

New Zealand Company Private Letters 1840-1845

Archives NZ Reference AAYZ 8985 NZC102/16/22

16 Nov 1839 John Jennings, New Zealand Land Company's Office, Adam St, Adelphi to Colonel Wakefield

Sir, I beg to transmit you a Bill of Lading of Sundry Cases of Books for the New Zealand Library, and others for the disposal of the Rev Mr Churton.

19 Aug 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, I have it in command from the Court of Directors to introduce to you and recommend to your particular attention Mr Donald Macdonald, who is proceeding in the *Blenheim* with his family and friends, and the labouring Emigrants selected by him. Mr Macdonald has been very favourably recommended to the Directors, and you will perceive by the testimonials enclosed that he is a Gentleman of high character and worth. He has been instrumental in getting together the party of settlers proceeding in the *Blenheim* and the Directors do not doubt that this party will prove a valuable acquisition to the Colony.

12 Oct 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, I beg to introduce and recommend to your attention Mr Archibald Milne who has purchased lands from the Company and is proceeding by the *Lady Nugent* to settle at Port Nicholson – Mr Milne is known to Mr George Frederick Young, one of the Directors.

12 Oct 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, I beg to introduce to you and recommend to your attention Mr James Bateman Wathen, of London, who has purchased Land from the Company, and is proceeding in the *Lady Nugent* with the intention of becoming a Settler at Port Nicholson.

12 Oct 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, I beg to introduce to you and recommend to your good offices, Mr Thomas William Watson of Cossey, Norfolk, who has purchased land from the Company and is proceeding in the *Lady Nugent* with the intention of settling in New Zealand.

07 Nov 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, I beg to recommend to your attention the bearer hereof, Mr Edward James Jackson, a young man of good character and connections. He is the nephew of the Secretary of the Union Bank of Australia, to whose attentions and courtesy in business the New Zealand Company are much indebted, and I am desired by the Directors to request you will render him any Service in your power.

14 Nov 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, I transmit herewith a letter from Messrs T. Haveside & Co. the brokers of the *Lady Nugent* stating that through some mistake of Mr Hilliard the Surgeon Superintendent of that ship a sum of £30 advanced by them to that Gentleman had not been repaid by him. As no money was paid by the Company to Mr Hilliard on account of his allowance as Surgeon Superintendent I am instructed to request you will facilitate as far as you can the repayment by Mr Hilliard of the above mentioned £30 to Messrs Haviside & Co. Probably the best way would be to transmit the money through the Branch of the Union Bank of Australia.

20 Nov 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, The Directors have desired me to furnish Mr Thomas Cleghorn with a letter of introduction to you, and to request you to be of any use or assistance to him in your power. Mr Cleghorn has been for some years a respectable seed merchant in Edinburgh; and possesses a peculiar knowledge of gardening and agriculture, on which account he is likely to prove a valuable settler. Mr Cleghorn's son has submitted some Drawings to the Directors, and is I believe desirous of employment in the Surveys, which it is probable you may be able to give him.

25 Nov 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, The Directors are much interested for the bearer hereof, Mrs Aitken and her daughters now proceeding as Emigrants to Port Nicholson. They have been recommended very strongly by friends of the Colony in Edinburgh, where Mrs Aitken has resided. This Lady was formerly in more affluent circumstances than at present and any protection or succour you may be able to afford to her, and her daughters, will be gratifying to the Court of Directors.

25 Nov 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, The Directors desire me to introduce you and recommend to your attention the bearer hereof, Mr David Roberts, who is now proceeding to Port Nicholson as a Settler. Mr Roberts is a person of respectability and is well known to Mr John Abel Smith, M.P., a Member of the Court.

02 Dec 1840 R. Vernon Smith, Downing Street to Joseph Somes

This letter involves Lord John Russell's reply to previous correspondence

08 Dec 1840 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

My Dear Sir, I have this day transmitted to you officially the particulars of the arrangement with the Government which my last private letter will have led you to expect. The Colonial Office is on the point of communicating this arrangement to Captain Hobson, but (at the suggestion of the Admiralty) the official despatches will be transmitted via Sydney. Duplicates will however most probably be sent to Captain Hobson by the Company's fast sailing schooner *Balley* which will sail for Port Nicholson direct within a week from this time. The documents now ready at the Colonial Office are: 1st The Charter under the Great Seal erecting New Zealand into a separate colony; 2nd Captain Hobson's Commission as Governor of New Zealand; 3rd Captain Hobson's Instructions as Governor under the Royal Sign Manual; 4th A despatch from Lord John Russell to Captain Hobson acquainting him with the arrangements and stating the future policy of the Government with respect to New Zealand. I state this to you from the best possible authority that of one of the Under Secretaries of State, and wish to impress on you the great importance of immediately making the news known to Captain Hobson. Send to him specially either by sea or land without a days delay, for the arrangement with the Company is of course a stop to the proceedings of the Commission under the New South Wales Bill so far as regards the Company's rights.

