

From the archive: Emily Harris Letters and Diary Excerpts 1860-63

Notes

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The manuscripts

The letters and diary excerpts presented here are part of the Emily Harris papers at Puke Ariki Museum in New Plymouth (ARC2002-190). They consist of manuscripts copied in Emily Harris's hand from originals apparently no longer extant. These manuscripts take the form of two hand-bound booklets (fascicles) and two letters on single folded folios typical of personal letters of the period. Taken together, the manuscripts cover events in Emily Harris's life between September 1860 and March 1863.

Geographically they move from New Plymouth under siege to Hobart, Tasmania, where Emily continued living with the Des Voeux family. That Emily Harris copied more material is evident from the fragmented nature of the surviving fascicles. Fascicle 1 (28 pp) is seven folios folded and centre-bound, but an unknown number of pages are missing between its outermost folio and the other six. Fascicle 2 (6 pp) is three folios cut from an exercise book and bound at the left edge. Emily Harris's motive for assembling letters and diary excerpts is unrecorded and the date of the copying is unknown. Her nieces Miss Ruth Moore and Mrs Ella Grace Hobbs donated their aunt's papers to the then Taranaki Museum in 1961.

Letters, Scraps of Diary &c

MS copy of diary entries 10 - 12 Sept 1860, including poem and account of 11 Sept attack on Huirangi. Fascicle 1, pp. [1]-[2]. The same folio includes a diary fragment or letter from Mar 1861 (pp. [27]-[28]) and has come loose from its binding.

Emily Cumming Harris (28 Mar 1837-5 Aug 1925). Born Plymouth, England, buried Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson, NZ. Artist, writer and teacher.

Nelson Evening Mail Aug 1925.

Miss Emily Cumming Harris.

The death has occurred of Miss Emily Cumming Harris, of Nile street, a very old and respected resident of Nelson. The late Miss Harris was born at Plymouth, England, and was a daughter of the late Mr Edwin Harris, one of the first surveyors of Taranaki. He was a civil engineer and came out to New Zealand for the Plymouth Coy. in 1841. The late Miss Harris was educated in New Plymouth. Later she left for Hobart and Melbourne, rejoining her parents some years afterwards at Nelson, where she had resided ever since.

Miss Harris studied drawing in Hobart and learned painting from her father, who was one of the first drawing masters at the Bishop's School and Nelson Boys' College. To his careful instruction Miss Harris owed much of her skill. Miss Harris exhibited a great deal in different centres of New Zealand and at the International and Colonial Exhibition at London and received both bronze and silver medals for her work. In conjunction with the late Mr Jackson, of Nelson, Miss Harris published a very useful and interesting book entitled 'New Zealand Flowers, Berries and Ferns'. Only recently the New Zealand Government secured from Miss Harris a collection of her studies of New Zealand flowers. Included were a number of very rare varieties.

The late Miss Harris leaves a sister, Mrs Weyergang, who has been residing in Nelson for some years. (Harris family scrap book, undated clipping. Puke Ariki. ARC2002-190. Box 2, folder 3)

Wiremu Kingi's pa in the bush.

[Wiremu Kingi Te Rangitake](#) (?-1882). Te Atiawa leader, probably born at Manukorihi, Waitara. On 11 Sept 1860 British forces attacked Huirangi, near Waitara, as part of reprisals for their defeat at the hands of Te Atiawa and its allies at Puketakauere 27 June.

General Pratt went to take command of the force, with his evil genius Col. Carey

[Major General Thomas Simpson Pratt](#) (1797-1879). Commander of British troops in Australasian colonies, arrived in Melbourne Jan 1860. Assumed personal command of Taranaki campaign after Puketakauere, arrived in New Plymouth with 40th Regiment reinforcements 3 August 1860.

[Lieutenant Colonel Robert Carey](#) (1821-1883). Deputy Adjutant General and Pratt's second in command.

I think they had better have remained here and entrusted it to Major Nelson

Major Thomas Nelson. 40th Regiment. Veteran of Indian and Afghan wars. Arrived in Taranaki in May 1860 and went to Waitara with a detachment to relieve the 65th garrison there. Nelson was in command of the 40th Regiment's disastrous attack on Puketakauere 27 June 1860, in which 30 British soldiers died and 34 were wounded.

[Taranaki Herald 26 May 1860](#). Shipping Intelligence. ARRIVED. May 23. — Airedale, (s.s.), 297 tons, Johns, from Nelson. Passengers — Major Nelson, Mr. and Mrs McKechney, Mr A. Standish, Mr Gilbert, Mrs Colson, Mrs Street, Mrs Edgecombe, Mrs Foote and family.

[Taranaki Herald 2 June 1860](#). Continuation of Journal of Events. [...] Major Nelson, 40th Regt., likewise proceeded to Waitara with a party of soldiers to take the command. The intention being to relieve the 65th stationed at Waitara since military occupation was taken of Teira's land.

A poor woman, Mrs Miles, died of fever

Miles Alfred, Henui, settler (Jurors List)

Mary Ann Miles died 11 Sept 1860, aged 30, and was buried in St Mary's Churchyard (New Plymouth Cemetery Records)

Mr Leech was buried this afternoon

[Taranaki Herald 8 Sept 1860](#). DEATHS. [...] On the 7th instant, William Leech, Esq., J.P., Sub-Treasurer and Collector of Customs, in his 83rd year.

[Taranaki Herald 8 Sept 1860](#). [...] Our paper contains an announcement of the death of William Leech, Esq. Death has been so rife amongst us since the war broke out, and visually under such barbarous circumstances, that those who die from natural causes scarcely awaken the feelings with which we should regard the event in times of peace and quiet. In Mr Leech the Province has lost a friend, and the Government an efficient and valuable public servant. After residing many years in India from the age of 20, which country he left with a constitution impaired by the climate, Mr Leech came to New Zealand when Auckland was colonised, and after filling several situations of public trust there, was promoted by Governor Sir George Grey to New Plymouth where he received the appointments of Sub Treasurer and Collector of Customs, the duties of which he transacted to the day of his death. Mr Leech was an invalid from the time of his arrival.

Come cast all gloomy cares away

Emily Harris's satire reflects the views held by many settlers about the competence of the military command in Taranaki.

My dear Mamma

MS copy of letter to mother Sarah Harris, Nelson. Written in New Plymouth, 5 Dec 1860. Account of visit to Glenavon, Nov 1860. Fascicle 2, pp.1-6. Three folios bound at left edge, paper different from Fascicle 1 and probably cut from a school exercise book.

Sarah Harris, nee Hill (1806-1879). Baptised Plymouth, England, buried Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson, NZ. Teacher and author of letters (1841- c.1855) to her family in England describing the voyage to New Zealand and subsequent experience of settlement in New Plymouth. The earliest of Sarah Harris's surviving letters, written 20 April 1841 and sent to England via the William Bryan, was returned to her family in NZ and is part of the Emily Harris papers at Puke Ariki. Sarah's other letters are typescript copies of MSS originals and are also held at Puke Ariki. Another set of typescript copies is held at The Turnbull Library in Wellington. Sarah Harris was the third daughter of William and Elizabeth Hill of Plymouth, Devon.

