

John Newman COLLIER (1821-1901)

Dorset Online Parish Clerk – Hawkchurch Baptisms, Dorset - <http://www.opcdorset.org/HawkchurchFiles/HawkchurchBaps.htm>

1825 Sep 18	Jane COLLIER		dau of George & Elizabeth COLLIER	Labourer
1827 Dec 03	Ann COLLIER		dau of George & Elizabeth COLLIER	Labourer
1829 Jul 26	George COLLIER	born 05 Jun 1829	son of George & Elizabeth COLLIER	Labourer
1832 Mar 18	William COLLIER	born 22 Feb 1832	son of George & Elizabeth COLLIER	Labourer
1834 May 11	Elizabeth COLLIER	born 31 Mar 1834	dau of George & Elizabeth SANSOM alias COLLIER	Labourer
1837 Oct 22	Eliza COLLIER	born 22 Sep 1837	dau of George & Elizabeth COLLIER alias SAMPSON	Labourer
1839 Nov 24	Sarah COLLIER	born 12 Oct 1839	dau of George & Elizabeth COLLIER	Labourer

Findmypast Dorset Burials Collection – Hawkchurch, Dorset

Hannah COLLIER	died 05 Jun 1821 aged 75 years
Mary COLLIER	died 02 Apr 1823 aged 85 years
John SANSOM alias COLLIER	died 9 May 1834 aged 75 years
Eliz COLLIER	died 26 Mar 1835 aged 0 years

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.

<i>1841 Census Penlay, Hawkchurch, Dorset</i>			
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.

Lyttelton Times 03 Jul 1852
 Notice is hereby given that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned John Collier and Frederick Mason, of Lyttelton, Bakers and Confectioners, is this day dissolved by mutual consent, and all persons indebted to the late firm are requested to pay their accounts to Mr Mason, by whom alone the business will be in future carried on, and by whom all liabilities of the firm will be discharged. Dated this 18th day of June 1852. Witnesses: H. L. Moorhouse and C. E. Dampier.

Lyttelton Times 03 Jul 1852 F. Mason
 Having purchased the whole of the business lately carried on by Mr Collier and himself as Bakers, &c., begs most respectfully to solicit from the inhabitants of Lyttelton and its vicinity a continuance of the support of the late firm of C. and M. have hitherto received, and which he assures them it will be his constant study to merit. London Street, Lyttelton.

Lyttelton Times 03 Jul 1852 To the Public
 J. Collier (late of the firm of Collier and Mason) begs to return his sincere thanks to the public who have so kindly favoured him with their support while in the said firm; and also takes this opportunity to inform them, as well as the inhabitants of Lyttelton and the Plains, that he has purchased the Baking business hitherto carried on by Mr Pratt, so desirably situated in Canterbury Street, where he will commence business for himself on the fifth day of July next, as Fancy Bread and Biscuit Baker. N.B. Parties may safely rely upon all orders being strictly attended to which they may be kind enough to favour him with. John Collier.

1853 Lyttelton Electoral Roll

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

Lyttelton Times 28 May 1853 Notice

John Collier, Baker, Canterbury street, Lyttelton begs to inform his friends and the public in general, that, having failed this year in procuring a license for the sale of Spirituous Liquors on the new premises built by him for that purpose, situate at the corner of Canterbury and London-street, he will *open the same on Saturday next, the 4th June*, as a Temporary Store for the Sale of Groceries and Provisions of all kinds. N.B. The Baking business will be carried on as usual in Canterbury-street.

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 13 Jan 1855 Notice

The Undersigned requests that all persons indebted to him will pay their respective accounts on or before the 1st day of February next, 1855; if not paid, they will be recovered in a summary way, without further notice, and without any respect of persons. John Collier, Lyttelton Jan 5th, 1855.

Lyttelton Times 31 Mar 1855 Jury List

John Collier, storekeeper, Lyttelton

Lyttelton Times 28 Apr 1855 Edward Genet's Assignment

Notice is hereby given that by Deed bearing date the 5th day of April 1855, Edward Genet of Lyttelton, in the Province of Canterbury, storekeeper, Conveyed and Assigned to John Collier of Lyttelton, aforesaid, baker, all the real and personal estate and effects whatsoever and wheresoever of him the said Edward Genet in possession, reversion, remainder or expectancy, upon certain trusts for the benefit of such of the Creditors of the said Edward Genet, who should execute the said Deed within two calendar months from the date thereof, and that the said deed was executed by the said Edward Genet and John Collier respectively on the said fifth day of April in the presence of and attested by Christopher Edward Dampier of Lyttelton, aforesaid, Solicitor, and John Dean Bamford his clerk, and the said deed now lies at the office of the said Christopher Edward Dampier in Lyttelton aforesaid, for execution by the creditors of the said Edward Genet, by whom the first dividend of 5s in the Pound will be paid on execution of the said Deed. Christopher Edward Dampier, Solicitor, London St., Lyttelton. 26th April 1855.

