

## **Captain Carthew's 58 unserviceable rifles**

### Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD 1 23/fc CD1865/2456

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Royal Small Arms Factory, Pimlico, London 25 Jan 1865

This is to certify that Edward Smith of the parish of St Martins, Birmingham in the county of Warwick a married man 26 years 5 months of age with \_ children has been examined and has completed his instruction in the Small Arms department, London in accordance with the Royal Warrant of 24<sup>th</sup> June 1858 No.278 (49 General No.13) and that he is found qualified to execute the duties of Sergeant Armourer. Signed St... Jervis, Captain Royal Artillery Commanding Corps of Armourers and assistant Superintendent of Small arms factories.

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Edward M. Smith, Armourer Sergeant – Report dated 03 Aug 1865, New Plymouth

I hereby certify that I have inspected and examined fifty eight stand of arms returned into stores by No.4 Company Taranaki Military Settlers and find them serviceable, though to all appearance a considerable time in use.

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Letter dated 04 Aug 1865 M. Lepper, Taranaki Military Settlers Room, New Plymouth to Captain Holt, Undersecretary, Colonial Defence Office  
Sir, I have the honor to report for the information of the Hon the Minister for Colonial Defence that on the arrival of Captain Carthew's Company at Taranaki from Opunaki I issued 58 new rifles complete to him, he having in the presence of his men reported to Colonel Warre C.B. that he had not a rifle fit to go on service with, I have since had the said Rifles carefully examined by a qualified Armourer Sergeant. I enclose his report, also a certified copy of his certificate of qualification as Sergeant Armourer.

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Annotation: As the Rifles returned in to store by Captain Carthew are reported to be unserviceable; would it not be well to have them sent here for the use of Native allies when required?

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Letter dated 19 Aug 1865 M. Lepper, Taranaki Military Settlers Room, New Plymouth to Captain Holt, Undersecretary, Colonial Defence Office  
Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. and date as per margin [No.160 09 Aug 1865] and to inform you for the information of the Hon the Minister of Colonial Defence that I have this day forwarded the Rifles lately in possession of Captain Carthew's company 58 in number, to Major Gorton. I have had one of them put in complete order for the inspection of the Hon the Minister for Colonial Defence and should he wish the remainder put in the same state the cost would be 4s each. I also send a breech loading Rifle filled with one of the 60 bayonets sent from Auckland for that purpose, for his inspection and approval, the cost for filling is 1s 6d and to request you will be good enough to inform me if he wishes to have the breech loading Rifles in store so filled.

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Note to Major Atkinson – Do you wish any more breech loading rifles to be fitted with bayonets? Answer: Yes let the 60 be done

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