I have just returned from spending the evening at the Standishes with papa

Edwin Harris (1806-1895). Born Plymouth, England, buried Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson, NZ. Married Sarah Hill 4 Nov 1833 at St Andrews Parish, Plymouth. Draughtsman, surveyor, artist, musician, farmer and teacher.

[Nelson Evening Mail 25 May 1895](#). [...] We have to announce the death of Mr Edwin Harris, which took place this morning in his ninetieth year. He was one of the pioneer settlers, and landed in New Plymouth in 1841. He brought special recommendations to Governor Hobson, but before he could reach Auckland Captain Hobson had died. He then entered the service of the New Zealand Company, and for many years was engaged in surveying its newly-acquired blocks of land, but finding the hardships attending this work more than his constitution could stand, he bought land and began bush-farming.

At the time of the Maori war he had to come into town with his family. After serving in the militia for some months he came to Nelson, where he soon became known as an artist of considerable ability. He was born in Plymouth in 1805 and after finishing his education he devoted some time to the study of painting, and then entered the office of his brother-in-law, the late eminent engineer, Mr J. M. Rendel, F.R.S., with whom he remained six years.

Mr Harris was an accomplished musician, and was for many years a member of the Nelson Harmonic Society.

He leaves three daughters, Mrs A.W. Moore, Mrs Weyergang of New Plymouth, and Miss Harris of Nelson, also several distinguished nephews, among whom may be mentioned Lord Rendel and William

Austin Dobson. His only son, a fine young man, a member of the Taranaki Rifle Volunteers, was killed by the Maoris at the beginning of the war.

The Standishes were family friends. Thomas and Mary Standish and their three sons arrived in New Plymouth from Pontefract, Yorkshire, in 1843. Thomas Standish (1805-1863) was a solicitor and magistrate's clerk in the 1840s. He was appointed Crown Prosecutor for Taranaki (NZ Gazette 27 Dec 1860). Mary Standish (1812-1878 is buried with her husband in Te Henui Cemetery (New Plymouth Cemetery Records).

he expects the Airedale in tomorrow

RMS Airedale (286 tons) was a vessel of the NZ and Australian Inter-Colonial Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, established in 1859. She was built in England in 1857, saw service in the Crimea, and arrived in Nelson in August 1859. She was in service under various companies until Feb 1871 when she wrecked on a reef north of the Waitara river mouth, now known as Airedale Reef. The Airedale was commandeered for military transportation during the conflicts of the 1860s. See [Taranaki Daily News 15 Feb 2014](#). Airedale Exposed by Low Tides.

for Mrs Des Voeux has been very gay lately

Katharina Sara Angelica Des Voeux, née Richardson (1829-1895). Elder daughter of Thomas Watkin and Mary Anne Richardson, born in Dieffenbach am Main, Germany, arrived 1851 in New Plymouth with parents and younger sister Eliza Mary. The family settled at Glenavon, Waiwhakaiho. Catherine married Charles Champagne Des Voeux, Esq., 1854 in New Plymouth. In 1860 they had two children, Charlotte Mary (born 1855) and Frederick Henry Arthur (born 1857). The Des Voeux family left for Hobart March 1861 and was still there in 1863.

Mrs R, Mrs K, Mrs Des V., Alice Reynolds and myself went to Glenavon

Glenavon was the property of Thomas Watkin Richardson at Waiwhakaiho. It was damaged August 1860 by Maori but is not on Grayling's list of destroyed properties. Charles Des Voeux appears to manage Glenavon for his father-in-law 1860-61.

Mary Anne Richardson, nee Whittington. Wife of Thomas Watkin Richardson. Widowed Jan 1861 in New Plymouth. Probably died in Australia after going to Hobart in 1861 with daughter and son in law Charles and Catherine Des Voeux.

Eliza Mary King, née Richardson (1831-1911). Radical feminist, lecturer and author, known as Mrs EM King. Born Dieffenbach am Main, Germany. Arrived 1851 in Taranaki with parents and older sister Catherine. Married William Cutfield King 1855 in New Plymouth, two daughters (Alice Mary, later

Turton, and Constance Ada, later Mullens). Widowed 8 Feb 1861. Went to Sydney with daughters, mother, sister, niece, nephew, and brother in law Charles Des Voeux 12 Mar 1861. Party arrived in Hobart 11 April 1861 (one King daughter is an infant, the other Miss A King, presumably Alice). Returned to England in 1870 with daughters. Book Truth. Love. Joy. Or, The Garden of Eden and its Fruits (Melbourne, 1874). Lived in England and the United States, promoting radical causes including advocacy for prostitutes and dress reform. Returned to New Plymouth in 1907, lived with daughters. Died at Omata, buried with father and husband in St Mary's, New Plymouth. See [Jan Leader Elliott, Eliza Mary King \(2013\)](#).

Miss Alice Ann Reynolds died 1912 in New Plymouth, aged 75. She is buried in Te Henui Cemetery with John Cullen Reynolds, died 1889 aged 48, and James Reynolds, died 1920 aged 77 (New Plymouth Cemetery Records).

Reynolds James, Henui, farmer (Jurors List)

Mr Des Voeux wanted to bring in some cattle

Charles Champagne Des Voeux, Esq. (1827-1914). Sixth son of Sir Henry William Des Voeux, third baronet of Indiaville, and Frances Dalrymple. Captain of Taranaki volunteer mounted escort Mar 1860-Feb 1861. Married to Catherine (née Richardson), two children (Charlotte and Frederick). Took extended family to Hobart March 1861, still there in 1863. Passenger records show Des Voeux returning annually to New Plymouth 1862-65. NZ electoral rolls for 1875-76 and 1880-81 show that he owned four properties in the Grey Block. Des Voeux returned to England with his family in the 1870s. Charlotte married Samuel Ewing 1879 in London. Frederick married Hylda Henrietta Brooke 1899 in France. Catherine died on Portsea Island, Hampshire in 1895. Charles died in London and is buried in Brompton Cemetery. He became Sir Charles Des Voeux, 6th baronet of Indiaville, after the death of his brother Henry in 1894. His son Frederick succeeded to the title in 1914. See [Des Voeux Baronets](#).

they were strangers to me Capt Stoney and Capt. Miller.

Major Henry Butler Stoney (1816-1894). Paymaster, 40th regiment. Stoney arrived in Taranaki 24 July 1860 with Lieutenant Colonel Leslie and 40th Regiment reinforcements from Melbourne. The book he loaned Charles Des Voeux is Residence in Tasmania: With a Descriptive Tour through the Island (London, 1856). See [NZ Herald 6 July 1894](#). Death of Major Stoney.

