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THE PRISONER SETTLEMENTS

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1556

by

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A thesis presented for
the degree of Master of Arts
in History

1954

PREFACE

This thesis is the history of an experiment in colonisation which was also an experiment in colonial defence - the settlement of the Royal New Zealand Fencibles in a series of villages just south of the city of Auckland, then the seat of government of this country.

It does not attempt to cover any clearly delineated period, for it is the history of the fencible corps from the time it was envisaged until the time when the pensioners had become absorbed into colonial society; and although the inception can be dated accurately enough - at 1846 - the process of absorption cannot be said to have ended at any given time.

Nor does the writer claim for it any particular line of approach or point of view. It is simply a study of the settlements over a decade or so at the end of which certain conclusions emerge on the importance of the scheme and the degree of its success.

The writer's special thanks go to the following: to Professor W.P. Morrell, for his guidance and supervision; to the staffs of the Auckland Public Library and of the Dominion Archives; to Mrs. C.W. Strathern, Hocken Librarian for her patient and cheerful help; and to my wife for her encouragement, helpful criticism, and by no means least, for her typing of this thesis.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

P.P.	Great Britain parliamentary papers
Cmd	Command number (This refers to the old series)
H. of R.	House of Representatives
L.C.	Legislative Council
V. & P.	Votes and proceedings
A. to J.	Appendix to Journals
A.P.C.	Auckland Provincial Council
A. & P.	Acts and proceedings
D.A.	Dominion Archives

The following abbreviations are Dominion archives numbers

G.3	Military despatches from the Secretary of State. December 1842 to November 1854.
G.18	Letters from Officer Commanding New Zealand Fencibles to Governor Grey. April 1851 to February 1853.
G.25/3	Despatches from Governor Grey to the Secretary of State. 4 May 1847 to 27 June 1849.
G.25/4	Ditto, 2 July 1849 to 30 August 1851
G.34	Letters to the Officer Commanding New Zealand Fencibles. August 1851 to May 1853.

The following are the writer's abbreviations for Dominion Archives material which is not numbered.

C.S.I.	Colonial Secretary's Inwards Correspondence, 1847-
C.S.O. 1847	Colonial Secretary's Out letters (Military) 1846- 1851
C.S.O. 1848-56	Colonial Secretary's Out letters (Pensioners) 1848-1856.

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