

## **Captain Carthew – James McKenna**

### Archives New Zealand Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 23d CD1865/2271

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Letter dated 22 May 1865 Lieut-Colonel Lepper, New Plymouth to the Honourable The Minister for Colonial Defence, New Plymouth  
Sir, I have the honor to forward for your favourable consideration the accompanying claim from Captain Plaice, and to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with an early reply, as Captain Plaice leaves by the Steamer hourly expected. I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedient servant, Lieut-Colonel Lepper, Commanding Local Forces.

Annotation: Referred to Captain Carthew who will be good enough to furnish an explanation of this case... Under Secretary... 29 May 1865

Annotation: Captain Carthew has to state that a man was sent ashore from the 'Choice' but he had no knowledge of this at the time, it having been done without his permission. Edward Carthew Captain No.4 Company Taranaki Military Settlers

Annotation: Lieut-Colonel Lepper is requested to refer this back to Captain Carthew for him to report more fully on the matter – stating by whose authority the man left the vessel. By command... 25 July.

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Letter dated 22 May 1865 Paymaster's Office

Captain Plaice of the Schooner 'Choice' embarked at Port Cooper 49 men of Captain Carthew's enlisting in the Province of Canterbury and had to land one man who put his ankle out and on his arrival here was paid for the passage of 48 men only, the Commanding Officer of Militia Captain Brown, not feeling he had the authority to pay for the 49 according to the written agreement given by Captain Carthew "that all put on board were to be paid for." Captain Plaice who has lost his Vessel here, respectfully submits this Statement to the honourable the Minister of Colonial Defence and would be grateful to him for an order to the Sub-Treasurer for the passage money (five pounds). I certify that the above is correct. Captain Thomas Hempton, Paymaster, TMS.

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Note dated 09 Jul 1865 Edward Carthew, Opunake Redoubt, Captain No.4 Company Taranaki Military Settlers

Captain Carthew has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the claim of Captain Plaice of the 'Choice' and his answer will be seen on the margin of the letter (inadvertently written there) addressed by Colonel Lepper to the Honourable the Minister for Colonial Defence.

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Letter dated 03 Aug 1865 Captain Edward Carthew to Lieut-Colonel Lepper, commanding Taranaki Military Settlers

Sir, I have the honor to report for the information of Captain Holt, that upon making enquiries into the circumstances of the man being sent ashore from the Schooner 'Choice' at Lyttelton I find from the man who was the non-commissioned officer in charge (now a private in No.9 Company Taranaki Military Settlers named in the margin (Pte Js. Fiddes) that the Captain (Plaice) had him conveyed ashore on his own responsibility and that upon his remonstrating with Captain Plaice was told that he was Captain of the vessel and also of those on board. I can only... my former statement, that it was done without my knowledge or consent. Trusting this statement will prove satisfactory, I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedient servant, Edward Carthew, Captain No.4 Company Taranaki Military Settlers.

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Letter dated 05 Aug 1865 Lieut-Colonel Lepper, New Plymouth to Captain Holt, Under Secretary, Colonial Defence Office.

Sir, I have the honor to return the enclosed correspondence with Captain Carthew's report as requested for the information of the Hon the Minister for Colonial Defence. I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedient servant, Lieut-Colonel Lepper, commanding Taranaki Military Settlers.

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