Captain TE Miller arrived in Taranaki 16 April 1860 from Sydney commanding a detachment of 12th Regiment reinforcements. On 4 June he was almost drowned in attempting to save the son of William King Wakefield near the mouth of the flooded Huatoki stream. Miller was slightly wounded 23 Jan 1861 during the Maori attack on No. 3 Redoubt at Huirangi. See [Taranaki Herald 26 Jan 1861](#)

[Taranaki Herald 9 June 1860](#) DIED. [...] Drowned in the Huatoki river, 4th June, William Beaumont, aged 13, the eldest son of Mr William King Wakefield, Omata.

[Taranaki Herald 9 June 1860](#). Continuation of Journal of Events.

Monday (4 June). — A melancholy and fatal accident happened this morning to a son of Mr Wakefield, who, whilst fording the Huatoki stream near the beach on horseback, lost his seat and was washed out to sea and drowned. Capt. Miller, of the 12th, who happened to witness the accident, gallantly plunged into the sea to save the boy, which noble act nearly cost him his life. Capt. Miller got amongst the breakers and was carried into the mouth of the river where he had to struggle against the swollen waters of the Huatoki as they discharged themselves into the sea. Being a powerful swimmer, after repeated attempts, and after being exhausted by the heavy surf that repeatedly broke over him, he succeeded in getting across the stream, and the surf assisted in washing him up towards the beach, when he was rescued and carried into the Kawau pa in apparently a dying state. Mr Hoby, junior, with great courage went into the sea on horseback, and by his beckoning announced to the people on shore that Capt. Miller was in peril. G. Hoby's horse carried him without shrinking into the surf and swam about in the breakers in his rider's efforts to get close to Captain Miller. Nothing seen of the body of the unfortunate boy. Vigorous means were at once used to restore animation, and during the evening Captain Miller was sufficiently recovered to be removed to his quarters on a litter. A large number of people were on the beach during the time the captain was in the breakers, who had not the slightest conception he was struggling for his life, but, on the contrary, thought he was swimming about still seeking for the body of the boy.

Among the guests was Capt Buck, Mrs Govett's brother-in-law and Col. Wyatt,

Captain George Buck (1832-1868). Arrived New Plymouth from Auckland on the Wonga Wonga 6 November 1860. Departed Waitara for Manukau on HMSS Niger 29 April 1861. See [Officers of the 65th in New Zealand](#).

Rev. Henry Govett (1819-1903), Archdeacon of [St Mary's Anglican Church](#), New Plymouth from 1860.

Lieutenant Colonel Alfred Francis William Wyatt (1810-1869). Arrived in Taranaki 12 Oct 1860 to take command of 65th Regiment after retirement of Major General Gould.

[Taranaki Herald 29 Sept 1860](#). Continuation of Journal of Events. [...] Wednesday, Sept. 26. — H.M.S.S. Niger sailed for Wanganui this morning, it is believed on a cruise along the coast, and to bring up Col. Wyatt, who succeeds to the command of the 65th Regt., vacant by the promotion of Major-General Gold. See [Officers of the 65th in New Zealand](#).

The stone cottage on the beach

Beach Cottage, built in 1853-54 for William and Emily Richmond on the seafront near the present Richmond Estate apartments, and for many years the property of the Richmond and Atkinson families. During the 1860-61 conflict the families removed to Auckland and Nelson and the cottage became officers' quarters. In 1961 the cottage was moved to its current position near Puke Ariki (then the Taranaki Museum), renamed Richmond Cottage and refurbished as a colonial museum. See [Piecing Together Richmond Story](#).

I took the opportunity of asking her for a few flowers for the grave

Hugh Corbyn Harris (1835-1860) was buried in St Mary's Churchyard 31 July 1860 with full military honours. An extended account of his death and funeral appeared in local newspapers.

[Taranaki Herald 4 Aug 1860. Continuation of Journal of Events](#)

Sunday— We have sad intelligence from Waitara to-day, brought up by Archdeacon Govett. Mr. Hugh Corbyn Harris, attached to the camp, while carting driftwood from the beach yesterday was shot dead by a party of rebels in ambush. We have received from Waitara the following particulars relating to this brutal murder. "You will be sorry to hear that a poor fellow named Harris, a carter, and most respectable young man, was shot dead from the bush near the beach about 1300 yards south of the blockhouse, only yesterday. He had gone for wood, accompanied by a private of the 40th, neither of them armed, and although the beach close to the Waitara point is one mass of timber, he wished, it appears, to find some which was better suited for culinary purposes, and as no Maoris, excepting the friendly ones had ever been seen in that direction he apprehended no danger. Five or six shots were fired — and one ball passed through poor Harris' head, killing him instantaneously. No attempt to plunder his body was made, and his cart and bullocks remained uninjured. The man of the 40th states that he was under the impression that the Maoris were some belonging to the Waitara pa when first he saw them coming towards the beach, but on seeing them nearer he called to Harris, who was 70 or 80 yards from him, without Harris apparently hearing him." Corbyn Harris is the only son of an old settler, and was a most exemplary young man, and the main support of a family of sisters.

[...]

The afflicted Parents of the late Hugh Corbyn Harris desire to offer their warmest thanks to the Volunteer Rifles, Militia, and other numerous friends, who manifested their respect and esteem for their departed Son, by following his remains to their last resting place. As they are not able to make their acknowledgments in person, they take this opportunity of gratefully assuring them that their voluntary demonstration of kindness and sympathy has afforded much comfort and consolation to his surviving relatives, who mourn the loss of an only and affectionate Son and Brother, but who do NOT "Sorrow as those who have no hope". New Plymouth, 31st July, 1860.

[Nelson Examiner 8 Sept 1860](#). Advertisements. On Sale, at the Examiner Office, A Funeral Sermon, delivered at St Mary's Church, New Plymouth, Taranaki, on the death of Hugh Corbyn Harris. By the Reverend H.N. Wollaston. The proceeds of the Sale to be given to the sisters of the deceased.

Mary Mountjoy Paddon, letter of 24 Dec 1922: 'I must add that when or after Corbyn Harris was killed a very special sermon was preached, about him, printed & copies sent to England and I think I recollect... that a tombstone was erected, whether in New Plymouth or Nelson I do not remember, but I think the stone was sent from England.' (Turnbull Library [\(MS-Papers-3761\)](#))

We have not yet removed to Skinner's house

Skinner, Thomas Kingwell, New Plymouth, butcher (Jurors List)

Prudence Veale and Thomas Kingwell Skinner were the parents of [William Henry Skinner](#) (1857-1946), noted Taranaki surveyor and ethnologist, and the founder of the Taranaki Museum to which the Harris family began donating art works in 1919. In 1860 the Skinner home was located on the banks of New Plymouth's Mangaotuku Stream near the present site of Puke Ariki Museum.

poor Mr Richardson

Thomas Watkin Richardson, Esq. (1800-1861). Oxford-educated lawyer, married Mary Anne Whittington, three children born Dieffenbach am Main, Germany. Family returned to England 1851, arrived in Taranaki that year and settled at Glenavon, Waiwhakaiho. Buried in St Mary's, New Plymouth with son in law William Cutfield King and daughter Eliza Mary King.