18 Jan 1841 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, The Court of Directors, at the instance of Mr John Abel Smith, M.P., have desired me to introduce to you and to recommend to your notice Mr George Rees, Surgeon of the Ship *Lord William Bentinck* who intends to become a settler in the Colony.

27 Jan 1841 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, The Court of Directors at the request of Mr Stewart Marjoribanks and Mr Pattison, M.P. for London, have desired me to introduce to you Mr George Jones, a settler proceeding by the *Katherine Stewart Forbes* and to request you will give him any protection or assistance in your power.

07 Apr 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Colonel William Wakefield

Sir, Enclosed I beg to transmit to you copy of a letter addressed by me to Lord John Russell relative to the selection of the Lands to be granted to the Company by the Crown. This is however for your private information only, and it is highly expedient that no publicity should be given to the letter until your receipt of Lord John Russell's reply. I had hoped to send the latter by this opportunity, but in consequence of his Lordship's absence from town it is unfortunately delayed. *A copy of the letter to Lord John Russell is in this file.*

13 Apr 1841

Sir, The Court of Directors, at the request of Mr Stewart Marjoribanks and Mr Pattison, M.P. for London, have desired me to introduce to you Mr Parry Jones and Mr Edward Jones as settlers proceeding by the *Prince Rupert* and to request you will give them any protection or assistance in your power.

13 Apr 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Colonel William Wakefield

Sir, I beg to introduce to you Mr Kenneth Mathieson of Glasgow, who is proceeding on the *Clydeside* to Port Nicholson. Mr Mathieson built this vessel purposely to carry out his family and intends employing her in the Coasting Trade. He holds four Sections of Country Land Nos 107 to 110 and appears likely to become a valuable settler – and the Directors wish you to shew him any attention in your power.

17 Apr 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Colonel William Wakefield

Sir, I transmit to you herewith Copy of a letter addressed by me, to Lord John Russell on the 3rd inst., relative to the site of the Second Settlement. This is however for your private information only, and it is highly expedient that no publicity should be given to it, until you receive a Copy of the reply of Lord John Russell, which I had hoped to transmit by the *Prince Rupert*, but which I have little doubt of being able to send by the next opportunity. *A copy of the letter to Lord John Russell is in this file. There is also a copy of another letter from Joseph Somes to Lord Russell dated 19 Apr 1841.*

26 Apr 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Frederick Tuckett, Esq. (two copies)

Sir, I am directed by the Court of Directors of the New Zealand Company to desire that in case you should arrive at Port Nicholson before Captain Wakefield, you will be guided in all respects by the instructions of the Company's Principal Agent in New Zealand Colonel Wakefield, to whom the wishes of the Court, in respect to all matters relating to the Second Settlement, are fully communicated, by the despatches, in duplicate of which you are the bearer. Subsequently to your meeting with Captain Wakefield in New Zealand, you will be under his immediate directions. With respect to your duties on board the *Will Watch* you will also receive your instructions from Captain Wakefield before sailing from Gravesend, or at Teneriffe.

26 Apr 1841 [H. F. Alston?], New Zealand House to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, In consequence of the quantity of goods shut out of the *Whitby* and *Will Watch*, the Court have chartered the *Arrow* of 212 tons, to carry the same. This vessel will sail within a fortnight from this date, and will convey to you a copy of the agreement into which Mr Tuckett has entered with the Directors. If he should arrive first in the *Will Watch*, he will shew you the duplicate original in his possession, and also the instructions which he has received from Captain Wakefield in pursuance of that Agreement.

02 Jun 1841 H. F. Alston, New Zealand House to Colonel Wakefield – John McIntosh, Surveyor's labourer, Nelson Settlement

Sir, In the absence of the Secretary, I have to acquaint you that the Directors have given a Passage to Port Nicholson by the *Arab* to John McIntosh who was engaged as a workman with the preliminary expedition, but who did not arrive in London till after the *Whitby* had sailed. His engagement is at the rate of 28s a week from the 28th April last, 14s a week of which is retained for his wife until she shall embark with the main body in August next.

