

APPENDIX C2
New Zealand Company reports on the German Settlers in Nelson
(Weblink SP Appendix C2)

Correspondence from Frederick TUCKETT

Archives New Zealand Wellington

*Reference Agency [New Zealand Company] NZC Series 3 Item 13 pages 293-295 Nelson
12th August 1843*

"I beg to inform you of the arrival at this Port, on the 14th June, of the "St Pauli". With Mr Beit the Superintendent and family, two German Clergyman, Mr Wilson and English Merchant from Bahia and German Immigrants to the number of 118.

Whilst at Bahia an investigation, at the instance of Mr Beit and under direction of the British Consul, took place into certain complaints of the Immigrants on board the St Pauli respecting their Dietary, which they alleged was insufficient and not according to the New Zealand Company regulations.

The inquiry resulted in the general approval by the referees/Messes Petrie and Selkirk, two masters of English vessels of the Superintendents arrangements as the Court will perceive by the Newspaper in which the proceedings upon the subject have been brought before the public attention since the arrival of the St Pauli at Nelson.

In the subsequent part of the voyage the disagreements between the Superintendent the Captain and passengers appear to have been renewed still more unpleasantly than before the chief source of dissatisfaction with the Immigrants being the levying of fines and other punishment for alleged disobedient or disorderly conduct, and the Dietary.

Since the arrival of the Ship this state of feeling has unfortunately been kept up - but I am happy to be able to inform the Court that in pursuance of suggestions made to Mr Beit, and in which he has now acquiesced for remission of certain of the fines, and the supply to the Immigrants of certain article of Diet of which there would appear to have been a deficient quantity issued on board the Ship, there is now every prospect of the return of amicable relations between them and the Superintendent, and of their eventually proving an acquisition of the Settlement.

It being impossible however for many of the Immigrants in the present state of affairs here to obtain employment, I have promoted their entering at once on the cultivation of land to the extent of ten families, by offering them the lease/with a purchasing clause /of two Colonial Sections, in the Moutere district, nearly adjoining one [No.155] in the occupation of messes Riemenschneider and Wohlers, the German Missionaries who accompanied them in the St Pauli.

I am Sir Your Obedt. Servt.
Frederick Tuckett"

Report from Tuckett to Wakefield

Archives New Zealand Wellington

Agency NZC Series 3 Item 13 265-268 10th September 1843 report from Tuckett to Wakefield on conditions of Germans settlers.

I regret to be obliged to inform you that I have found the German immigrants by the St Pauli in the highest state of dissatisfaction at their treatment during the voyage and with their prospects after landing. Mr Beit the Agent, if able, was quite unwilling to employ them except at very inadequate wages.

Some who were purchases of proportions of land from him and M M Chapeaurouge could not obtain a location from him upon any of the sections already delivered and having no written obligation from him as to the number of section from which they were to receive their land, were offered it out of his inferior choices or were told they must wait till the rural sections were given out.

The majority of them remained in the Immigration Depot in a despondent state and would have removed from the settlement if they had posed the means of so doing.

After several interviews with Mr Beit I induced him to issue to them the difference of rations between the scale of the dietary table and the actual issued during the voyage and adjusted and put to rest some little differences which not uncommonly occur in emigrant ships.

Failing however, to induce Mr Beit to assist in employing these men, as I understand he was engaged to do, I proposed to them, through their pastor, to place them on a Colonial section of accommodation land at Moutere, rent-free for three year, with the option of purchase for 150 pounds at the end of that term and made them a loan of rations from the Company's stores for three months.

I am happy to say that these measures speedily removed the discontent that had prevailed amongst them and that before I left Nelson they were located on the land. The section is in the neighbourhood of two or three other Colonial or Company sections, which I hope may be occupied by future arrivals from Germany.

Some families had rented land in Waimea from a settle and a few mechanics remained in the town.

Mr Beit appeared to me to be so wholly occupied with his own mercantile transactions as to have no time at attend to his countrymen's interests although in this instance the disputes consequent on a long voyage together seemed to have disinclined him to succour this particular body of them. He condemned them as a very bad selected body, but I could not discover with what justice he did so and having some experience of Germans of their description.

I am of opinion that they will set the same example of frugality, industry and sobriety that I have always remarked amongst their countrymen, I am happy to say that their pastor Mr Riemenschneider undertook to pay every attention to their welfare in his power.

Rev Heine's report to the New Zealand Company

Archives New Zealand Wellington

Agency NZC CO 208 Micro Z Reel 595 and Alexander Turnbull Library Manuscript & Archives Section CO 208 88-89 Reel 1395

06 September 1847

Dear Sir

I fell myself obliged to direct your attention on the subject of Mr Beits going to England. As far as I know Mr Beit will induce the New Zealand Company to give him compensation for not having delivered to him the Rural land he bought.