[Taranaki Herald 12 Jan 1861](#) DIED. On the 11th instant, Thomas Watkin Richardson, Esq., J.P., aged 60 years.

to spend the evening with Mr and Mrs Gardner

Gardner Christopher Hatton, New Plymouth, settler (Jurors List)

The Newlands have got into a very comfortable house

Newland John, Omata, farmer (Jurors List)

Newland John jun., Omata, farmer (jurors list)

Newland J. Omata. 5 miles from any Military Post. (Grayling)

John and Frances Newland and their children arrived 1841 on the Amelia Thompson. The children were: Frances (Leatham), John, Susan (Brind), William, Henry, George, and Helen (Douglas). John Newland was born in 1796 and died on 2 August 1887 and is buried at Te Henui Cemetery. When he died John Newland was the oldest Mason in New Zealand, having joined the Masonic body in 1822. John Newland was appointed gaoler shortly after his arrival in New Plymouth and was the settlement's first policeman. He kept a diary from 6 Mar. 1841 to 20 Jan 1872. (Taranaki Biography files, Puke Ariki 005/20)

Mr Ronalds & Mr Diamond board with them

Ronalds Frank, New Plymouth, clerk (Jurors List)

Dymond John Caspar, New Plymouth, merchant (Jurors List)

Give my love to Frances

Frances Emma Harris (1842-1892). Born New Plymouth, NZ, buried in St Mary's Churchyard, New Plymouth. Artist and teacher. Puke Ariki holds four paintings by Frances Harris and copies of letters to her are part of Emily Harris papers ARC2002-190. Frances figures prominently in Emily's diaries of 1885-86 and 1889-91. She contributed to several family exhibitions in Nelson and New Plymouth and taught at the school established by the Harris sisters in their Nelson home at 34 Nile St. Frances died in New Plymouth while staying with married sister Mary Weyergang and is buried in St Mary's with her brother Corbyn.

[Taranaki Herald 19 Sept 1892. Death.](#) HARRIS.— On September 17th, at the residence of her sister, Mrs Weyergang, New Plymouth, Frances Emma Harris, fourth daughter of Edwin Harris, Esq Nile Street East,

as well as Augusta & Ellen

Augusta Harris (1848-1870). Born New Plymouth, NZ, buried Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson.

[Nelson Evening Mail 1 September 1870.](#) DEATH. Harris. — August 31, Augusta, fifth daughter of Edwin Harris, Esq., late of Taranaki, aged 22 years.

Ellen Harris (1851-1895). Born New Plymouth, NZ, buried Wakapuaka Cemetery, Nelson. Artist and teacher. Ellen Harris also contributed to family exhibitions but her subjects seem less distinct than those of Edwin, Emily and Frances, and she is always described last in newspaper reviews. Like her sister Frances, Ellen figures prominently in Emily's diaries of 1885-86 and 1889-91. She was often an invalid during these years and struggled to continue teaching in the Harris sisters' school.

[Nelson Evening Mail 30 Mar 1895. DEATHS.](#) Harris.— March 29, at the residence of her father, Nile-street East, Ellen, the youngest and beloved daughter of Edwin Harris. (Wellington papers please copy.) The Funeral will leave the house on Sunday afternoon, at two o'clock.

I have not been able to get the ferns for Miss Mayling

Ferning was a popular pastime and mention of ferning expeditions recurs in Emily Harris's diaries 1885-86 and 188-91. Sarah Harris contributed pressed ferns for local exhibitions in Nelson.

[Nelson Examiner 3 Mar 1866. NELSON INSTITUTE EXHIBITION.](#) Miscellaneous Articles [...] Mrs. E. Harris. Collection of Fern Leaves in a book.

Love to Kate, &c

Catherine Harris (1839-1913). Born Dulverton, Somerset, England, buried Te Henui Cemetery, New Plymouth, NZ. Married Taranaki farmer Alfred William Moore 4 Mar 1863 in Nelson. The Moores returned to New Plymouth permanently in 1863.

Children of Alfred and Catherine Moore:

1864 Alfred Henry.

1866 Constance Catherine. Constance Catherine Moore died 1942, aged 76.

1867 Reginald Townsend.

1869 Mary Frances. Mary Frances Moore died 1896.

1870 Hugh Harris. Hugh Harris Moore died 1905.

1872 Ruth. Ruth Moore died 1964 aged 92.

1874 Frank Edwin. Married Minnie Hill Moon in 1902. Frank Edwin Moore died 1963 aged 89.

1878 Ella Grace. Married George Samuel Hobbs in 1904. Ella Grace Hobbs died in 1964 aged 86.

[Nelson Examiner 7 Mar 1863](#). Marriage. On the 4th March, at Nelson, by the Rev. P. Calder, Alfred William, second son of the late Henry Moore, Esq., Roadun, County Tipperary, Ireland, to Catherine, second daughter of Edwin Harris, Esq., C.E., of New Plymouth.

[Taranaki Daily News 26 Aug 1912](#). DEATH. MOORE—At his late residence, Devon Street East, on August 24, 1912, Alfred William Moore, in his 79th year.

[Nelson Evening Mail 29 Aug 1912](#). Personal. [...] The death occurred at New Plymouth on Saturday at the age of 79, of Mr Alfred William Moore, a very old resident of New Plymouth. The late Mr Moore came to New Zealand in 1856 from Lancashire. He worked on a farm at Westown till the war broke out, when he left for Nelson. There he resided for several years until the cessation of hostilities, and married Miss Catherine Harris, the eldest daughter of a very old Taranaki settler- who, with his family, had gone to Nelson for refuge. He returned to New Plymouth at the end of 1863, and had resided there ever since.

Letter to Miss Hill in Liskeard,

MS copy of letter to aunt Emma Jane Hill, Liskeard, England. Written in New Plymouth, 8 Dec 1860. Second account of visit to Glenavon, breaks off mid-page. Fascicle 1, pp. [3]-[6].

Emma Jane Hill (born 1802 in Plymouth, England) lived in Liskeard, Cornwall, where she was for many years a teacher at a private school for girls. She was the eldest sister of Sarah Harris, and a mentor to her Harris nieces. At Emma Hill's death, Harris family letters from NZ were given to another sister, Caroline Paddon (born 1804), mother of Mary Mountjoy Paddon, who had been a pupil at her aunt Emma's school and was a first cousin of the Harris sisters. When her mother died, Miss Paddon destroyed many Harris letters from NZ. See Paddon letter (1922) accompanying transcript of Sarah Harris letters at Turnbull Library ([MS-Papers-3761](#)).

A boy was fired at near there but fortunately was only slightly wounded

John Bishop was wounded 23 Nov 1860 near the Waiwhakaiho Bridge.

[Taranaki Herald 24 Nov 1860](#) Continuation of Journal of Events.

