

Chief Postmaster, Nelson – Correspondence Records

Archive New Zealand Reference ADPU 17229 PO-N1 4

Nine folders of correspondence fill an archive box

[1] Correspondence to the Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1870

Inventory available – see below

[2] Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1872

[3] Miscellaneous Inwards Correspondence Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1874

[4] Inwards Correspondence Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1875

[5] Correspondence between the Treasury and the Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1876-1877

[6] Miscellaneous Papers, Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1878

[7] Correspondence between the Treasury and Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1880

[8] Miscellaneous Correspondence, Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1882, 1883, 1884

[9] Correspondence on Postal Matters January-December 1885 between the Secretary, Post Office and Telegraph Department and the Chief Postmaster, Nelson

[1] Correspondence to the Chief Postmaster, Nelson 1870

Frequent correspondent - George Elliott Elliott, Secretary, General Post Office, Wellington - abbreviation GEE

- 1870 Jan 07 GEE re bonds of performance
1870 Jan 14 GEE asking why accounts for October, November and December 1869 have not been sent
- 1870 Jan 14 GEE Postmaster General has sanctioned establishment of Post Office at Nga Timoti on condition that cost does not exceed £15 per annum and appointing Mr Henry Young, Postmaster
- 1870 Jan 15 GEE re inquiry relative to a parcel of music addressed Miss Smith, Catholic Mission Station – is not in the dead letter office
1870 Jan 18 GEE re appointment of Mrs De Saunais as Postmistress at Appleby at a salary of £10 per annum
1870 Jan 20 Mr Best for Assistant Treasurer re transmission of a case containing Postage Stamps valued at £398
1870 Feb 01 GEE stating that explanation re late accounts was unsatisfactory and will be fined £2
1870 Feb 09 GEE acknowledging receipt of “Return of Fines” for December quarter 1869
- 1870 Feb 11 Registered Letter Receipt No.77 posted Nelson 11 Feb 1870 addressed to Messrs Levy Brothers, Nelson was received by Adams & Kingdon
- 1870 Feb 14 Ship Letter Bill – per ship ‘Rangitoto’ addressed to Postmaster-General Melbourne – 100 letters, 1 book, 26 newspapers
1870 Feb 18 GEE acknowledging receipt of money order for £2
1870 Feb 21 GEE enclosing Warrant of Appointment of Henry Young as Postmaster at Nga Timoti from 01 Feb 1870
1870 Feb 21 GEE enclosing Warrant of Appointment of E. de Saunais as Postmistress at Appleby
1870 Feb 21 GEE enclosing Warrant of Appointment of Henry Day as Postmaster at Brighton
1870 Feb 26 W. Turner, General Post Office, Melbourne re non-receipt of a registered letter accompanying ‘Rangitoto’ shipment
- 1870 Feb 26 GEE ‘informing you that your office was to be opened from 1st March as a Government Insurance and Annuity Office. I have now to instruct you that in the event of you requiring any of the Printed forms as shown in the “Instructions to Postmasters” before they are supplied to you – you are at liberty to have a small quantity (say 250) printed at some local printing office.”
- 1870 Mar 03 GEE re appointment of Dr Squires to be Medical Referee at Nelson under the “Government Annuities Act 1869”. A fee of one guinea in each case in which Dr Squires is required to act will be paid him from the Treasury.

