Thomas Ware, the plaintiff. Defendant asked for some money on account, and plaintiff paid defendant £10. I drew up a receipt for it, and defendant signed it. The receipt produced is the one I wrote, and that is the defendant's signature. He wrote it on the 18th, I swear positively that defendant was perfectly sober at the time. He declined to sign the agreement until he had been paid the whole of the purchase money. Plaintiff objected to pay all the money till he had possession of the deeds. Defendant told plaintiff to go to Okains Bay, and ask Mrs Webb (defendant's partner's wife) for the deeds, out of his (defendant's) chest, which was in the house. On the 19th Sept., plaintiff, in my presence, paid defendant £20 more. The words 19th September, £20, and J. Collier, were then added to the receipt by me; defendant was then perfectly sober.... Sarah Collier, wife of the last witness, gave corroborative evidence...

Lyttelton Times 18 Feb 1857 Jury List
John Collier, baker, Lyttelton

1857-1858 Port Victoria District, Canterbury Electoral Roll
John Collier, London street, publican, leasehold and householder

Lyttelton Times 9 May 1857 Publicans' Licenses
The following licenses were granted at the Annual Licensing Meeting for the Lyttelton District on Tuesday, May 5. Wine and Beer: John Collier, London street, Lyttelton.

Lyttelton Times 9 Mar 1858 Advertisement – Albion Hotel
J. Collier begs to inform the public generally, that having erected Stables in the rear of his premises, he is prepared to give horses entrusted to his charge the best possible accomodation. P.S. Saddle horses on hire. Lyttelton, Jan 7. 1859.

1860 Preferred Claims to Vote... Electoral District of Lyttelton
John Collier, London street, Lyttelton, leasehold Section No.41

Lyttelton Times 2 May 1860 Resident Magistrate's Court – Public House Licenses
The following general licences were granted for Lyttelton... John Collier, Albion, London Street

Lyttelton Times 19 May 1860 Jury List
John Collier, publican, London street, Lyttelton

Lyttelton Times 5 Dec 1860 Local Intelligence
Last Friday evening the workmen employed on the Lyttelton and Christchurch Railway were regaled by the agents of the late contractors with a good and substantial supper at Mr Collier's, Albion Hotel, in this town. Supper was on the table at 9 p.m., and after ample justice had been done to some of the best viands that ever graced a board, Mr Williams was called to the chair, and the health of Messrs Smith and Knight was given and drunk with three times three. The remainder of the evening was spent in a most convivial manner until the time of closing, when a vote of thanks was proposed and carried to Mr and Mrs Collier for the liberal manner in which they had conducted the catering department. The party then broke up highly satisfied with the evening's entertainment.

Lyttelton Times 8 May 1861 Local Intelligence

The annual Licensing Meeting was held yesterday at the Resident Magistrate's Office, Lyttelton. The Justices present were H. G. Gouland, Esq., R.M., W. Donald, and C. Ward, Esqrs. General Licences were granted for the following houses in the Lyttelton district... J. Collier, Albion Hotel, Canterbury Street, Lyttelton.

Lyttelton Times 29 May 1861 Flood in Lyttelton

The wet weather which has lasted now for more than ten days came to what seems a climax, though by no means a termination, on Monday night and yesterday morning, when an unusually heavy downfall of rain so added to the streams by which Lyttelton is drained, as to cause flooding of the gullies or natural watercourses, and the consequent destruction of a considerable quantity of property of all kinds which the overflowing water chanced to encounter... Between the eastern and western water courses several smaller ones intervene. One of these, which passes under the angle of London and Canterbury streets, flooded the lower rooms of Mr Collier's Albion Hotel, and destroyed much valuable furniture...

Lyttelton Times 28 Sep 1861 Death

Sept. 16, at Otaio Station, near Timaru, Miss Jeannie Collier, in her 70th year.

Evening Post 28 Sep 1868 Marriage

On the 24th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, Lyttelton, by the Rev. A. Reid, George Collier, eldest son of Mr J. Collier, of the Moeraki Downs, to Ann Jane, second daughter of Mr Thomas Wallace of Lyttelton.