Friday, Nov. 23. — The town was surprised this morning by the intelligence that the Waikatos were at Waiwakaiho, and had fired upon and wounded a young man named John Bishop, who was on his father's farm contiguous to the bridge. Bishop and a native boy were walking on the flat on the town side of the bridge and opposite the pa occupied by friendly natives for the protection of the bridge when they received a volley from behind rising ground, about 15 yards from where they were standing, (an old Maori entrenchment) Bishop was hit through the wrist and in the groin, but the Maori boy escaped. The two immediately ran into a wooded swamp under the pa, and succeeded in escaping. Bishop reached the town where he fainted from loss of blood. From the number of shots fired a large party must have been in ambush.

6 p.m. — Bishop's wound in the wrist is severe, the bullet passing through the two bones. The wound in the groin is superficial, he had a single-barrel fowling piece in his hand when the bullet struck him, he dropped it, and it was taken away by the Waikatos. During the afternoon, a native woman saw about 200 of them across the river, and when they saw her, they passed Bishop's gun one to another with exulting yells. They afterwards waved to her to return to her pa. It is said the Waikatos are encamped near Mr. Smart's farm.

another poor boy was dragged from his horse and tomahawked

Joseph Sarten (16) was killed 4 Dec at Te Henui.

[Taranaki Herald 8 Dec 1860](#) Continuation of Journal of Events

Tuesday, Dec. 4. — Heavy rain during the night, but no wind. Dense fog over the town and country. — At 4 p.m., a lad named Joseph Sarten, who was at the Henui on horseback, seeking a bullock, was shot and tomahawked. A boy named Wm. Northcote, who was riding alongside him, witnessed the whole affair. A volley was fired and Sarten fell, and directly afterwards several natives ran from behind a furze hedge and tomahawked him. Northcote escaped and rode into town with the intelligence, and a party of Militia and Rifles, and the inlying picket of the 12th, with the Mounted Volunteers, proceeded to recover the body. It was found where he fell, in a lane running from Stewart's house towards the beach, about

midway between the Henui and Waiwakaiho rivers. He had received three bullets in his back and sides, and was brutally hacked about the head and legs by tomahawks. The horse was led into town with a bullet through its neck. The mounted men brought the body as far as the Henui, where they met the troops, and it was put into an ambulance cart and brought to the hospital. The shots in the body and in the horse show that at least four persons were concerned in the murder, and from the character of the wounds, they had evidently been posted within a few yards of where their victim passed. A heavy mist had favoured their purpose. The poor boy was 16 years of age, and is the second of the family who have met a violent end from the rebels.

I add a few notes from memory

MS notes on Glenavon visit, including poem, and account of three subsequent parties in New Plymouth. Undated. Fascicle 1, pp. [6]-[16].

if Mr Des Voeux and Mr William King thought it safe it was all we cared for

William Cutfield King (1829-1861). Only child of Captain Henry King and his wife Mary Anne. Arrived in New Plymouth with his parents 1841 on the Amelia Thompson. Married Eliza Mary King 1855 in New Plymouth, the couple had two daughters. Captain of the Taranaki Militia 1860-61. Elected MP of the third New Zealand government Nov 1860 but was killed before he could take his seat. Buried in St Mary's, New Plymouth with his wife and father in law Thomas Watkin Richardson.

he was with great difficulty rescued by George Hoby

Hoby George, Bell Block, farmer (Jurors List)

Hoby G. Bell Block. 2 miles from Bell Block stockade. (Grayling)

George Hoby, Junior, rescued Captain Miller 4 June 1860.

Lieut Colonel Leslie, in full regimentals.

Lieutenant Colonel Leslie. Arrived in Taranaki from Melbourne 24 July 1860 in command of 40th Regiment reinforcements. Paymaster Major Stoney was part of the contingent.

Lines Written on Visiting Glenavon during the War 1860

Emily Harris's return to a place where pre-war memories are abundant gives rise to a lament for current difficulties and the recent loss of her brother.

I can send a servant to Mrs Hoskin's

Hoskin Peter Facey, New Plymouth, storekeeper (Jurors List)

[Taranaki Herald 27 Oct 1860](#) DIED. On the 22nd instant, Mr Peter Facey Hoskin, aged 47 years.

One poor fellow was shot in a fight a very short time after.

(Perhaps Lieutenant Jackson (died 23 Jan 1861). Arrived in Taranaki from Melbourne 24 Apr 1860 with 40th Regiment reinforcements. Killed in action at Huirangi during Maori attack on No. 3 Redoubt.

[Taranaki Herald 26 Jan 1861](#). Continuation of Journal of Events. [...] Thursday [24 Jan]. Lieut. Jackson, with George Chubb, R.E., and Ed. Archer, 12th Regt., were buried at St. Mary's Churchyard, with military honors, at 4 p.m., the 65th and Rifle Volunteers' Bands playing the funeral march. This young and gallant officer was followed to the grave by a numerous procession of military and civilians, anxious to show every mark of respect to his memory.

Another possibility is Captain Thomas George Strange (1825-1861). 65th Regiment. Arrived in New Zealand 1852. Arrived in Taranaki 30 Mar 1860. Killed in action at Te Arei, near Waitara. Recently married to a daughter of Colonel Sillery at death. See [Officers of the 65th in New Zealand](#).

[Taranaki Herald 16 Feb 1861](#) DEATHS. On the 10th February, 1861, at Camp, Huirangi, Taranaki, New Zealand, of a wound received in action, Captain Thomas George Strange, 65th Regiment, deeply and deservedly regretted by his brother officers and the community at large.

Major Paul came in, quite out of breath

Major James Paul (born 1825). Major of Brigade, 65th Regiment. See [Officers of the 65th in New Zealand](#).

Letter to my sister Frances in Nelson

MS copy of letter to sister Frances Emma Harris, Nelson. Written in New Plymouth, 3 Jan 1861. Family news. Fascicle 1, pp. [16]-[18].

We have removed into the house above John Veal's

Veale John, New Plymouth, carpenter (Jurors List)

Presumably the property on the Mangaotuku Stream owned by Thomas Kingwell Skinner. It is unclear from Emily's account whether the Kings also made the move from the quarters they shared with the Des Voeux family.

You must try to get a paper with an account of this last expedition

General Pratt's expeditions against the insurgent tribes culminated in the extended operation that saw battles at Matarikoriko, Kairau, Huirangi and Te Arei 29 Dec 1860-19 Mar 1861.

