

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

JOHN G. PETINGALE

Letters, 1834-64

Reel M384

**Mr J. Lawson-Petingale
4 Birkbeck Way
Greenford Middlesex**

**National Library of Australia
State Library of New South Wales**

Filmed: 1960

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John George Petingale (1808-1870) was the son of George Petingale (1779-1861), a farmer of West Bilney, Norfolk. Three of John's brothers emigrated to the United States of America, while John emigrated to Australia. He arrived in Sydney on the *Lonoch* in November 1833 and for some years had a store at Cowpastures. It seems that he visited New Zealand in 1838 and in 1844 he purchased a waterfront property at Whangarei, north of Auckland. In 1846 he left New South Wales and settled at Whangarei, where he kept a herd of cattle and established a substantial orchard. He was the pioneer of commercial fruit-growing in Whangarei. He sold some of his property in 1859 to a Scottish immigrant, Robert Reyburn. In the following year Petingale visited Australia and England.

JOHN G. PETINGALE

Reel M384

Letters of John G. Petingale to his family in England, 1834-64

Note: The images appear from right to left on the film, with the title page at the end of the reel.

1. Biographical notes on John G. Petingale
2. Petingale (Sydney) to his father George Petingale, 12 Jan. 1834: describes voyage from London on *Lonoch*; impressions of Hobart; decision to move to Sydney; employed by Captain John Coghill as superintendent of his farms at Kirkham. (copy)
3. Petingale (Sydney) to Alexander Birnie? (London), 14 Jan. 1834: thanks for letters of introduction to A. Kemp at Hobart, P. Jones in Sydney and Sir Edward Parry at Port Stephens; employment with Capt. John Coghill; hopes to be independent within year or two. (copy)
4. Petingale (Auckland) to his sisters, 24 Dec. 1850: lack of news from England; his move to New Zealand in 1847; settled 70 miles north of Auckland with profitable herd of cattle and orchard with great variety of fruit and berries; relations with Maoris; their qualities; refers to brothers in America. (copy)
5. Petingale (Whangarei) to his sister Bessie, 21 June 1855: father's ill-health; plans to visit England; increase in value of his property; transfer of storekeeping to a French immigrant from Mauritius; produce of his orchard; possibility of exporting fruit to other colonies; difficulty of finding good servants; healthy climate; suggests Bessie come to New Zealand as his housekeeper. (copy)
6. Petingale (Sydney) to Bessie, 20 March 1860: imminent departure for England on *Walter Hood*; possibility of retiring to England. (copy)
7. Petingale (Auckland) to his sister Eliza, 30 April 1863: conflict with Maoris caused by Imperial ministers and their legislative experiments; Bishop G.A. Selwyn and the missionaries have deluded charitable public at home; expects to spend winter in Sydney. (copy)
8. Petingale (London) to his sister, 9 Aug. 1860: plans to leave London in six weeks; tired of sight-seeing and wretched weather. (copy)

9. Petingale (Melbourne) to his sister, 15 Dec. 1860: arrival in Melbourne; imminent departure for Auckland; reports of chaos in New Zealand. (original + copy)
10. Petingale (Auckland) to his sister, 6 Aug. 1861: death of their father; war in New Zealand. (original)
11. Petingale (Auckland) to Eliza, 8 Feb. 1862: Petingale's dislike of Fulmodeston, Norfolk; letter from brother in America; move of Eliza and Bessie to Thorpe Hamlet; suggests they visit Europe. (original)
12. Petingale (Auckland) to Eliza, 5 Oct. 1862: effect of American Civil War on their brothers; situation in New Zealand; possibility of moving to Australia; influenza attacks; his attachment to agricultural pursuits. (original)
13. Petingale (Auckland) to Eliza, 1 Dec. 1862: imbecility of Imperial Government in bribing and making concessions to Maori rebels; seeks news from England. (original)
14. Petingale (Auckland) to Eliza [30 April 1863]: original of item 7.
15. Petingale (Auckland) to his sister Jane, 2 March 1863: Jane's illness; Bishop G.A. Selwyn and missionaries looked on with suspicion by both Europeans and Maoris; treatment of Selwyn in Taranaki; visit of Maori delegation to England. (original, incomplete)
16. Petingale (Auckland) to Eliza, 2 March 1864: thanks for newspapers; hopes of revisiting England; news of brothers in America; mutual friends. (original)
17. Petingale (London) to his sister; 9 Aug. 1860: original of item 8. The letter is dated 9 Aug. 1869 while the copy is dated 9 Aug. 1860. As Petingale was definitely in England in 1860, this date seems more likely.