- 1870 Mar 08 GEE acknowledging receipt of bond forwarded by H. Young the contractor for the mail service between Lower Moutere and Nga Timoti
- 1870 Mar 11 GEE acknowledging receipt of letter reporting that the S.S. 'Murray' arrived at Nelson at 8pm of the 3rd instant and left at 5am of the 4th for Picton without mails and that the Collector of Customs at Nelson has been called to the irregularity of the 'Murray' clearing without the necessary Post Office Certificate.
- 1870 Mar 19 GEE re establishment of a Post Office at Wangapeka and appointment of Isaac Fowler as Postmaster at salary of £10 per annum
- 1870 Mar 21 GEE forwarding Date Stamp of the Collingwood Post Office
- 1870 Apr 08 Mr Best for Assistant Treasurer re transmission of a case containing Postage Stamps valued at £298
- 1870 Apr 12 Mr Best for Assistant Treasurer re transmission of a case containing Postage Stamps valued at £12
- 1870 Apr 16 Mr Best for Assistant Treasurer re transmission of a case containing Postage Stamps valued at £88
- 1870 Apr 16 GEE re Circular Letter of 6th instant, No.15 & reference to particulars for Mails via San Francisco not been finally settled
- 1870 Apr 29 GEE advising "that the Postmaster General has approved of the action taken by you with regard to the Post Office at Wakapuaka" and enclosing a Warrant of appointment of Henry Collins as Postmaster at a salary of £6 per annum
- 1870 Apr 29 GEE re establishment of a Post Office at Thorpe and enclosing a Warrant appointing James Rose to be Postmaster at £5 per annum
- 1870 Apr 29 GEE "communication from the Postmaster, Collingwood, respecting the demand made for payment for Types lost at that Office, I have to inform you, after perusing Mr Turnell's letter, it has been decided not to enforce the payment."
- 1870 Apr 29 Warrant No.264 signed by Julius Vogel appointing James Rose as Postmaster at Dove Dale
- 1870 May 06 GEE "I am directed to authorise you to supply the Letter Carriers attached to your Office with New Suits of Uniform, to be given them on the Queen's Birthday. You had better obtain tenders for this purpose, although it is scarcely necessary to advertise for them. The cost should not exceed £13 13s 6d per suit. – Annotation: Coat, Waistcoat and Cap
- 1870 May 06 GEE re application by Letter Carrier Nuttal for an increase of salary – this will be considered when next set of estimates are prepared
- 1870 May 13 GEE acknowledging receipt of 'Return of Fines' with amount thereof. "It is observed that instead of returning Reports of Errors to this office at once after being referred to you – you retain them till the end of the quarter. I have to point out to you that this practice is at variance with clause 199 of the Post Office Regulations to which I now refer you and with which I beg your compliance in future."
- 1870 May 13 GEE acknowledging receipt of bond forwarded by John Lyne, mail contractor for the Fox Hill and Wangapeka service

- 1870 May 18 GEE re authorising the arrangement of the conveyance of mails to and from Thorpe at a charge of £10 per annum
- 1870 May 19 Woodward, Receiver General, Wellington re overpayment of £14 11s 6d to the Public Account in Hokitika in the June quarter 1866. "These papers were referred to you in May 1869 and you then attached to them the following note: 'Error admitted. I confess I am not now able to explain this matter. I remember my cash was short about that time, and I respectfully request authority may be given to refund the amount – signed Sydney J. Dick, C.P.M., Nelson 05 Jun 1869.' It would appear that this money must have been paid by you out of private funds, but before directing repayment, the Deputy Auditor asks what steps you took (if any) to discover the reason of your cash being short at the time of such overpayment."
- 1870 May 23 GEE advising that the account from the proprietors of the Nelson Evening Mail, £1 2s 6d, has been approved for payment by Treasury
- 1870 May 26 GEE acknowledging receipt of bond forwarded by Archibald Grant for due performance of contract for mail service between Nelson and Blenheim
- 1870 May 26 GEE acknowledging receipt of letter respecting proposed mail service between Foxhill and Matakitaahi
- 1870 May 27 GEE re appointment of Mr Kaye as Clerk in the Nelson Office temporarily at a salary of £250 per annum and Mr Felix Wakefield will succeed Mr Kaye at a like salary per annum. Mr Wakefield will proceed to Nelson by the first Steamer leaving Wellington and report himself to you on his arrival. You will be good enough to direct Mr Kaye to come here by the first steamer from Nelson.
- 1870 May 30 GEE re non-receipt of account of receipt and issue of Postage stamps for the month of April
- 1870 Jun 02 GEE that the mail recently lost in the Wai-iti River had been recovered and delivered to the Postmaster, Fox Hill
- 1870 Jun 02 GEE that "His Honor the Superintendent is of opinion that none of the tenders received for the performance of the mail service between Fox Hill and Matakitaahi should be accepted, I am directed to instruct you to inform the tenderers of this decision and to direct you to call for fresh tenders for this service.
- 1870 Jun 09 Mr Best for Assistant Treasurer re transmission of a case containing Postage Stamps valued at £292
- 1870 Jun 13 GEE re calling for tenders for conveyance of mails to Matakitaahi – that the Provincial Government does not consider it expedient to do so at present, I am directed to inform you that in the circumstances you need not call for fresh tenders for this service.