Frank has got a commission as ensign in place of Mr Gardner

Frank Standish (1836-1923). His brothers were [Arthur Standish](#) (1838-1915), a solicitor who became Crown Prosecutor for Taranaki and first Mayor of New Plymouth, and George Frederick Standish (1840-1918). See [photograph of John Oxenham and Frank Standish](#). Military group portraits. Puke Ariki. [Hawera and Normanby Star 2 May 1923](#). PERSONAL ITEMS. [...] The death is reported by Press Association message from Ashburton of Mr. Frank Burgon Standish, aged 87 years, who arrived in New Zealand in 1844, and claims blood ties with Miles Standish, leader of the Puritan Fathers. He was a Maori war veteran, and saw considerable service in Taranaki. He was a well-known Canterbury pioneer. ['Fifty-one' states that the above corresponds with Mr. Frank Standish, who left Taranaki for the South Island: somewhere in the 'sixties. If so,' he would be a brother of the late Mr. Arthur Standish (Crown Prosecutor at New Plymouth for many years) and Mr. George Standish. The parents lived at Tukapa prior to the outbreak of war in 1860. The Standish boys were all educated at Beardsworth's school.] Beardsworth Charles Alfred Copeland, New Plymouth, schoolmaster (Jurors List)

the boxes left with Mrs Tatton

Tatton William, Grey Block, farmer (Jurors List)

Tatton William jun., Grey Block, farmer (jurors list)

Tatton W. Grey Block 2 miles from town garrison (Grayling)

The Tattons were neighbours on Frankley Road and were looking after possessions salvaged from the Harrises' property. See [Taranaki Herald 7 Aug 1886](#). Death of Mr William Tatton, Senior.

& to Mr Moore

Moore Alfred, Grey Block, farmer (Jurors List)

Married Catherine Harris in Nelson, 4 Mar 1863

Both buried in Te Henui Cemetery, 1912 and 1913 (New Plymouth Cemetery Records).

My dear Mamma

MS copy of letter to mother Sarah Harris, Nelson. Written in New Plymouth, 14 Jan 1861. Death of TW Richardson. Fascicle 1, p. [18].

perhaps owing to Mr Smith's indisposition

Possibly John Stephenson Smith (1811-1874) who married Hannah Hursthouse (1813-1891) and emigrated to New Plymouth 1849 with his family. The Smiths' eldest son [Stephenson Percy Smith](#) ((1840-1922), (known as Percy) became an eminent surveyor, ethnologist and writer. His brother Frank was also a surveyor and both men appear in Emily Harris's 1885-86 and 1888-91 diaries.

Mr Chilman told me this afternoon that the Jane will sail for Nelson tomorrow

Chilman Richard, New Plymouth, clerk to the Council (Jurors List)

The schooner Jane arrived in New Plymouth 14 Jan 1861 with coal supplies from Nelson. She sailed for Nelson 20 Jan under Captain Jacobson. Shipping Intelligence. Taranaki Herald 19 and 26 Jan 1861.

My dear Mamma

MS copy of letter to mother Sarah Harris, Nelson. Written in New Plymouth, 4 Feb 1861. Fascicle 1, pp. [19]-[22].

I immediately made inquiries about Dr Nield

Nield J. C. Henui. 1 3/4 do. Town. (Grayling)

Dr JC Nield appears to be bringing news of Edwin Harris's recently published lithograph "New Plymouth from Marsland Hill, New Zealand" which depicts the arrival of troops from the 40th Regiment in Taranaki 3 August 1860.

[The Colonist 1 Mar 1861](#). Advertisement. JUST PUBLISHED A VIEW of the TOWN OF TARANAKI from Marsland Hill, showing the several forts, redoubts, barracks, and camps, the trenches, with the military and Volunteers, &c, &c, on stone by Fergusson and Mitchell, Melbourne, from the Drawing taken on the spot by Edwin Harris, artist, Nelson. Price 10s.

Thomson's little girl died from it last week

Robert Thomson worked for WC King at Woodleigh.

Thompson Robert, Grey Block, farm servant (Jurors List)

[Taranaki Herald 23 Feb 1861](#) DIED. [...] On the 18th instant, Alexander, son of Mr R. Thompson, aged 2 years and 6 months.

Mrs Elliot has lost her youngest child

Elliot Peter, New Plymouth, farmer (Jurors List)

Elliott P. Omata. 2 do. do., and one mile and a-half from Omata Stockade. (Grayling)

[Taranaki Herald 9 Feb 1861](#) DEATHS. [...] On the 2nd instant, Jane, youngest daughter of Mr P. Elliot, aged 14 months.

Mrs Hood's little girl the eldest was drowned in the river

Hood William, New Plymouth, storekeeper (Jurors List)

Mr Single clerk of the works has lost his only child

[Taranaki Herald 2 Feb 1861](#) DIED. [...] On the 30th ult., Christabella Ann, aged 9 years, only daughter of Mr George Single, Clerk of Works, Royal Engineers.

the most melancholy is poor Mrs Ritchie's death

[Taranaki Herald 9 Feb 1861](#) DEATHS. On the 2nd instant, Elizabeth, wife of James Ritchie, Esq., Solicitor, Brougham street.

I delivered your letters to Mrs Bayley & to Mrs Gaul

Bayly William, Blagdon, farmer (Jurors List)

Bayly William junior, Tataraimaka, farmer (Jurors List)

Gaul William, New Plymouth, laborer (Jurors List)

Poor Maggie's baby is a pretty little thing

[Taranaki Herald 8 Sept 1860](#) DEATHS. On the 4th instant, Margaret, wife of Mr W. Bayly, junior. Bayly W., jun. Tataraimaka. 1/2 miles from Tataraimaka Camp.--Burned while troops were striking camp. (Grayling)

most of them are new officers from India

[Taranaki Herald 26 Jan 1861](#) Continuation of Journal of Events. [...] The ship Star Queen from Bombay via Auckland anchored at 4 p.m. with 314 rank and file and 16 sergeants of the 57th Regiment, under Major Butler, Capt. Brown, Lieuts. Baynton, Hasted, Thompson, Cox, and Waller, Ensigns Clarke, Murray, and Clayton, Asst. -Surgeon Davis.

Mr Edward McKellar came and shook hands with me

Possibly a relative of Dr Dugald McKellar and Annette Clark. Annette McKellar was widowed in Madeira and she and her 10 children decided to emigrate to NZ, arriving by the St Michael in New Plymouth in 1852. The family settled at Omata and named their property Fernlea. Annette McKellar's second daughter Georgina Burne (1832-1898) married Charles Hetley at Omata in 1856 and was widowed with an infant son in 1857. When hostilities broke out in Taranaki in March 1860 Annette McKellar and her daughters moved to New Plymouth. Their Omata home was burnt, crops destroyed and livestock carried off. During her time in Taranaki Georgina Hetley made pencil sketches of Fernlea and Brookwood, and of New Plymouth during the hostilities. She left New Plymouth in 1863 and by 1879 was living in Auckland. See [Georgina Burne Hetley, Te Ara](#).

[Taranaki Herald 8 Dec 1852](#). Shipping Intelligence. ARRIVED. December 2, St Michael, barque, 600 tons, Prance, commander, from London. Passengers: H. McKellar, A. McKellar, D. McKellar, J.

McKellar, Miss McKellar, Miss G.B. McKellar. From Madeira Mrs McKellar, four children and two servants.

