

HEADQUARTERS – TAURANGA - 1864

Chris Foote & Gerald J. Elliott

The following Notice appeared in the New Zealand Gazette

Head Quarters, Tauranga, May 5, 1864



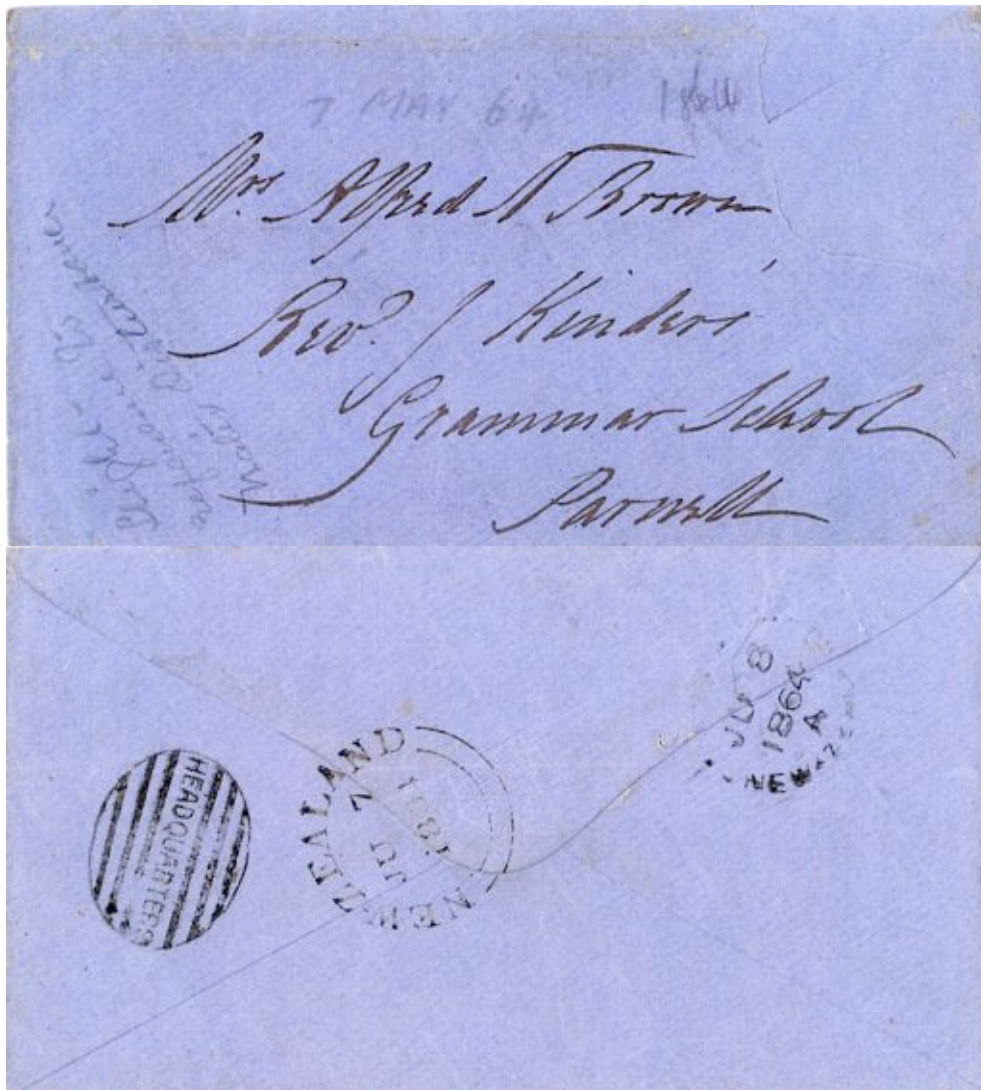
...”and by the 26th April were all landed at the Mission Station of Tauranga, to which place I had transferred my Head Quarters on the 21st April”

After many years of research, with the first article on the Postal Markings used at Headquarters appearing in the London Philatelist dated 1923, it has now been firmly established that the recorded examples of the Headquarters obliterator were all used at Tauranga.



Up to now, there have only been nine covers recorded with two of those having had postage stamps removed. These date from 18 May 1864 to 1 September 1864, and all are military covers sent by members of the British Regiments or local Militia, serving at Tauranga.

Non-Military cover dated 7 June 1864



**Headquarters (Tauranga) NZ Type II datestamp 7 June 1864,
Received at Auckland cds 8 June 1864**

If there were any doubts in the past where this Headquarters and NZ Datestamp was used at this period, this cover proves beyond reasonable doubt that this cover originated at Tauranga. The letter was written by the Pioneer Missionary Archdeacon Alfred Nesbitt Brown, from the Mission House at Tauranga.

The letter is addressed to Mrs. Alfred N. Brown, who was staying with the Reverend John Kinder. This was his second wife Christina Johnston who he married in 1860, his first wife Charlotte died in 1855. John Kinder had in 1859, married Celia Brown, daughter of Archdeacon Brown.