- 1870 Jun 13 GEE "I am directed to instruct you to call upon the postal officers noted in the margin at once to give the necessary security for their fidelity to the Crown; and when you receive their bonds you will be good enough to forward them to this Office taking care to see that they have been properly executed – C. Halliday, letter carrier, P.O. Nelson; The Postmaster, Collingwood; The Postmaster, Motueka; Felix Wakefield, clerk, P.O. Nelson
- 1870 Jun 13 GEE acknowledging receipt of explanation respecting the delay of a registered letter reported in the Nelson Evening Mail 02 June
- 1870 Jun 18 GEE advising that Mr Wakefield is to be borne on the Salary Abstract of your Department from the 1st of June
- 1870 Jun 29 GEE re Sydney Dick overpayment of £14 11s 6d – advising that a refund has been authorised and will be paid by Treasury
- 1870 Jul 14 Mr Best for Assistant Treasurer re transmission of a case containing Postage Stamps valued at £512
- 1870 Jul 15 GEE payment of £20 authorised to F. Holder for temporary mail service to Wangapeka
- 1870 Jul 18 GEE receipt of bond of James Rose, mail contractor for the service between Nga Timoti and Thorpe
- 1870 Jul 30 Warburton, Dead Letter Department, General Post Office, Wellington – In compliance with the Postal Regulations of this Colony, I have the honor to transmit per present Mail 58 letters (including one registered – 132 M. Weitzel, Charleston) originally from Nelson all of which remain unclaimed after having been kept the prescribed period, are now returned to you as Dead Letters
- 1870 Aug 16 GEE William Corbett Jnr of Auckland has been appointed a clerk in your office at a salary of £125 per annum and that he has been instructed to proceed to Nelson forthwith reporting himself to you on his arrival there.
- 1870 Aug 19 GEE – a letter addressed Stanton, Printseller, Nelson and containing an invoice was posted at 37 Marlborough London by Mr J. M. Queen on 24 Feb 1869 but had not reached its destination

- 1870 Aug 20 Memo: Sydney Johnston Dick, Chief Postmaster, Nelson
In the draft last posted I did not make entry for Mails from Lower Moutere to Thorpe. This service at present costs £20 per annum. The Mail goes twice weekly to Nga Timoti, and once weekly from Nga Timoti to Thorpe, which seems often enough. I doubt whether it can be done more cheaply than now. In the annexed draft tenders are asked from "Nelson to Havelock". At present the carrier goes to Blenheim. If it is not thought advisable to continue a through service, I think it doubtful whether it is worth while to carry Mails to Havelock only. The correspondence between Nelson and Havelock is very small.
Annotation 1: I am not aware of the arrangements exactly, for conveying mails between Lower Moutere, Nga Timoti and Thorpe, but, if they are such as to preclude the necessity for inviting tenders you may strike them out.
Annotation 2: Although the service from Nelson is only to Havelock, yet, connection is made from the latter place to Picton and Blenheim, and correspondence for these places would be forwarded, as well as for Havelock.
Seven tenders for services between - [1] Nelson and Foxhill daily; [2] Foxhill and Wangapeka twice weekly; [3] Nelson and Riwaka twice weekly; [4] Spring Grove and Waimea West thrice weekly; [5] Nelson and Wakapuaka twice weekly; [6] Nelson and Blenheim once fortnightly; [7] Chief Post Office and the Port when required
Services at present performed by coach may be tendered for to be performed by mail cart. Each tenderer will be required to give security as provided for on the form of tender, for a sum equal to 20 per cent on the amount of the tender, binding the tenderer to take up the service tendered for, and sign the necessary contract bond in the event of his Tender being accepted....
- 1870 Aug 25 GEE enclosing Warrant of appointment of J. M. Neville to be Postmaster at Amuri vice Morris at a salary of £12 per annum
1870 Sep 13 GEE enclosing Warrant of appointment of E. Toll to be Postmaster at Bedstead Gully at a salary of £5 per annum
1870 Sep 20 GEE payment of three accounts authorised – William Lloyd £2 (two) and E. W. Dee £7 6s
1870 Sep 22 GEE acknowledging receipt of bonds of fidelity from F. Wakefield and C. Halliday
1870 Sep 26 GEE asking why July accounts had not been forwarded
- 1870 Sep 26 GEE re request from Postmaster at Lower Moutere for an increase of salary – the Postmaster General cannot consent to any increase as Mr Wills now receives salary equal in amount to that paid to other Postmasters doing the same amount of business.
- 1870 Oct 06 W. Gray, General Post Office, Wellington – Circular No.50 – re Schedule of the establishment for the year ending 30 Jun 1871...