Hetley, Mrs. 2 miles from Omata stockade and 1/2 mile from Poutoko. (Grayling)

McKellar Mrs. Omata. 3/4 mile from stockade. Burned in open daylight. 1/2 mile from stockade, wool warehouse a distance from house. (Grayling)

[Taranaki Herald 13 April 1861](#) DEATHS. [...] On the 12th inst., of fever, Gertrude Forbes, the youngest daughter of the late D. McKellar, formerly of Battersea, Surrey, aged 13 years and 9 months.

Freddy's dress to make

Frederick, son of Charles and Catherine Des Voeux, three years old in 1861 and still in infant dress.

how very ill Mr Adams has been

Adams Edward Adams, Henui, gentleman (Jurors List)

Adams E. Henui. 1 1/2 miles from Town, and 1 mile from F. N. pa. (Grayling)

[Taranaki Herald 16 Feb 1861](#) DEATHS. [...] On the 13th inst., Eliza, wife of E. A. Adams, Esq.

Mr Brewer is a young gentleman from Auckland sent down to assist Mr D. McKellar

[Taranaki Daily News 28 Aug 1916](#). Personal. [...] The late Mr. Dugald McKellar, who died at Wellington on Friday, was a son of Dr. Dugald McKellar, of London, and came out to New Plymouth by the barque St. Michael, arriving here on December 2, 1852, with his brothers, Messrs Henry, Alfred, and James. The St. Michael called at Madeira, where Mrs. McKellar, senr., and the younger members of the family, who had resided on the island for some years, joined the party. Upon their arrival here the McKellar family settled at Omata. In 1858 Mr. Dugald McKellar joined the Customs Department at New Plymouth, and on the outbreak of the Maori war in March, 1860, joined the forces and rendered useful service. About 1862 he was transferred to Auckland. Thence he went to Tauranga, and subsequently to other ports, eventually being appointed collector at Wellington, and finally secretary for customs, from which position, he retired several years ago. Latterly he lived at Kelbourne, Wellington.

John is at the Block House at Mahoetahi

John Newland, junior. A blockhouse was built at Mahoetahi, near Waitara, after a battle there 6 Nov 1860 in which British troops and militia surprised a Ngati Haua encampment, killing 50 Maori and wounding around the same number.

I hope papa will sell his pictures and get some pupils

[Nelson Examiner 22 Dec 1860. Advertisements.](#) [...] Mr Edwin Harris, Engineering Surveyor and Draughtsman (pupil of, and many years assistant to, the late celebrated James M. Rendel, Esq. Civil

Engineer, President of the Society of Engineers, F.R.S., &c., &c.), will be happy, during his stay in Nelson, to give lessons in Land surveying, Levelling, and Architectural, Mechanical, Landscape and other drawing. Address, Mr. A. Moore's, Waimea road, near the College, or the Examiner Office.
December 1860.

My dear Mamma and Papa

MS copy of letter to parents Sarah and Edwin Harris, Nelson. Written in New Plymouth, 20 Feb 1861.
Death of WC King, plans to leave for Hobart. Breaks off mid-sentence. Fascicle 1, pp. [23]-[26].

Happening to meet his man Thomson coming from Woodleigh

King W. C. 1 1/2 miles from town.--Burned in broad daylight. (Grayling)
The Kings' property Woodleigh was on the Grey Block.

Dr Wilson says from the nature of the wounds

Dr Peter Wilson (1791-1863). He and his wife [Helen Ann Wilson](#) (1793/94-1871) emigrated to NZ on the Slains Castle, arriving in Port Nicholson from London in 1841. The Wilsons lived in Wanganui until 1847, when they moved to Taranaki. Peter Wilson became New Plymouth's colonial surgeon in 1849. An undated pencil sketch by Edwin Harris showing Mt Taranaki / Egmont viewed through a classical portico of columns and arches is part of the Wilson collection at Puke Ariki (A64.817). Verso inscription: 'Drawn by Edwin Harris for Mrs Wilson because of her complaint that N.P. did not have any 'real' architecture.'

Capt King (R.N.)

Captain Henry King (1783-1874), Royal Navy. Wife Mary Anne, only child William Cutfield King. Family arrived in Taranaki 1841 on the Amelia Thompson. Captain King was first commissioner of Taranaki. His property Brooklands was destroyed in the 1860-61 war.

I then went to Mrs Dingle and made her an offer

Dingle James, Grey Block, farmer (Jurors List)
Dingle J. Grey Block. Two miles and a-half from Town. (Grayling)
Harris neighbours on Frankley Road.

They live in part of Richard Brown's house

Brown Richard, New Plymouth, merchant (Jurors List)

Richard Brown was an old Taranaki settler. He was appointed Captain of the Native Irregulars at Waitara when war broke out in 1860 but the force was disbanded by military authorities after Brown was ambushed 26 May and mortally wounded. He died 22 August 1860 at Waitara.

[Taranaki Herald 25 Aug 1860](#). Continuation of Journal of Events. [...] 4 p.m. — Tasmanian Maid unexpectedly made her appearance with her flag flying half-mast high, and a signal that Mr. Richard Brown was dead. The immediate cause of his death, which took place on Wednesday at 2 p.m., was influenza. Every respect was paid to his body by the troops at Waitara when it was put on board the steamer. The bluejackets at Mount Eliot, under Commodore Seymour, with a gun carriage on the beach, and a guard of honor, received the body and conveyed it to the deceased gentleman's residence in the town. When the coffin was placed on the gun, the guard carried arms, and the numerous assemblage fell in and joined in the cortege. An inquest on the body was held at Waitara on the 23rd instant.

I left

MS copy of diary fragment or letter to unknown recipient. Undated. Describes departure of Des Voeux, King and Richardson families from New Plymouth 12 March 1861 aboard Inter Colonial Royal Mail Steam Ship Victory bound for Sydney. Begins and breaks off mid-sentence. Fascicle 1, pp. [27]-[28]. The same folio includes diary entries 10-12 Sept 1860 (pp. [1]-[2]) and has come loose from its binding.

[Taranaki Herald 16 Mar 1861. Shipping Intelligence](#)

ARRIVED

March 12. — I.C.R.M.S.S. Victory, 501 tons, Toogood, from the Southern Settlements.

SAILED

March 12.— I.C.R.M.S.S. Victory, Toogood, for Sydney. Passengers— C. C. DesVoeux, Esq., Mrs Des Voeux and child, Mrs Richardson, Mrs W. C. King and 2 children, Miss Tyhurst, Miss Harris, Miss Penwarden.

Taranaki Herald 16 Mar 1861. CONTINUATION OF JOURNAL of Events. [...] Tuesday, March 12. — The I.C.R.M.S. Victory arrived at 2 p.m. from Nelson and the Southern Settlements. [...] The Victory with the homeward mails, and several passengers from this port, left for Sydney at about 9 p.m.