Lyttelton Times 28 Apr 1855 Edward Genet's Assignment

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate of Edward Genet of Lyttelton, storekeeper, are requested forthwith to pay their respective debts to John Collier of Lyttelton, aforesaid, baker, within one calendar month from the day of the date hereof, otherwise legal proceedings will be taken to enforce payment thereof without further notice. Dated this 26th day of April 1855. John Collier, London St., Lyttelton, Baker.

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.

Press 14 Feb 1863 Albion Hotel, London Street, Lyttelton

John Collier, in retiring from the above named business, begs to return his best thanks to his friends and the public in general, for the liberal support he has met with, and solicits the continuance of their favours to his successor, Mr John Hill.

Lyttelton Times 21 Jun 1864 £10 Reward

Strayed away, five head of young cattle, viz., two steers, two heifers, and one bull, about eighteen months old; branded on near rump with a diamond brand and a bar through it, and last seen at the foot of Mount Thomas. Any person delivering the same into the stockyard of the undersigned at Albion Farm, South Moeraki Downs, near Oxford, will receive the above reward. John Collier.

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.

Lyttelton Times 04 Jan 1869 Marriage

Dec 16 at St James' Church, Cust Valley, by the Rev Canon Dudley, George Paget, second son of Mr James Milsom, of Highclere, Hampshire, to Mary Jane, eldest daughter of Mr John Collier, South Moeraki Downs.

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

Press 08 Nov 1872 Death

November 6th, at Moeraki Downs, the beloved wife of John Collier, aged 50 years.

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...

Press 25 May 1874 Marriage

May 21st, at the Wesleyan Church, Leithfield, by the Rev John Armitage, Richard, second son of Mr John Collier, Moeraki Downs, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr Thomas Wallace, Lincoln.

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...

Press 25 May 1874 Marriage

May 21st, at the Wesleyan Church, Leithfield, by the Rev John Armitage, Richard, second son of Mr John Collier, Moeraki Downs, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr Thomas Wallace, Lincoln.

Press 20 Mar 1875 Auctions – W. Buss – Preliminary Notice Moeraki Downs. Clearing Sale of Farming Stock and Plant Wednesday April 7th.

W. Buss has received instructions from Mr John Collier, of Albion, farmer, who is leaving for England to sell by Public Auction on the above date fifteen draught and light harness horses, double and single furrow ploughs, drays, reapers, seed-sowing machines, Hornsby's combine and engine complete, and the whole of the numerous effects. Full particulars in future advertisement. W. Buss, Auctioneer.

Press 04 Jan 1877 Birth

On January 1st, at Albion Farm, Cust, the wife of Mr Richard Collier, of a daughter.

Press 27 Apr 1878 Marriage

On April 24th, at St Michael's Church, by the Rev E. G. Penny, Henry Frederick Brittan, to Eliza, third daughter of John Collier, White Swan Hotel, Tuam street.

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.

Press 29 Oct 1881 Death

October 28th, at Kaiapoi, the beloved wife of George P. Milsom, aged 34 years.

Star 15 Feb 1883 Marriage

Jan 24 at All Saints' Church, Prebbleton, Edward, eldest son of E. Prebble, Esq., Prebbleton, to Emma Jane, youngest daughter of John Collier, Esq., late of the White Swan Hotel, Christchurch.

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.

Evening Post 12 Sep 1894 Fishing

Fishing is strictly prohibited in that part of the Wainui-o-mata River which runs through the property of the undersigned. John Collier, Wainui-o-mata.

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

Star 13 Nov 1900 An Old Colonist – Interesting Reminiscences – What Early Colonists had to Endure – Dangers and Difficulties