1870-1871 Lyttelton Electoral Roll

John Collier, London street, leasehold, Town section 41

1870-1871 Ashley and Oxford Electoral Rolls, Canterbury

John Collier, residing at South Moeraki Downs; Freehold, Albion Farm, South Moeraki Downs, sections 4255, 4266, 5199 and 5100. Also George Collier, residing at South Moeraki Downs; Leasehold Green Hill Farm, South Moeraki Downs, section 5869

Wellington Independent 18 Jul 1873 Death

On Monday, 14th July, at her residence, Karori, Mrs Elizabeth Collier, widow of the late Mr George Collier, aged 74 years.

Star (Christchurch) 13 Jan 1874 Violent Hailstorm

A hailstorm of unusual character visited the extreme western portion of the Northern districts on Sunday afternoon last, and did considerable damage to the standing crops. It appeared to have extended only as far east as the eastern point of the North Moeraki Downs, and all the district on the sea-side of Fernside escaped. The crops of Mr Collier and others on the South Moeraki Downs were partly threshed out, and several squares of glass in Mr Tipping's house, Cust Valley, were broken by the hailstones...

Nelson Evening Mail 24 Jan 1874 Disastrous Hailstorm

... Sunday last (11 Jan) will long be remembered by the farmers resident in the Cust and West Eyreton districts, they having experienced on that day the heaviest and most disastrous hailstorm that has ever occurred in this part of Canterbury...Mr Collier has about 400 acres of wheat which fortunately escaped with little or no injury...

1875-1876 Ashley Electoral Roll, Canterbury

John Collier residing at South Moeraki downs; Freehold Albion Farm, South Moeraki Downs, sections 4255, 4266, 5199, and 5100, Oxford provincial district. Also George Collier residing at Leithfield; Freehold City hotel, Leithfield, and premises, part rural section 587.

Star (Christchurch) 24 Mar 1874 Grain Fires

Two very serious fires, which resulted in the destruction of nearly 2000 bushels of wheat, occurred in the Northern districts on Saturday evening last. The first to come under notice happened on the farm of Mr J. Collier, South Moeraki Downs, and the following are the particulars connected with it. About seven o'clock on Saturday night Mr Collier went out of his house and walked in the direction of the by-road near Mr Ruddenklau's fence, to see that some sheep he had in one of his paddocks were all right. On going to the top of the rise he observed a fire in the direction where 250 sacks of his grain had been threshed out on the Wednesday previous, and on nearing the place he found that nearly the whole pile of grain was on fire. The threshing machine had not been near the place for days, and the grain was all in sacks ready to be carted to market. The pile was covered with straw about four feet deep, and before Mr Collier could obtain assistance, the fire had got such a firm hold that only twelve sacks of the grain were saved. The remainder, about 1000 bushels, were destroyed. The grain was insured in the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Office, at the rate of 4s per bushel, and it had been sold for delivery in Kaiapoi at 4s 9½d per bushel...

Southland Times 12 Aug 1878 Breaking Up

As we, Saturday Advertiser, anticipated, there will soon be no cause to complain of large landed estates, the process of subdivision being now carried on rapidly... in Canterbury... there are 6000 acres at Otaio; 928 acres in Collier's Farm, Moeraki Downs, and numerous other blocks...

1880-1881 Gladstone Electoral Roll, Timaru area

John Collier, residential qualification, labourer, Burkes Pass; also George Collier, freehold qualification, farmer, Otipua

1880-1881 Ashley Electoral Roll, Canterbury

John Collier, farmer, residing at South Moeraki Downs; Freehold South Moeraki Downs, sections 4255, 4266, 5199, and 5100; Also George Collier, hotel keeper, residing at Christchurch; Freehold City Hotel and premises, Leithfield, part rural section 587; Richard Collier, farmer, residing at Mount Grey Downs.

1880-1881 Christchurch South Electoral Roll

John Collier, Tuan street west, hotelkeeper; George Collier, St Asaph street, hotelkeeper; Richard Collier, St Asaph street, clerk; Alfred William Collier, Tuam street, hotelkeeper.

1890 Wellington Electoral Roll

John Collier, labourer, Tinakori Road

Star (Christchurch) 3 Sep 1890 Death

Sept 2. at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr G. Collier, Percy street, Linwood, Thomas Wallace, in his ninety-first year. Deeply regretted and loved by all. His end was peace.

