

John Dormer DELANEY

Born 14/3/1820 in Clonbrock PLU Carlow, Ireland. - Notes as at 23 August 2003

Civil Parish of Killabban - County Queens (now Laois/Offaly), Catholic Parish of Doonane.

Died 21 Nov. 1898 Opotiki NZ R22409991/35 aged 78.

2nd of 7 sons of Denis Delaney and Judith Dormer

His wife Eleanor McDERMOTT born 1825 in Dublin died March 11 1916- East St Newton NZ aged 91

They married on the 27 February 1849 in Capetown Anglican Parish Church—now Cathedral—see Cert.

Note. Griffiths Valuation of land shows Judith Delany Catherine and Mary Dormer having property in Clonbrock. 1848-1864

Cape Province:- John served under Sir Harry Smith in the Kaffir Wars and discharged due to wounds from encounters in Cape of Good Hope. He served 11 years in 27th Foot which became the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and now part of the Royal Irish Rangers. Recruited 12/3/1838 at 18 in Kilkenny - discharged Grahamstown Cape Province SA March 1848.

Whilst in Capetown they had the following children and resided at 22 Castle St. Loop and Wale 35 Hout with a General store on cnr of Buitengraet and Shortmarket

Mary Eleanor b.17/12/1850 -- William Dormer born (9/7/1851) - Anne Maria b.12 /9/1852 -see Bapt.records.

All birth dates are as declared in Baptism records.

See also document on Military Service

SS Wigram. left London on 10 October 1853 for Melbourne via Capetown

The family left Capetown on this sailing ship of just 233 tons under command of Captain Thurtell and carrying just 7 adults and 3 children arriving in Melbourne on the 24th February 1854.

Golden Square -Sandhurst Bendigo- Victoria.

On the 15 September 1855 Eleanor gave birth to Michael Walter and the register listed John whose baptism certificate shows born 28/7/1854 and baptised 20/8/1854. see Chap 5 Possibly he was born on way from Capetown and registered later.

There are rate notices for a store and land in High St Golden Square in the name of John Delaney for years 1856/57 and 62, and reference to property at the rear of Yorkshire Hotel. **see document on Golden Square** Whilst in Golden Square, still a suburb of Bendigo, Eleanor gave birth to **Margaret** R16952 in 1857 and who died at 4 months in 1858 R2742, **Grace** born 1858 R 19266 and lived only 10 days R8722.

In 1864 **Edward Patrick** was born R3659 in Melbourne and lived 1 day only with death recorded in Carlton Melb.R1646.

The Gold rush in Bendigo began 1851-the Eureka Stockade happened a few years later in 1853.

In 1856 John Dormer was recorded as a storekeeper however on the 18th September 1863 he enlisted in the Waikato Regiment.

Clipper Ship SS Swiftsure. formerly The Fatherland

On the 5th February 1864 John Dormer and eldest son William Dormer sailed from Melbourne along with 1130 rank and file volunteers, the largest contingent ever to arrive in New Zealand. The ship, one of the Blackwall Line of packets of 1326 tons was under command of Captain Mayhew and owned by R..H.Green and Co of Melbourne. There are details of the voyage in the NZ Herald of 18/2/1864.

John Dormer Reg # 2649 aged 35 (act.50) and William Dormer Reg # 2650 aged 10 arrived NZ On 17/2/1864 and proceeded to DRURY pending arrival of the rest of the family. Drury just south of Auckland was a kind of Base Camp at that time.

The Steamship Claud Hamilton

Left Melbourne on the 31 December 1865 with Eleanor Reg # 161 aged 33 (43) together with Mary Eleanor (Ellen) Reg #162 aged 15, Annie Reg # 163 aged 11, John Reg # 164 aged 9 and Michael Walter Reg # 165 aged 8.

The ship of 668 tons and rigged as a schooner was under command of Captain Ponsonby and had been an early participant in the Trans Tasman steamer service. It arrived in Auckland on the 10th of January 1865 with 65 passengers.

See report of this voyage in the NZ Herald of 10 January 1865 including details of it grounding in the Yarra River due to heavy loading. There are photographs of ships and copy of passenger list.

Military Service in Waikato Regiment. 1863--1873

Taken from New Zealand Medal to Colonials by Richard Stowers 1998 page 84/85

John Dormer Delaney served in the Opotiki Rangers—Trooper and Trumpeter at Bay of Plenty—Volunteer Cavalry (11/1870-1877)-Militia Office Thames and Kyber Pass Rd Auckland-TeIrihanga and others 1-21867 (Tauranga Campaign)-Waioka Redoubt 867-- Waiau 1869 --Opape see page on Military Details for John D. The family on first arriving in NZ spent time in Albert Barracks with companies of the 12th and 18th Royal Irish but later transferred to Tauranga where the boys attended Military School.

Part of Albert Barracks still exists within Auckland University grounds --musket loops and firing steps. photo taken 3/2000.

OPOTIKI---Bay of Plenty. North of North Island. see document re origins

Name originates from spring called O-Potiki-Mai-Tawhiti above Waiotahi Beach.

Following the murders of Rev. Volkene and others the family were moved to duty in Opotiki in 1867.

In 1844 a Maori style church was blessed by Bishop Viard ---called St. Marys and upgraded in 1884 by Father Lannuzel.

John Dormer Delaney died as a Farmer in Opotiki on the 21 November 1898 and buried a Roman Catholic at Opotiki.

His former property now has a Butter Factory in one corner but following large expansion of complex it no longer operates.

The stories of the surviving children are told in following chapters.

See further details of 6 brothers of John Dormer.