In this point Mr Beit is entitled to some recompense from the New Zealand in my humble opinion, and I have to say nothing about it.

But with the above subject is connected another one viz. The failure of the German expedition he bought out. Very likely Mr Beit will misrepresent this case in England for myself heard him say "That Col. Wakefield was very much to blame for having settled the Germans in the Moutere against his (Mr Beits) advice and to other Germans he boasted the other day "that they had ill conceded in the first years was Messes Fox, Bell and others fault, because they had followed their advice; since they had been in peace with himself and followed him they had succeeded better etc. In this point Mr Beit labours under a delusion, for a great deal of the ill success of the Germans in this place is Mr Beit's fault, and perhaps none of the Germans does trust and follow his advice.

Myself came out with Mr Beit. Already in the beginning of the voyage Mr Beit treated the emigrants over which he had the superintendence in a very outrageous manner, he refused to them nearly a half of the promised rations under the pretext, that he had power to make such variations from the agreement, and besides that, he had made the between decks very unhealthy and inconvenient by baggage or cargo placed into it after W de Chapeaurouge had left the vessel, bought on board.

When we requested Mr Beit for a little more provisions in a civil manner he cried mutiny, punished some men and he appointed myself with wilful annoyance though we were induced by hunger to speak.

On this account I have protested against Mr Beit and against every one, who may have been concerned in the ill usage at the Hamburg Consulate at Bahia. The other Germans signed this protest on their own account. A copy of this Protest is sent to the Directors of the New Zealand Company, and my friends in Hamburg have written to me that they had also sent a protest to the New Zealand Company on account of Mr Beit ill proceedings but the Company never acknowledged the receipt of it as far as I am aware.

Since Bahia Mr Beit gave out a little more rations, but in the outrageous manner he preceded the more as now the emigrants began to provoke him having lost all their respect for him.

When we arrived at this Port the German emigrants brought immediately forward their complaints against Mr Beit requiring satisfaction and right from the then Company Agent. Dr McShane but they have never received it. I suppose to the later contributed the unhappy affair of the Wairau, which happened at our arrival, neither a police Magistrate nor the Company Agent was here.

Mr Beit became then so pertinacious and insolent, that he began to quarrel with nearly every body in the Settlement, he peremptorily, refused to employ the Germans though Mr Tuckett assured him that he was bound by agreement to employ them and that he (the then Company's Agent) could not employ them.

Five weeks after we had arrived in Nelson (we arrived on the 16 June 1843) I am my friend Mr Wohlers went to our land in the Moutere and a fortnight afterwards there came also Mr Riemenschneider with about ten German families. Mr Riemenschneider told us that Col

Wakefield was arrived at Nelson and that he (Mr R.) had troubled himself a great deal to induce Col Wakefield to employ the Germans, but Col Wakefield answered that he could not do it according to his instructions, but he had offered to Mr Beit a rural section for selection in Wakapuaka to settle the Germans thereupon, which Mr Beit had refused to do saying that it was too good for them.

Mr Riemenschneider also said that the greater part of the Germans had had no provision and had been so very outrageous against Beit for refusing them employment, that the women went to Beits house with the intention to stone him (Mr Beit) but that he (Mr Riemenschneider) brought them to peace. Col Wakefield had then offered for three months rations to all such Germans as would settle in the Moutere, on account to get these provisions the above mentioned families came to the Moutere, they came there to prevent starvation, and on account of the low lead of the land it was not possible for them to succeed.

In conclusion that the first German Immigrants to this place lost all their confidence towards Mr Beit is entirely his own fault and I suppose that it may be proved by evidence viz. by C Bensemman, J Karsten, Fr Beckmann, Manssen and others that he did as much as he could to prevent their success if it is true as those [Beckmann, Schneider, Jaensch] Germans said that Mr Beit has refused to select the rural sections and to settle the Germans thereupon, Mr Beit has induced them to leave the Colony for Dieckmann, Spanhake, Schieb, Lange Schneider and others had bought rural land from Mr Beit and they said that they would not go is they could have got possession of the land and indeed after some negotiations they would have succeeded as they now do in Adelaide.

Dear Sir - It is neither ill will against Mr Beit now forwardness, which induces me to give you this statement, it is either because myself and friends are concerned. Would Mr Beit like to blame Col Wakefield he must also blame Mr Burn [sic] for the settling of the Germans in the Moutere or and that Mr Beit will endeavour to blame others for the ill success of his first German expedition is very likely because he will bring out another expedition. In reference to this object of Mr Beit I direct yourself to the protest, which the first German Immigrants have drawn up against Mr Beit that he may prevented and restricted henceforth from similar proceedings.

