

TURNER Joseph

notes curated by John McAlpine

Joseph TURNER, aged 45 (BDM), died July 1867 (BDM) and was buried in **Saint Peter's Cemetery**, 19 July 1867. He had served in the 58th Regiment of Foot (Rutlandshire) of the British Army within New Zealand. He was discharged from that Regiment, 30 September 1857.

Joseph fathered a daughter, **Alice Maud Turner**, born 12 February 1863, whilst in a relationship with **Sarah Moore/Hands** (see biography on this website).

The exact date of Joseph's death and the circumstances of his death are unclear.

The *'Daily Southern Cross'*, 20 July 1867 reported the coroner's inquest:

"the coroner's jury returned the following verdict: 'found dead in Whau scrub, on July 17 instant, without marks of violence appearing on his body; but how, or by what means he came to his death no evidence thereof doth appear to the jury.'"

The *'Daily Southern Cross'*, 2 August 1867 also reported:

"Constable Spray, of Onehunga, brought information to the Police-Office, on July 18, that he had found the body of Joseph Turner (who was reported to be missing on the previous Wednesday afternoon) in some tea-tree scrub, about two miles beyond the Whau Blockhouse. Deceased was lying on his back when found, but there were no external marks of violence. It appears that the deceased had frequently complained of a pain in his left side; and on July 7, when dining at Mr Pierce's hotel, at Muddy Creek, he was heard to complain of being ill. From all appearances, deceased had been dead for about eleven days. The body was removed to Onehunga, and an inquest was held at the Royal Hotel, Onehunga. After viewing the body and hearing the evidence of witnesses called, the jury returned the following verdict: 'found dead in Whau scrub, on July 17 instant, without marks of violence appearing on his body; but how, or by what means he came to his death no evidence thereof doth appear to the jury'".