17 Jun 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Colonel William Wakefield

Sir, I am commanded by the Court to introduce Mr Michael Copps Jnr who is proceeding in the *Gertrude* to Port Nicholson with the intention of becoming a Settler, and to request you will give him any assistance in your power.

17 Jun 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Colonel William Wakefield

Sir, I am commanded by the Court to introduce Mr George William Schroder who is proceeding in the *Gertrude* to Port Nicholson with the intention of becoming a Settler, and to request you will give him any assistance in your power.

Enclosure: Joseph Somes to Colonel William Wakefield

My Dear Colonel, ... Mr Schroder is a Gentleman of high respectability and connections and has purchased Land of the New Zealand Company wither he is now about to proceed. I shall feel particularly obliged by your shewing Mr Schroder, who is most strongly recommended to me, all the attention in your power and the favour of your available advice on any occasion in which he may require it.

27 Jul 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Colonel William Wakefield

Sir, The Court of Directors at the instance of Mr John Abel Smith, M.P., have desired me to introduce and recommend to your Notice Mr John Matthew McRichie who is proceeding to the Colony as a Settler, and to request you will give him any protection or assistance in your power.

30 Jul 1841 Joseph Somes, London to Colonel Wakefield

My Dear Colonel, Permit me to introduce to you Messrs Thomas and John Keble, Gentlemen of high respectability in this Country, who are about to proceed to New Zealand with a view to settle there. Any attention or advice it may be in your power to afford to Messrs Keble will I am sure be appreciated by these Gentlemen and will also greatly oblige.

02 Aug 1841

Sir, I am commanded by the Court to introduce Mr H. Augustus Thompson who is proceeding to New Zealand with the intention of becoming a Settler in the Second Colony, and to request you will give him any assistance in your power.

25 Aug 1841 F. Dillon Bell, Secretary Protem to Colonel William Wakefield

Sir, I am commanded by the Court to introduce Dr Hansard who is proceeding to New Zealand with the intention of becoming a Settler, and to request you will give him any assistance in your power.

Enclosure: John Wright, 18 Aldomanbury to Colonel Wakefield

Dear Sir, This will be presented to you by Dr Hansard who is about to visit New Zealand and any attentions which it may be in your power to shew him I shall consider as a personal favour shewn to myself, I am delighted (tho my necessities have compelled me to relinquish all interest in the undertaking), that such prosperity attends it; and that in this instance at least I have not wished those who engaged in it at my instigation. I have not seen Mr Petre since his return but know his accounts confirm all those previously received.

03 Sep 1841 Joseph Somes to Colonel Wakefield

My Dear Colonel, This will be handed to you by Mr J. Boulcott the son of our Director a most particular friend of mine for... to Port Nicholson to settle with his Brother. Any advice or assistance you can render him I shall consider a favour...

15 Sep 1841 W. Wylde?, Woolwich to L.Col Wakefield

Dear Wakefield, The bearer John Gibson served under me for upwards of seven years during the whole of which period he bore an excellent character and I have every reason to believe that he has continued to do so ever since – He is about to emigrate to New Zealand and should he fall under your notice I shall feel obliged by your rendering him any assistance in your power.

18 Sep 1841 ... Dougall, London to Colonel Wakefield

My Dear Colonel, Mr Graves who has been particularly recommended to Mr Sharpe (Attorney General of Barbadoes) by Sir Charles Grey the Governor of the Windward Islands, is... about to start for New Zealand, and I am requested to give him a letter of introduction to you. He is represented to me as being most steady and respectable – But in the cases of person introduced by me, I should wish them mutually to be ... to one role, or their failing to realise that my introduction of them might give one cause to expect. But in the present case of Sir Charles Grey..., I am afraid that Mr Graves role... to you. I trust all is going...

23 Sep 1841 John E. Boulcott, New Zealand House to Colonel Wakefield

Sir, My son will have the pleasure to hand you letters of Introduction from my friends Mr Somes and Mr Wakefield. It is unnecessary for me to say the great interest I feel in the passage of my Sons, and of the value of the Introduction of them to you. Any advice you may give them or any kind attention you may show to them will be at all times acknowledged by me. I do not know if you can assist them in opening a cash account with the Bank, but should you have (up to £500) to remit to this Country I shall be happy to answer a Draft drawn on me for the amount.