It was a very nice salon with paintings & mirrors and couches of crimson velvet

ICRMSS Victory joined the Inter Colonial Steam Ship fleet in 1860. She ran aground north of Port Chalmers in July 1861 and was scrapped. See [Lyttelton Times 10 July 1861](#).

Miss Tyhurst was a very bad sailor, Mrs Richardson was quite ill, Jane was pretty well

Penwarden Thomas, New Plymouth, carpenter (Jurors List)

Miss Jane Penwarden and Miss Tyhurst appear to be assisting Mrs King and Mrs Richardson.

The Des Voeux party left Sydney for Hobart 8 Apr 1861 and was still in residence there March 1863 when Emily Harris wrote to her sister Frances.

The Mercury (Hobart, Tasmania) 12 Apr 1861 Shipping, Hobart Town. [...] April 11: arrived the Tasmania of the TSN co, screw steamer, Captain Clinch, from Sydney on the 8th inst., via Twofold Bay on the 9th. Passengers: Cabin, Mr and Mrs and Miss and Master Des Voeux, Miss Harris, Mrs King and infant, Miss A. King, Mrs Richardson and Miss Penwarden.

My dear Frances

MS copy of letter to sister Frances Emma Harris, Nelson. Written in Hobart, Tasmania, 24 Dec 1861.

First Christmas in Australia. Breaks off mid-sentence. Single folio folded in half, watermarked Hammond Manufacturing Stationer.

Mr & Mrs Des Voeux & myself received the sacrament early in the morning at All Saints

All Saints South Hobart Parish was established 1858 and is part of the Diocese of Tasmania. The church was consecrated in 1859 and its present location is 339 Macquarie St, South Hobart, at the intersection of Macquarie St and the Southern Outlet. See [All Saints South Hobart](#) and its [restoration history](#).

I saw Mrs Gore Browne at a concert on Monday

[Thomas Robert Gore Brown](#) (1807-1887). Soldier and colonial governor. Married [Harriet Louisa Campbell](#) (1829-1906) at St Quivox, Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1851. Brown was Governor of New Zealand from 1855 until December 1861, when he was replaced by George Grey and appointed Governor of Tasmania, a post he held until 1868. 'In Tasmania the Brownes lived just outside Hobart. Harriet Browne continued to attend and organise musical, theatrical and social occasions. She enjoyed her 'bairns,' her weekly readings with 'some very nice good girls,' and her weekly music practices.'

a great contrast to lady Young

[Sir Henry Edward Fox Young](#) (1803-18 1870) married Augusta Marryat in 1848. Young was the fifth Governor of South Australia, serving in that role from 1848 until 1854. He was then the first [Governor of Tasmania](#), from 1855 until 1861. Sir Henry was the first Tasmanian Governor to occupy [Government House, Hobart](#), the neo-gothic Vice-Regal residence on the banks of the [River Derwent](#).

My dear Frances

MS copy of letter to sister Frances Emma Harris, Nelson. Written at Holbrook Place, Hobart, Tasmania, 29 Mar 1863. Response to news of sister Catherine's wedding. Single folio folded in half, watermarked Hammond Manufacturing Stationer.

Holbrook Place

One of three major roads bounding Birch's Farm, the original 100 acre block that was subdivided in 1838 and 1844 and in 1857 became south Hobart. Holbrook Place was lined with mansions and was later named Davey St. 'Settled by the merchant and professional classes, who wanted to get away from the noise and smell of Hobart, South Hobart is Hobart's first suburb.' (Kevin Green, [A Brief History of South Hobart](#))

Why did the ceremony take place in the Scotch Church?

Trinity Church, Nelson, was established in 1849. It was built of wood rather than brick due to fears about earthquake resistance in the wake of the 1848 earthquakes in Wellington. Alfred Moore and Catherine Harris were married 4 Mar 1863 by the Rev. P Calder. 'The Rev. T. D. Nicholson was succeeded in the pastorate of Trinity Church, as it was named, by the Rev. Patrick Calder who resigned in 1891 owing to failing health, after a long incumbency of nearly thirty-four years.' ([Presbyterian Church](#))

I hope Mary writes

Mary Rendel Harris (1845-1932). Born New Plymouth, NZ, buried in Te Henui Cemetery, New Plymouth, with sister Catherine Moore and her husband Alfred. Married Carl Philip August Alexander Weyergang 21 Oct 1871 at St Mary's in New Plymouth. August Weyergang died in 1904, aged 75, and is buried in Eltham, Taranaki. After his death Mary moved with her sons to Havelock North, then to Nelson. She was still in Nelson in 1925 at the time of Emily's death, but afterwards moved to Marton where her married daughter Gretchen Briant lived.

Mary Weyergang donated Harris material to the Taranaki Museum on several occasions. As the surviving members of the Harris family, she and her children (and her Moore nieces and nephews) assume responsibility for the family records and paintings, as per the terms of Emily Harris's 1910 Will which divided her estate between her sisters Catherine and Mary.

Children of August and Mary Weyergang:

- ❖ Carl Herman Alexander Weyergang (1872-1932), married Minnie Constance Gilbert (c1876-1971) 22 Sept 1909 in Nelson.

Children of Herman and Constance Weyergang:

- Gretchen Constance Emily Weyergang (1910-1992), aka Margaret, married Alfred Edmond Matthew Jeffery in 1938. Margaret Jeffery transcribed Emily Harris's diaries in 1964 for the Turnbull Library ([MS-Papers-1284](#)) and the Taranaki Museum (ARC2002-190). She published six novels with NZ settings based on aspects of Harris and Gilbert family history.
 - Friedl Mary Weyergang (1913-1940). Unmarried.
 - Faith Weyergang (1917-2002), married Cyril Keith Silcock in 1941.
- ❖ Ellen Gretchen Weyergang (1875-1954), married Edgar Llewellyn Briant July 1898 in Eltham. Children of Edgar and Gretchen Briant:
- Philip Winning Briant (1902-1987). Philip Briant loaned Harris family papers to Turnbull Library for copying in 1969 ([MS-Papers-0489](#))
 - Hugh Godfrey Briant (1903-1968).
- ❖ Otto Philip August Weyergang (1878-1918), unmarried. Killed in France.

One evening during lent I went to the Roman Catholic Chapel

[St Francis Xavier South Hobart](#). Present location at the corner of Adelaide and Anglesea Streets.

Sources

Ancestry.com databases.

Grayling, WI. 'Alphabetical list of European settlers resident at Taranaki, New Zealand, whose homesteads &c have been burned by the rebel Maoris, between the periods of the 17th March, 1860, and the 31st March, 1861; shewing the approximate distance of each homestead from the nearest military post or garrison'.

In [The War in Taranaki During the years 1860-61](#). New Plymouth, 1862.

List of persons qualified to serve as jurors for the province of Taranaki for the year 1860. [Taranaki Herald 18 Feb 1860](#).

[New Plymouth Cemetery Records](#). New Plymouth District Council.

[New Zealand Birth, Death and Marriage Historical Records](#). Department of Internal Affairs.