I remain dear sir

Your very obedient servant
Signed *J.M.C. Heine*

To Mr Fox Esq.
Nelson 22nd December 1846

PS Mr Beit disclosed much ill will against you in speaking to the Germans and you will do well if you give a statement to the Company why you have allowed squatters to settle at unsold land. That is another subject on which he will attack you.

Additional Information including reference source but not sighted:

Archives of NZ Wellington NZC series 38 Items 190, 191, & 192

- [190] 31 May 1848 John Nicholas BEIT & John BEIT to NZC Release of claims & deed of convenient in respect of land sections in Nelson. Compensation of £3,500 paid
 - [191] 31 May 1848 John Nicholas BEIT & John BEIT to NZC Conveyance of 5 sections of town land, 5 sections of accommodation land, 5 sections of rural land etc. in the settlement of Nelson
 - [192] 31 May 1848NZCo Nelson Declaration of John Nicholas BEIT and John BEIT.
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THE ST PAULI – BAHIA COMPLAINT

Transcription of Translation of the Bahia Complaint

I extract of the Hamburg Consulate (unable to read name) At the 14th and at this day the 16^h [sic] March 1843 Mr William Heine born Lysraethensch [sic] in the kingdom of Hanover made this personally appearance before me (he is a passenger on board the viz. Ship St Pauli Capt. Schacht which arrived here at the 4th of this month to take in fresh water, she is bound for New Zealand chartered by the New Zealand Company with Emigrants under the protection of Mr J N Beit invested by the General Signatures, and brought to protest coll. the flowing complaints against the said Mr J N Beit. That he was well acquainted with the conditions under which he engaged himself to make the voyage and against which he never failed but that he was as well acquainted with the Duties of the Company & which be very liberal us showed a regiment of diets provided in a printed circular as well to himself as to fellow passengers never the less the said Mr J.N. Beit made on his own account and without any cause quit despotically alterations hence already in the beginning of the voyage in consequence of which he and other formerly hungered he and others were wilfully affronted with inquires by the Superintendent Mr John N Beit also the promised conveniences as to keep employ the deck under of all sorts of baggage and provisions was not regarded therefore he as well at the other passengers who also signed this receive themselves this night and protest against Mr J N Beit the New Zealand Company or whom it may concern to get their right either at Nelson or Hamburg.

Signatures

<i>La Motte</i>	<i>Henriette Schuler</i>	<i>J H F Spanhake</i>	<i>Peter Hansen</i>
<i>Behrends</i>	<i>C Lange</i>	<i>Hempel and Fran</i>	<i>F H Jaensch</i>
<i>Dietrich Frieke</i>	<i>Georg Scheucher</i>	<i>F W Haase and Fran</i>	<i>J Karsten</i>
<i>Rahdel</i>	<i>J. Hadie [sic]</i>	<i>J D F Muller and Fran</i>	<i>Jacob Schiel and Fran</i>
<i>Trost</i>	<i>Jacob Frank</i>	<i>mark X W Subritzky</i>	<i>Maria Stade</i>
<i>H Manssen</i>	<i>Carl Pahl</i>	<i>Jung</i>	<i>Barthold Ollrich</i>
<i>J Beckmann</i>	<i>Josef Frank</i>	<i>Philip J Post</i>	<i>Wm Heine</i>
<i>J C M Karsten</i>	<i>August Hasenbein</i>	<i>Philp Joseph Eisemann</i>	<i>A Assmann and Fran</i>
<i>H S Spring</i>	<i>Dorothea Adam</i>	<i>F Schumacher and Fran</i>	<i>A Treban</i>
<i>Doris Meyer</i>	<i>C Sixtus</i>	<i>C Bensemman and Fran</i>	<i>H Dieckmann</i>
<i>Betty Fesefeldt</i>	<i>P Schneider and Fran</i>	<i>F Sixtus</i>	<i>H Korber</i>
<i>Herman Mohr</i>	<i>L Subritzky</i>	<i>T W Ovy</i>	<i>Doris Spanhake</i>
<i>Theodr. Barth</i>	<i>mark X Korber</i>	<i>Huter and Fran</i>	<i>Anna Mohr</i>

This protest is heard by means of an oath, and it is signed by the own hand of the passengers and therefore a protest against Mr J N Beit, the New Zealand Company or whom it may concern.

Signed F H Wolsters Consul for according dispatch

Sign. E Heinsen V Consul

(Translated by Theodr. Barth with my receives [sic] J W C Heine)