23 Sep 1841 F. Dillon Bell, New Zealand House to Colonel William Wakefield (two copies)

Sir, In the event of the *Lord Auckland* arriving at Wellington before the *Mary Ann* or *Fifeshire* I beg to inform you that the Company's public Dispatches numbered from 159 to 169 inclusive are dispatched in duplicate by those two vessels, and that triplicates will be sent by the *Brougham* on the 28th instant. You will on no account permit the *Lord Auckland* to break bulk at Port Nicholson. A copy of her Charter party is enclosed.

30 Sep 1841 F. Dillon Bell, New Zealand House to Colonel William Wakefield (two copies)

Sir, Through some inadvertence in numbering the Dispatches per the *Mary Ann* (which went in duplicate by the *Fifeshire*) I am uncertain whether the Dispatch now sent as No.169 will correspond with that sent under that number in the first named ships. Colonel Wakefield's attention is particularly requested to this, and in the event of any mistake having occurred, he will be pleased to send me a copy of the Dispatch marked No.160 which was forwarded by the *Mary Ann* and *Fifeshire*.

01 Oct 1841 F. Dillon Bell, New Zealand House, London – Memorandum

The Maps and Plans of Wellington with the keys to the selection, Reports of Surveys &c, &c., transmitted by the *Brougham* have been duly received and will be officially acknowledged and noticed by the next opportunity.

02 Oct 1841 F. Dillon Bell, On Board the *Brougham*, Gravesend to Colonel Wakefield (two copies)

Sir, In consequence of the delay which has been occasioned here through the remissness of the Owners of the *Brougham*, the Members of the Surveying Staff have incurred certain expences. It is the intention of the Court to mulct the Owners to the amount of £24 which is the sum thus incurred; and you are hereby authorised to pay that sum to the Principal Surveyor Mr Brees (who has settled with the other Members of the Staff) drawing upon the Court for the same.

02 Oct 1841 F. Dillon Bell, On Board the *Brougham*, Gravesend to Colonel Wakefield (two copies)

Sir, I am desired to inform you that the Court have appointed Mr Charles Gilbert to be Surgeon of the *Brougham* and have fixed his remuneration at £50. The sum of £10 has however been advanced to him here on account of his pay and you will be good enough to make a deduction to that amount accordingly from the final settlement with him.

19 Oct 1841 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel William Wakefield, Principal Agent

Sir, The attention of the Court of Directors of the New Zealand Company having been called to the importance to the Commerce of Port Nicholson, of establishing a Light house at the entrance of the Harbour, I am commanded to inform you that they have determined to take the necessary measures to send out the lamps and necessary apparatus for that purpose. In the meantime, they leave it to your judgment to make any preparation that you may deem advisable for the reception of the lights &c.

22 Oct 1841 P. T. Reeves, Inspector of Shipping to the New Zealand Company, Ship *Brougham* to Captain Robertson
Sir, On the part of the New Zealand Company, I hereby authorise you to make the following arrangements for the voyage of the *Brougham*, undertaking that you shall be reimbursed any expenses thereby incurred.

1st To take another hand on board here for the sole purpose of assisting the Steward and attending on the Cadets in their Cabins
2nd To touch at Teneriffe for the purpose of filling up your water and to replenish all loss of stock which has occurred from deaths, and to purchase two good goats for the purpose of affording milk for the children and ladies.

It is the particular wish of the Company, that previous to your leaving Cowes the luggage room should be cleared of everything but the luggage belonging to the Cadets, and the Surveying Stores, to the end that the Cadets may be able to at all times to get at their chests without difficulty, and that their Cabin may be entirely disencumbered in order that they may stay in it except at meal times. I have further to make an earnest request that you will afford Mr Brees all the assistance in your power for the maintenance and order and punctuality among the Passengers, and especially among the Cadets, who have been desired to keep regular hours and to attend Prayers Morning and Evening at the times fixed by Mr Brees.

It is also the especial desire of the Company that you will support Mr Brees in preventing any Companionship between any of the passengers or the Surgeon and the Cadets, except as ordered by Mr Brees with a view to the instruction of the letter.

I am desired to beg that you will shew this letter to Col. Wakefield and to assure you that if he should make a favourable Report to the Directors of the state of the *Brougham* during the voyage it will afford pleasure to the Directors to forward your interests in your profession.

Although it is impossible to make regulations which will absolutely prevent... improper indulgence in wine and spirits, when everyone is necessarily free to follow his own tastes and pursue his previous habits in this respect, yet the Directors are sure that so far as depends on you and those officers of the Company who are of mature years, a gentlemanly example will be set to the youths, whom it is most desirable to save from the degrading and fatal consequence of acquiring a taste for any species of intoxication.