- 1870 Oct 24 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington – forwards schedule of accepted tenders for inland mail services for 1871
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|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| [1] Nelson and Foxhill | F. Holder | £100 per annum |
| [2] Foxhill and Wangapeka | J. Thomas | £130 per annum |
| [3] Nelson and Riwaka | A. Grant | £90 per annum |
| [4] Spring Grove and Waimea West | M. Newth Jnr | £19 per annum |
| [5] Nelson and Wakapuaka | F. Wilkins | £17 17s per annum |
| [6] not listed | | |
| [7] Nelson and Havelock | tender from Blenheim accepted | |
| [8] Chief Post Office and the Port | J. Armstrong | £49 per annum |
| [9] Nga Timoti and Thorpe | J. Rose | £10 per annum |
- 1870 Nov 08 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington – advises that mails will be despatched in future for your Office from Melbourne by the steamers leaving that place alternately every week for the Bluff and Hokitika
- 1870 Nov 08 Mr Best for Assistant Treasurer re transmission of a case containing Postage Stamps valued at £300
- 1870 Nov 17 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington re transference of the Wangapeka mail contract to George Flower to take effect from 28 July
- 1870 Nov 18 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington re Postmaster Tadmor asking for an increase of salary – Postmaster General cannot comply with request
- 1870 Nov 18 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington – with reference to the bag of mails from London via Marseilles, short-delivered per S.S. 'Rangitoto', I have to inform that it was over-carried to Sydney in the R.M.S. 'Avoca' and was shipped by the 'Allhambra', which arrived at your port this morning.
- 1870 Dec 15 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington – re Pattern form of endorsement to be made out on the back of the monthly postal account
- Amounts due to Chief Postmaster Nelson being the particulars of his outstanding balance on 30 Sep 1870
- | | | |
|---|-------|-------------------|
| Balances due by Postmasters – Collingwood £6 3s 5d; Sub-postmasters £21 1s 9d | total | £27 5s 2d |
| Private boxes, amount due by holders of for unpaid letters | | £5 1s 9d |
| Unpaid letters at windows | | £3 11s |
| Credit notes not returned by Postmasters | | 7d |
| Dead letters sent to Wellington | | 14s 10d |
| Total | | £36 13s 4d |
- 1870 Dec 29 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington – enclosing Warrant appointing John O'Gorman as Postmaster at Matakitaiki at a salary of £5 pa

1870 Dec 29 W. Gray, GPO, Wellington – reporting that Thomas Wilkins, the successful tenderer for the Wakapuaka service died on the 10th and recommending that the tender of C. H. Martin, the present contractor, be accepted. I have to inform you that the acceptance of such tender has been approved.

List of tenders

No.1	Nelson and Foxhill £120
[1]	Francis Holder £100 per annum
No.2	Foxhill and Tadmor £30
[2]	George Flower £30
No.3	Nelson and Riwaka £140
[3]	Thomas Best £128
[4]	John Lyne £129
[5]	John Fowler Jnr £130
[6]	Herbert Haycock £125
No.4	Spring Grove and Waimea West £20
[7]	Mark Newth £19
No.5	Nelson and Wakapuaka £33
[8]	C. H. Martin £15
[9]	William Ching £25
[10]	Denis Frost £17 10s
[11]	Thomas Wilkins £33
No.6	Nelson and Havelock £72
[12]	John H. Smith £72
[14]	John Lyne £65

No.7 Nelson and Blenheim
[13] John H. Smith £130
[15] John Lyne £72

No.8 Post Office and Port £94 10s
[16] James Simpson & Joseph Bradcock £89 10s
[17] John Spencer £85
[18] W. Philip £85
[19] James C. Burford £60
[20] William Cooksey £90

Schedule – Province of Nelson*Chief Post Office*

Chief Postmaster	S. J. Dick	£300
Chief Clerk	R. Kaye	£225
Letter Carrier	C. Halliday	£120
Letter Carrier	J. Nuttall	£100

Country Post Offices – Postmasters

Amuri	F. W. Norris	£12	
Appleby	C. Reidy	£10	
Collingwood	H. W. Turnell	£15	
Slate River	J. G. Lash	£5	
Fox Hill	F. Holder	£6	
Hope	F. Oxley	£10	from 1 st September
Motueka	J. Bucholz	£25	from 1 st August
Motupipi	J. Telby	£17	
Upper Moutere	U. Cook	£10	
Lower Moutere	J. W. Mills	£10	
Richmond	T. R. Holder	£25	
Riwaka	W. Askew	£12	
Stoke	J. T. Smith	£10	
Spring Grove	W. Ladley	£12	
Tadmore	G. P. Flower	£5	
Takaka	G. Taylor	£10	
Waimea West	L. Dron	£12	
Waitapu	W. Page	£5	
Wakapuaka	T. Wilkins	£6	