An interesting letter has been received by Mr G. Collier, of Christchurch, from his father, Mr John Collier, who now resides at Wainui-o-mata, near Wellington. He was engaged by Captain Thomas in 1849 to prepare food for the expected emigrants for the Canterbury Association. He undertook to do the work, and arrived at Lyttelton, then known as Port Cooper, in the ship 'Salopian' on Oct. 1, 1849. His mate was Mr Frederick Mason, a baker by trade, who is well remembered in Canterbury, and it may be mentioned that his son is conducting a timber and general business in Amberley, and his daughter is the wife of Mr Thomas Derrett, proprietor of the Hanmer Plains, Waiau and Kaikoura coaches. The letter is as follows:- "Wainui-o-mata, Oct. 30. Dear George – In answer to your request for some idea about the early days in Wellington: I came out in a vessel called the 'Lady Nugent', and landed on March 17, 1841. I was then nearly twenty years of age, having been born on July 16, 1821. We were something like six months from the time we went on board at Home until we arrived here. We had a very uncomfortable passage. Before we got to the Cape a good deal of the rations were knocked off to short allowance, water as well as food. All the steerage passengers went to the captain and wished him to go in to the Cape and get some goods that were short, and, above all, some water. He put the vessel on another tack for the Cape and kept at that all night. Next morning when he came on deck he altered her course from the Cape, and the passengers asked why. His reply was to the effect that he would not go to the Cape to please anyone, and he steered for Hobart. When we arrived there all the water aboard was eight gallons (rather a small quantity for 300 persons), and we were told that they had had no rain on the island for three months. Fortunately, it rained the same night we arrived, and in the morning we were enabled to get some water, but it was more like pea-soup than anything else. After leaving Hobart we were thirteen days coming to Wellington, where the New Zealand agent put us into a place which they called barracks. It was neither wind-tight nor watertight, but we were given permission to stay there for a fortnight, and were duly grateful, as they provided us with rations during that time. During that period we were enabled to knock up some sort of a shanty for ourselves. The best you could get were a few sticks about the size of fork handles, which you put in the ground and filled up with manuka, cut down cabbage trees and split the tops into two or three and thatched with them. The agent gave us some work to cut a track 3 or 4ft wide – so that a horse could go along – at £1 a week, but I did not do much of that, as I got something a little better, and as more emigrants arrived we got up to 6s a day. The principal part of our living was pork and potatoes one day, and potatoes and pork the next, and maize ground up in a little steel mill and made into cakes and baked in an old piece of iron, or made into skilly. You could not get bread! Not even a 2lb loaf for 1s! Flour was £5 for an American barrel, and was very, very poor stuff at that. Butter was 5s a lb; black pampagna sugar, 6d a lb; fowls, 15s each; eggs, 15s per dozen. One man and his wife brought out from home a black Spanish rooster and two hens, and when the latter commenced to lay they sold the eggs for 2s 6d each. Apples were 7s 6d per pound. A piece of cotton fabric that women used to make their dresses of in those days would cost £1 15s, and it was very poor stuff at that. You could get a little pig from the Maoris that would weigh about 70 or 80lb for 5s or 6s, and a kit of potatoes of 50 or 60lb for 1s. There was no such thing as beef or mutton to be got for some time after I arrived, and if you went to a butcher who was keeping a shop, pork was sold at 5d per lb. I had to pay 10s 6d for having a pair of boots half-soled and heeled. I had not been in Wellington long before I got a job amongst the bricklayers, who were building a bonded store at Te Aro, a very strong place, with walls 14in thick and very strong timber as beams. The building was about 50ft long and about 20 or 25ft broad, and the walls were about 10ft high. When the heavy earthquake came in 1848, it shook the whole place down with a great smash, and, the liquor running into the sea, men could be seen drinking it out of the side channels and scooping it up in their closed hands as it ran down. Subsequently I took to sawing. I fell in with a man who put me in the way of it and I followed it for a good while, selling the timber for 35s per 100ft, to be taken at the pit. Bill Prouse and I sawed a good while together. Then came the Maori War. It had no sooner broken out than we all had to be soldiers and attend drill every morning for one or two hours. All that could saw were engaged in sawing large planks, and they were carried a good distance to build a stockade for the women and children. Some of the women went to town, but your mother would not, but would stay where I was. We were then living at Johnsonville. Your mother had to

sleep in the bush with you and your brother Richard. I used to go in the daytime and look out the best place I could find, and when about half dark your mother would take you in one arm and Rich in the other, while I would carry the bed and a couple of blankets, and you three would coil up together under a tree. You were about two years old, and Rich about two months, and I had to caution your mother not to let you cry during the night, for fear of any natives being about. Mostly all the men had to keep sentry-go at night; there were no fires, and we never put the women and children to sleep in the same place two nights running. That was a time, I can assure you! I think the worst of that affair lasted about three months. I forget what pay we got, whether it was 1s 6d or 2s a day. All our bits of crops were spoiled; we were not allowed to go to see to them. I had about half an acre of wheat, a splendid crop, cut and stooked. There it stopped and rotted. In conclusion, I ought to tell you that there was only one wooden house in Wellington when I arrived, and that was a pub. When the vessel dropped anchor, hundreds of Maoris came on board, a lot of them as naked as they were born. I wished myself back in the Old Country, and a good many besides me were of the same opinion. When the heavy earthquakes came, the people were so frightened. About thirty families would go to Sydney, as there was a vessel, a large one, on her first voyage, going there. She went as far as the Heads, where she went ashore and became a total wreck. All the passengers were rescued, returned to Wellington, and there remained." Although Mr Collier has reached his eightieth year, he is still hale and hearty, and passes his old days in looking after his garden and attending to small jobs about his residence.