They very high character which you established when last in command of the *Brougham*, as a Seaman and Commander of a Ship, assumes the Directors, that now that you have passengers under your charge, the application of the same abilities and attention to this new branch of your profession will equally redound to your credit.

I write this letter by desire of one of the Directors, and if time should permit, you will receive a communication to the same effect from the Court of Directors.

04 May 1843 John Ward, Secretary to Colonel Wakefield

Sir, I am instructed by the Court to introduce to you the bearer hereof, Mr Cridland, who is about to proceed to New Zealand. The Court desires me to recommend Mr Cridland very strongly to you, requesting that you will show him any attention, and afford him any information or assistance in your power.

26 Jan 1844 T. C. Harington, New Zealand House to Colonel Wakefield

Dear Sir, The enclosed letter to M. Gardner, is from a Lady, whose enquiries for that Gentleman you will find officially referred to you. As it expressed, from the particulars which I obtained from Captain Wilson, that in all probability her Relation was not the person who was killed in the unfortunate affray at Wairau, and his present residence was (as you will see) uncertain – I took upon myself to assure her that you would be good enough to make enquiry, and if opportunity offered cause the letter to be conveyed to his hands. Hence the cause of you being troubled with it, which I trust you will pardon. Mr E. G. Wakefield – I am sorry to say is still absent – having missed the steamer which left Boston on 1 January. He will have had to take passage in a sailing vessel from New York on the 15th and will therefore I trust be here by the 10th at the latest, of next month. In his absence, the Court has abstained from taking any step towards appointing a successor to Captain Wakefield. The Report of Captain Fitzroy's answers will be expected with intense anxiety – everything, it appears to me, will depend upon them. By this opportunity I am enabled to send you only a dozen copies of the Nelson Sections thinking it better to detain the remainder to be colored in the manner you will see.

Enclosure: Letter from Elizabeth Sheridan Carey, 12 Molcombe Street, Belgrave Square to T. C. Harington dated 24 Jan 1844

Sir, Your most obliging letter was put into my hands on my return home this evening, and afforded me unspeakable satisfaction in relieving me from the distressing apprehension that my Cousin perished in the conflict at Wairau. The description which it furnished of the deceased William Gardner, removes all painful doubt, and I am indeed grateful that I did not afflict Mrs Carey with any premature communication. My cousin who, in consequence of being when a mere boy, deprived of his parents, has to carve out his own fortunes, sailed as third mate in the *Hoaghley* in February 1839; the latest news which I had from him was dated from Launceston Van Dieman's Land, June 2nd, 1840, and as we are all deeply anxious to hear of his welfare, I eagerly avail myself of your esteemed offer to forward a letter through Colonel Wakefield, should opportunity present. I have added "Mariner" to the address in order to avoid confusion should there be any other persons at New Zealand of the same name as my cousin. Permit me to renew the expression of my acknowledgements of the very great trouble which have taken to satisfy my inquiries.

29 Jan 1844 T. C. Harington, New Zealand House to Colonel Wakefield

My Dear Sir, As the *Bella Marina* is under... I send this down to Plymouth, merely to mention that the ... has arrived & brought private letters and newspapers but as yet no dispatches have been received which is the more vexatious as the other communications abound with interest and there is a Report in Town that you yourself intend to come home to England – I trust this is not true – at any rate until the affairs of the Company are in some measure adjusted. I grieve to see that the ... for the adjustment of the Native Claims had proved necessary... You see by this time since, it was resolved to await the Report of your assessments, and Captain Fitzroy's – and at this season of the year – until the actual assembling of Parliament, the attendance of Directors, in Town is of... comparatively infrequent.

29 Apr 1844 T. C. Harington, Covent Garden, London to Colonel Wakefield – proceedings against NZ Company

16 May 1844 T. C. Harington, Covent Garden, London to Colonel Wakefield – Legislative ordinances

09 Dec 1845 T. C. Harington, New Zealand House – refers to letters from Lieut Crawford and M. Kerr
Correspondence enclosures: James Bromfield, Whitchurch, Shropshire; Andrew Davidson, 4 Union Court, Broad Street; Messrs De Chasseaurouge, Hamburg, C. H. Smith, 5 Thurloe Place West, Brompton, Middlesex; Lawrence Heyworth, Oakwood near Stockport; Charles Clarke, Redruth, Cornwall; William Knowles, 15 Park Place, Clifton
