

Nelson Settlement – Despatches from the Resident Agent 18 Jan 1844 to 16 Nov 1848

Archives NZ Reference AAYZ 8986 NZC 104/2/4 (some transcripts)

Folios 235-241

Letter to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent of the New Zealand Company, Wellington 22 Jan 1846

Sir, I beg to forward a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Company by the Rev Mr Aldred Wesleyan Minister of this place relative to the expense of erecting a chapel which in the absence of the receipt of a portion of the Ecclesiastical Fund of the Settlement, he had had chiefly to defray from his own pocket. I have examined the accounts and vouchers and beg to verify the correctness of his statement of expenditure. Mr Aldred is also correct in stating that the chapel (which is a very proper and respectable building) was commenced in reliance on Captain Wakefield's assurance that he would recommend to the Court of Directors a grant from the fund, as he did at the time. Mr Aldred's present object in applying is chiefly to secure himself in the matter which will be effected if the company should either repay him directly from the Ecclesiastical fund the amount expended by him, or if in any arrangements with the Wesleyan Body at home it be distinctly stipulated that such repayment be made from such part of the fund as may be assigned to it. The chapel in question appears to be strictly within the view with which the fund was created.

Copy of letter from John Aldred, Nelson dated 20 Jan 1846

Sir, I avail myself of the opportunity of bringing before you through William Fox Esq., your Agent for this settlement my circumstances as Wesleyan Minister of this Town, with a request that you will at your earliest convenience lay the same before a meeting of the Board of Directors. Early in the year 1843 I was directed by my chairman to leave Wellington for Nelson. Soon after my arrival here a chapel was needed to accommodate the persons desirous of attending my ministry. I made an application to the late lamented Captain Wakefield for a supply of means from that fund created intentionally for such purposes, and was informed by him that he had received no instructions from home directing him in its distribution, but at the same time he advised me to petition the Board of Directors informing me that he himself would also write recommending a grant. He frequently and explicitly assured me that a quota of that Fund would fall to our share. In fact so positive was the late Agent that he authorised Mr Tuckett on starting for Wairau to inform Mr Ironside (Mr I. being my senior) that on his own responsibility he should put a sum at our disposal. I need not say that his unexpected end prevented him doing so. In full expectation of receiving such aid a brick chapel was commenced – dimensions 47ft long 27 wide, walls 12ft high, shingle roof and eight circular windows. Its entire cost was £250 16s 4½d. The local subscriptions and opening collections amounted to £63 19s 2½d leaving a debt of £186 17s 2d. The death of Captain Wakefield threw me into a dilemma. The building was in a forward state when we received intelligence of that awful tragedy. The Chairman of our district allowed me £60 which I hope you will soon enable me to repay. The balance I have had to meet from my own private resources. In the long interval that has elapsed I have occasionally brought the matter before Mr Fox both by letter and in conversation; and on one occasion he informed me that a correspondence had been opened between the Directors and our General Secretaries and that he thought a grant would be forthcoming. A considerable time having since passed away and having heard nothing further I have thought it best to submit my case to the Directors and now respectfully but importunately pray you to lay this before them with a view of obtaining for me the sum I have received from the Parent Society and also that which I have been compelled to pay from private means. I ought to have said that our Missionary Committee do not allow anything for Colonial Chapels or for any others unless in very peculiar circumstances. It will be seen that my

petition does not at all relate to any sum which may be considered a fair share of the above named fund, for that is the business of the Home Committee; my request is only for that for which I have been made accountable. Trusting that you will do me this kindness, and early give me a favourable reply

Folio 393-396

Immigration Office Nelson November 1848

I hereby certify that the following passengers & emigrants sent out by the New Zealand Company in the 'Bernicia', Captain H. Arnold, have been safely landed at this Port, with their Baggage and other property; that they were well treated throughout the voyage; and that to the best of my knowledge and judgment the terms and conditions of the Charter Party have been duly fulfilled. Signed Robert Williams, Surgeon Superintendent and Alexander Macshane, Immigration Agent Pro Tem.

Chief Cabin Sir W. Congreve, Mr Ward, Mrs Ward, Miss Ward, Miss Field, Martin Greenwood
 Fore Cabin Mr Henry Godfrey, Mr Pakenham Osborne

Steerage John Barrett (27yrs), Sarah Barrett (25) Martha Barrett (2)
 Thomas Batchelor (25yrs), Caroline Batchelor (24), Thomas Batchelor (4), Caroline Batchelor (2)
 Charles Batchelor (10 months) – omitted in Nelson Register

Edward Burt (20yrs) single – not on Nelson Register, pays his passage, landed at his own request

Michael Coley (35yrs), Sarah Coley (36)

John Ellis (30yrs), Caroline Ellis (28), Mary Anne Ellis (7), Margaret Ellis (2), infant Ellis

William Fox (27yrs), Rachel Fox (28), William Fox (4) – omitted in Register, Elijah Fox (3), Charlotte Fox (1)

John Gray (24yrs) single – not in Register, pays his passage, landed at his own... Gray proceeds to Otago (entry is crossed through)

Anne Hughes (17yrs) single

William Hale (27yrs), Eliza Hale (33), William Hale (5), Emily Hale (3), Eliza Hale (1)

Jonathan Harlam (39yrs), Emma Harlam (33), Eliza Harlam (13), Mary Harlam (11), Emma Harlam (10), Jonathan Harlam (8)

Harriet Harlam (6), Albert Harlam (1)

Henry Hill (29yrs) single – servant to Mr Ward

John James (29yrs) – wife and child died on board

John Kenny (37yrs), Mary Kenny (34), Susan Kenny (12), Mary Kenny (10), John Kenny (9)

Joseph McCartney (30yrs), Jane McCartney (30), Jane McCartney (8), Ruth McCartney (3)

Edward Murphy (16yrs) single – not on Register, pays his passage, landed at his own request

Joseph Packend (21yrs), Eliza Packend (24) – married to Eliza Bartrum before embarkation
James Selmes (35yrs), Marian Selmes (32), Mary Selmes (4), Anne Selmes (2)
William Wright (36yrs), Sophia Wright (30), George Wright (4)

William Walker (37yrs) constitution completely shattered. By his own admission has been an invalid 4 years; spent 24 weeks in Guy's Hospital under treatment for diseased kidneys, Charlotte Walker (38), Charlotte Walker (16), William Walker (12)

Joseph Sheetlove? (33yrs) single, servant to Sir W. Congreve

William Watson (30yrs), Elizabeth Watson (29), Mary Amy Watson (7), Elizabeth Watson (5), Caroline Watson (3)
George James Watson (1)

Joseph Webb (29yrs), Jane Webb (34), Fanny Webb (3), Emma Webb (4)

Return of Deaths among the Nelson Emigrants during the voyage

John Barrett (1yr) died 21 October of Diarrhoea

Mary Anne James (23yrs) died 02 September of Consumption

William James (4 months) died 06 September of Diarrhoea

Anne McCartney (3 months) died 17 August of Diarrhoea

W. J. Wright (6yrs) died 06 July of Consumption

Birth

Caroline Ellis delivered 31 October