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)

Death Registration for John Collier

Died 18 September 1901 at Wainuiomata aged 81 years; Cause of death: influenza 1 week; cardiac failure

Buried 20 September 1901 at Wainuiomata by W. B. Martin, Wesleyan Minister

Born in Dorset, England, the son of George and Ann Collier [maiden name unknown]. Resided in New Zealand for 61 years.

Married 1st, when 22 years of age, to Ann Prouse at Wellington; Married 2nd time, at 60 years of age, in Melbourne to Elizabeth Wakeham.

Issue of 1st marriage: 3 males – 57, 55 and 41 years; 3 females – 49, 47 and 32 years; Issue of 2nd marriage: 1 female aged 20 years.

Informant: George Collier, son of deceased, Wainuiomata.

1905-1906 Newtown, Wellington Electoral Roll
Elizabeth Collier, 70 Daniel street, widow

Star 30 Oct 1907 Obituary – Mr R. Collier

The death is announced of Mr Richard Collier, who died at his residence, Worcester Street, Linwood, on Monday last, after a lingering illness of paralysis. He was born in Wellington in 1846. He came to Lyttelton with his parents, both of whom are dead, in a small vessel called the 'Talopian', which made a passage of twenty days. After his school days were completed, with Mr Mayo, in Lyttelton, Mr Toomath, in Wellington, and Mr Gillespie, of Pigeon Bay, his father apprenticed him to Mr Duncan, Crown Prosecutor, but after a little while he abandoned that, as he did not like the profession. He joined the firm of Messrs Urquit, McPherson and Co., merchants, in Lyttelton. When they relinquished business, he went farming for some few years with his father. On the farm being disposed of, he had to seek other employment, and in a short time he obtained a situation as clerk in the Addington Railway Stores Department. That position he held for nearly thirty years, with the esteem of all with whom he had transactions, till his health failed. He was closely connected with the East Belt Church from its foundation, and took a keen interest in the choir and the Sunday School, of which he was president for many years. He was much beloved by all connected with the school and the chapel. He was a Master Mason, and observed the principles of the Craft. He leaves a wife and two daughters, both of whom are grown up.

1911 Wellington South Electoral Roll

Elizabeth Collier, widow; Eva Mary Collier, spinster – both residing at 92 Daniel street

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 Waiiau 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.

Press 01 Feb 1917 Obituary – Mr G. P. Milsom

Information has been received from Launceston, Tasmania, of the death of a once well-known resident of Kaiapoi, Mr George Paget Milsom, who was a nephew of the late Mr Joseph Milsom, of Christchurch, and also, like his uncle, conducted a large aerated water business in North Canterbury. The late Mr Milsom, also, for a time, had a store at Kaiapoi, and while there was a member of the Borough Council, and held other public positions. Having a very good voice, he was in general request for entertainments, and was one of the chief performers in the production of "Patience" by a talented Kaiapoi company of amateurs about thirty-eight years since. He was W.M. of the Southern Cross Masonic Lodge, 1875-76, and first worshipful master of the Ashley Lodge, Rangiora, 1878-79. For many years he held leading positions in North Canterbury Orange Lodge. He left for Launceston in the eighties. Mr Milsom was twice married, his first wife being a daughter of Mr George Collier, one of the first settlers on Banks Peninsula.

Wairarapa Times 03 Feb 1917 Personal Items

Miss Annie Stoddart and Miss Fanny Collier have been appointed probation teachers at the Masterton District High School.

Evening Post 08 Aug 1919 Death

On the 7th August, 1919, at Wellington, Elizabeth, beloved wife of the late John Collier. At rest. No flowers (by request).

Death Registration for Elizabeth Collier, widow

Died 07 August 1919 at the Hospital aged 66 years; from 37 Donald McLean Street, Wellington; Cause of death: chronic bronchitis & heart failure.

Buried 09 August 1919 at Wainuiomata by C. Blair, Methodist.

Born in Nelson, the daughter of William Wakeham, farmer and Elizabeth nee Prouse. She spent all her life in New Zealand.

Married **John Newman Collier** at Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, aged 29yrs.

Issue: 1 female aged 35 years

Informant: W. E. Jeffrys, Undertaker, Wellington

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 sometime 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).