

Times in Golden Square Sandhurst Bendigo Victoria 1854 - 1865

Whilst in Golden Square Bendigo between 1854 and 1863, Eleanor had 5 children but only John and Walter were to survive. During this period the Delaneys evidently occupied a house and store on Allotment 13 Section 13A High Street an area 100x277 ft between Beech and Maple Streets, close to Police Reserve. rates of 35 pounds were extremely high.

Husband John Dormer enlisted in Waikato Regiment on 18 September 1863 and by this time was having financial problems- on 15/2/1859 and again 4/9/1860 he took out mortgages of 200 pounds and so by 1863 equity in property would have been almost nil.

Having become a Recruiting Sergeant John Dormer no doubt arranged to recruit all 3 of his sons eventually. Their service details are recorded separately.

Lt. Col. Pitt and Capt Skene together with Hon.Dillon Bell were seeking volunteers to fight Maori wars in NZ and John probably saw the opportunity to perhaps set up himself and 3 of his sons with a job and grant of 50 acres in Waikato together with a town allotment.

Not a great deal is known of volunteers in Bendigo as apparently the editor of the the Bendigo Advertiser was against so many residents moving to NZ that he did not write about their activities. Eleanor probably would have left Bendigo in September 1863 when John joined up but as yet I have not learned any more than a son Edward Patrick was born and died in Carlton in 1864.

Eleanor and children stayed in Melbourne from September 1863 until sailing on Claud Hamilton on 31 December 1865.

There were no records on Postal or electoral rolls re Delaneys in Golden Square and we could find no record at Cemetary in Golden square but there are records of the property they occupied in the town Lot 13 Section 13A High st between Beech and maple Sts close by Police Reserve.

We obtained a Certificate in name of John Delaney as a member or Eureka Stockade but it is likely it was not John Dormer.

We visited the Bendigo Cathedral which was built by Father Bachaus who baptized John and Michael Walter in a tent which eventually became St.Killians. The priest Father Backhaus who baptized John 2 and Michael Walter founded a Trust from which funds were found to construct a magnificent Cathedral in Bendigo.