

4 pages written 25 Feb 1854 by James Grey in New Plymouth

New Plymouth the 25 Feb 1854

Sir James Grey

Having the pleasure to Adress you, I beg
 by leave to lay before you the Circumstances which
 occasion my absence, and which I shall state
 in as brief a manner as I possibly can -

Being an old servant of my Country for upwards
 of thirty years in various departments, & at parting
 from my last situation in Scotland Emigrated to
 New South Wales in forty seven. Shortly after my arrival
 I was struck with the febrile Pity - which left me
 totally blind while I remained in that Colony - I was
 advised for the preservation of my health to pass over
 to New Zealand. Where thank God I am in some small degree
 recovered - so as to be able to conduct myself as a
 private Person without a Leader - Having said this much

I now introduce to your notice that I have been
 advised to petition His Excellency Governor Grey and
 to lay before him my services in the Government - during
 the present difficulties under which I labour and that
 he might be pleased to do something for me so as to take
 heavy labour off the shoulders of an old man who
 is nearly worn out - Now the sum of my petition
 to the Governor is as follows

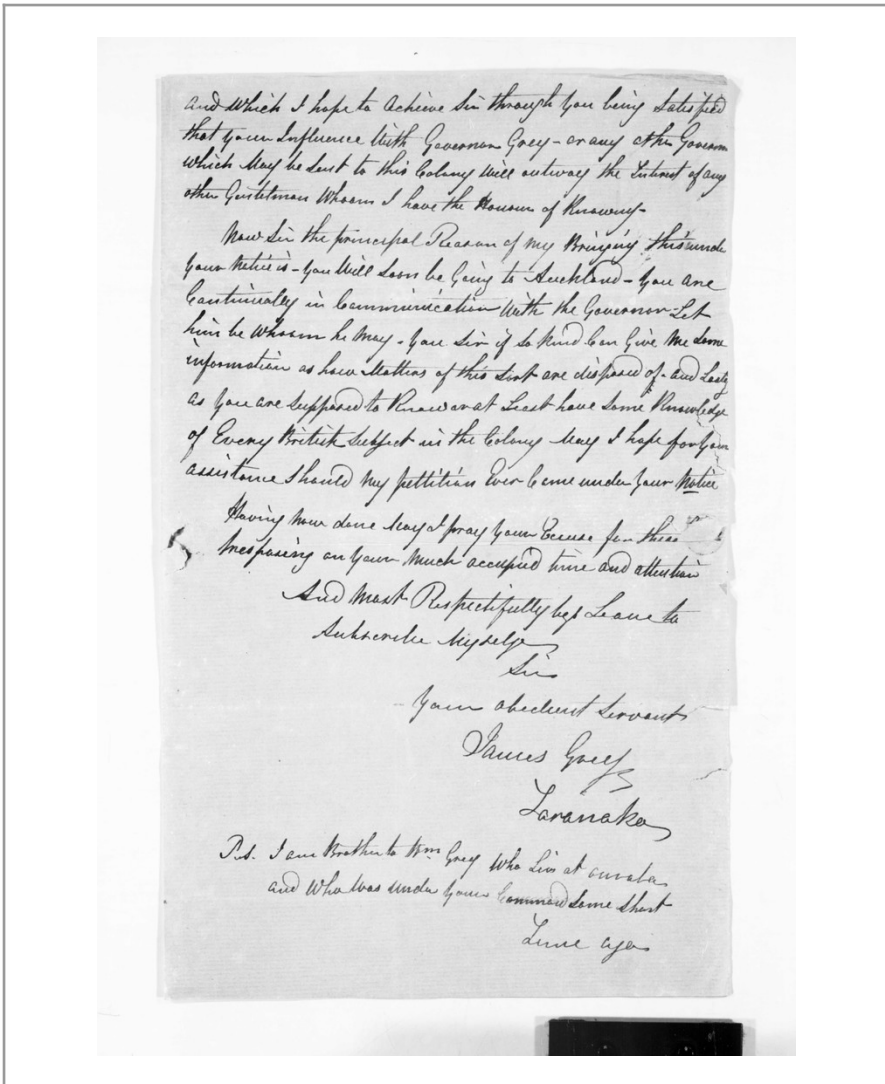
4 pages written 25 Feb 1854 by James Grey in New Plymouth

Entered the army in 1809 under Colonel Charles O'Neil
 -field. Left on a furlough 1818 - on leaving received a General
 officers Commission by George the Fourth then Prince Regent
 for his services - served in this department under Major
 Thomas Dawson. Solicited by Major John Mills to join
 the Constabulary in which I served upwards of 18 years
 the last part under George Westmacott Esq. Captain General
 The testimonials of those parties I had in reserve but
 an unforeseen accident occurred which deprived me of
 them and the filling in the same folder in my house took place
 and all by provision and efforts were consumed however
 by the assistance of a few friends which the enclosed list
 will inform you of. I was partially able to recover but
 more particularly I am indebted to Major Lloyd who is
 assisting me up to this period. There was two letters which
 I valued much the one from two of your countrymen the
 Rev James Coakley - his presbytery of Ireland and Alexander
 Sinclair but the same consumed.

Having got a second Memorial wrote and a
 report of the Governors arrival at Laramah being daily
 expected I held it over as that I might present it to
 him. Another report stated him to be in Auckland
 I was then recommended to send it by post - of
 course but he left. The next report he is gone home
 to England - another disappointment appears - and to
 be long and tedious it is the object I have in view

MANUSCRIPTS & PICTORIAL

4 pages written 25 Feb 1854 by James Grey in New Plymouth



and which I hope to achieve via through you being satisfied
that your influence with Governor Grey - or any of the Governor
which may be sent to this colony will outweigh the interest of any
other Gentlemen whom I have the Honour of Respecting

Now Sir the principal Reason of my bringing this under
your notice is - you will soon be going to Auckland - you are
constantly in communication with the Governor - Let
him be whom he may - you Sir if so kind can give me some
information as how matters of this sort are disposed of and how
as you are supposed to know or at least have some knowledge
of every British subject in the colony may I hope for your
assistance should my petition ever come under your notice

Having now done say a few lines because for this
trespassing on your much occupied time and attention

And Most Respectfully beg Leave to
Subscribe myself

Your obedient Servant

James Grey
Taranaki

P.S. I am brother to Tom Grey who lives at Oroua
and who was under your command some short
time ago

4 pages written 25 Feb 1854 by James Grey in New Plymouth