1896 Otaki Electoral Roll

John Collier, farmer, Wainuiomata; Elizabeth Collier, Wainuiomata, married woman

1900 Otaki Electoral Roll

John Collier, farmer, Wainuiomata; Elizabeth Collier, Wainuiomata, married woman; William Alfred Collier, Wainuiomata, farmer

Evening Post 19 Sep 1901 Death

On the 18th September, at Wainuiomata, John, the beloved husband of Elizabeth Collier, in his 81st year.

Evening Post 19 Sep 1901 Funeral Notice

The Friends of the late John Collier are respectfully invited to attend his Funeral, which will leave his late residence, Wainuiomata, for the Cemetery, Wainuiomata, To-morrow, Friday, the 20th September at 2 p.m. G. A. McIlvride, Undertaker, Lower Hutt.

Wellington Probate filed 11 Oct 1901 – Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAOM 6029 7538

John Collier, died 16 Sep 1901, settler, Wellington, Intestate (Letters of Administration)

Ashburton Guardian 27 Feb 1911 Mr Harry Britton

Christchurch, February 27. The death of Mr H. Britton, which took place suddenly on Sunday, February 12, removes another of the old colonists. Mr Britton was born at Shrewsbury, Shropshire, England. He arrived in Canterbury by the ship 'British Empire' in 1864, with letters of recommendation to Mr H. P. Hill, for whom he worked for a time, after which he took up stock-droving for Mr Malley, and he helped to take over the first mob of cattle to the West Coast. When he had finished droving for Mr Malley, deceased joined Mr Colin Stewart and Mr Peter Grant, and drove for them for about twelve months. He then went to Australia for a few years, following the same occupation, and afterwards returned to New Zealand. He then went into the butchering business in Tuam street, and subsequently started an aerated water business with Mr W. Thompson in Dunsandel and Ashburton, and at the same time managed a business for Mr Harry Milsom when that gentleman went for a trip to England. Deceased was proprietor of the Royal Hotel, Southbridge, and of the Railway Hotel at Rakaia, and at the same time was a partner with Mr Peter Grant in sheepfarming. He afterwards took the Commercial Hotel in Ashburton. On leaving there he and his wife went for a trip to the Old Country, from which he had been absent for forty-six years. On his return he bought the Waiau Hotel property. A few years later he drew one of the

allotments in the Spay Country, where he carried on sheep-farming, but his health not being good he sold out and retired into private life. He married a daughter of the late Mr John Collier, one of the oldest pioneers of Canterbury, who arrived three months before the first four ships. Mr Britton died at his residence, Enscote, Retreat road, Avonside, at the age of sixty-three years.

Ellesmere Guardian 21 July 1931 Obituary – Mrs R. P. Hill

Old residents of Southbridge will be sorry to hear of the death of Mrs Rowland Parker Hill, which took place in Christchurch on Sunday at the age of 82 years. Her father, the late Mr John Collier, arrived in Wellington in the early forties, and there at Thorndon the late Mrs R. P. Hill, second daughter, was born. Her father had settled in Lyttelton prior to the arrival of the first four ships, and set up business as its first storekeeper. Later years saw him and family successfully farming at Moeraki Downs, Cust. Mrs R. P. Hill was educated at Hagley House School, and her brain remained clear and active to the end, and to her intimate friends she told interesting stories of the events of the past. Mrs Hill was married to the late R. P. Hill at Moeraki Downs, Cust, in 1871. Mr Hill was afterwards licensee of the Lower Selwyn Hotel, and subsequently of the British Hotel, Christchurch. Retiring from business, Mr and Mrs Hill made a home at Shirley. In 1892 they removed to Southbridge, where they took over the old Royal Hotel, which was destroyed by fire some time after Mr Hill sold out to Mr M. Riordan, now of Leeston. Mr Hill was a member of the Town Board and took a very active interest in local affairs generally. On leaving Southbridge Mr and Mrs Hill settled at Avonside, and there Mr Hill died twenty-three years ago. The late Mrs Hill was a regular attendant at Holy Trinity Church, Avonside. She leaves two daughters, Mrs James Morrison (Linwood) and Mrs E. C. Inwood (Southbridge), and a sister, Mrs H. Brittan (Avonside).