Reduced

Te Papa Tauranga (The Mission)
Original Photograph by John Kinder, January 1865

Headquarters Tauranga 21 April 1864

As confirmed in the Gazette Notice 5 May 1864, General Cameron had set up his Headquarters at the Te Papa Mission Station, Tauranga on 21 April 1864.

Both HMS *Esk* and HMS *Falcon* had left Auckland on the 20 April 1864 to Tauranga with the General and the Royal Navy Commodore and reinforcements. On 21 April 1864, in rounding Stony Point, HMS *Esk*,

ran aground, and the *Sandfly* came alongside and disembarked General Cameron and the troops.

Likewise HMS *Falcon* which was carrying 18 Officers and 291 Rank & File ran aground at Stony Point. On 25 April 1864, Commodore Sir William Wiseman (HMS *Curacoa*) left the ship and the troops were discharged to the *Sandfly*. Military Stores and Baggage being discharged on the 26 April 1864.

Archdeacon Alfred Nesbit Brown (1803 – 1884)

Pioneer Missionary

Alfred Nesbit Brown was born at Colchester on 23 October 1803. At the age of 20, having decided to be a missionary, he abandoned the study of law. He was ordained a deacon on 10 June 1827 and a priest on 1 June 1828. He married in 1829 and shortly after sailed for New Zealand, and arriving at the Bay of Islands from Sydney on board the *City of Edinburgh*, Captain Clendon, on 29 November 1829, was the third ordained minister in New Zealand.

Brown's first wife Charlotte had two children, a son Marsh who at 14 years died in 1845, and a daughter Cecilia who became the wife of John Kinder in 1859, Charlotte died in 1855. In 1860 he married Christina Johnston, Brown was created Archdeacon of Tauranga on 31 December 1843, it was always his ambition "*to live and die a humble missionary*". He opposed suggestions that he should be made a bishop, and died on 7 September 1884.

Reverend John Kinder

John Kinder was born in London in 1819. He was educated at Cambridge University, and graduated BA in 1843 and MA in 1845. He studied for the Anglican Ministry and was ordained Deacon in 1846 at St. Paul's Cathedral.

He was appointed Master at Alleyne's Grammar School, Uttoxeter, in Staffordshire, until 1855, when he emigrated to New Zealand, whilst at Alleyne's he was ordained Priest in 1848 at Lichfield Cathedral

Having been offered a mastership at a Grammar School to be set up in Auckland, by Bishop Selwyn, the Reverend John Kinder arrived at Auckland in October 1855. The Church of England Grammar School, was not yet built, whilst he took up temporary quarters, and it was not until 1857 before he could move into the Master's House at Parnell and a little later the school across the road was ready. He was Master from 1855 until 1872 when he resigned to take up the position of Master at St. John's College.

Kinder was a prolific artist, and left a large collection of paintings and drawings of Auckland, together with a collection of fine photographs. In 1859, he married Celia Brown, the daughter of Archdeacon Brown of Tauranga, he died in 1903.



Reduced

2 June 1840 One Penny Mulready
Addressed to John Kinder at Trinity College Cambridge.

References

Chris Foote collection, Headquarters cover and personal research
Gerald J. Elliott collection, Mulready cover and personal research

Bibliography and suggested reading.

A.H. McLintock – *An Encyclopaedia of New Zealand* (3 Volumes) R.E. Owen, Government Printer, Wellington, N.Z. 1966.

Una Platts – *The Lively Capital – Auckland 1840 – 1865.* – Avon fine Prints Ltd. NZ 1971

Rhys Richards and Jocelyn Chisholm - *Bay of Islands Shipping Arrivals and Departures* – The Paremata Press 1992. ISBN 0-4773-01601-x

Gordon H. Brown – *Visions of New Zealand. Artists in a New Land* – Auckland 1988.

Gordon H. Brown and Hamish Keith – *An Introduction to New Zealand Painting 1839 – 1980* – Auckland 1982

Hamish Keith – *John Kinder a Biography* – Auckland University.

Rory Sweetman – *Spire on the Hill. A History of St. Andrew's Church in the Epsom District 1846 – 1966* – Auckland 1996

Elizabeth Hanson – *Historic Buildings of New Zealand. North Island* – The NZ Historic Places Trust. 1979

Evelyn Stokes – *A History of Tauranga County* – Dunmore Press. 1980 ISBN 0 908564 51 1

Diana Stuart Masters – *A very Singular Lady – Marianne Celia Kinder (1837-1928)* – Kinder House Society, 2000. ISSN 1175-2378

On the Internet

www.kinder.org.nz/john-kinder

www.teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/2k7

www.theelms.org.nz/elmshistorytimeline/

www.teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/1b35

www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_Nesbit_Brown

Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand Handbooks “*The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*”

The Mail Coach – publication of the Postal History Society of New Zealand