

munication, the Deed which has been prepared for the Land obtained in virtue of the aforesaid Claim, will be cancelled.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
ANDREW SINCLAIR,
Colonial Secretary.

Mr. S. A. Wood,
Auckland.

NOTICE.

*Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 24th December, 1844.*

ON and after the first day of January, 1845, the Flags, indicating a Vessel's character or description, will be hoisted at the Signal Station, in the following manner—a ball being shewn as usual:—

- A Ship, at the Mast head.
- A Brig, " East yard arm.
- A Schooner " West "
- A Cutter, " East " half up.
- A Steamer, " West " "

A Vessel in distress or on shore—flags half mast.

By Command,
ANDREW SINCLAIR,
Colonial Secretary.

*Colonial Secretary's Office,
Auckland, 24th December, 1844.*

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the following Remarks on the Roadstead of New Plymouth, together with the Table of authorised Charges for the use of the Government Boats at that settlement, to be published for general information.

By Command,
ANDREW SINCLAIR,
Colonial Secretary.

Authorised Scale of Charges for the use of the Government Boats at New Plymouth.

	£	s.	d.
Cargo Boat with Crew, if hired for a whole day by one person	3	9	0
Ditto ditto, if employed for a whole day by various persons, for every ton of cargo landed	0	5	6
Cargo Boat with Crew, if hired for a single trip	1	10	0
Passage to, or from, a vessel, in a Cargo Boat	0	2	6
Small Boat with Crew, to mooring distance, per trip	0	15	0
Ditto ditto, to vessels lying within one mile of the shore, per ditto	0	7	6

Luggage of Cabin and Steerage Passengers will be charged as Cargo.

No Boat will be launched to convey Passengers to vessels lying within one mile of the shore later than one hour, or to the mooring distance later than two hours, before sunset.

N. B.—Mooring distance is about two miles and a half from the town landing place.

New Plymouth lies in latitude 39° 2' S., and longitude 174° 15' E.; two miles N. E. of the Sugar Loaf Islands, which are good land marks for vessels in making the place, and serve as a breakwater to the roadstead in south-westerly gales. The coast line in front of the settlement extends from the Islands to Mokau, a distance of forty miles, and lies N. E. and S. W. The prevailing winds are from W. to S. W. The N. W. winds, to which the roadstead is open, are more frequent during the months of April and May, September and October, than in the winter months of June, July, and August. They are indicated by a long swell setting in from the northward, and a dirty appearance of the atmosphere in that quarter—giving ample time for ships to prepare for it, or go to sea. During the summer months these gales are unknown, nor do they blow home at any season of the year; therefore, the danger in riding out a northwester, (which rarely lasts more than twenty-four hours), arises more from the heavy swell than the strength of the wind.

The anchorage off the town, in places, is foul, but it is clearer towards the Sugar Loaf Islands. As the Government Pilot boards, when practicable, (which is five days in the week on an average during the year), all vessels coming into the roadstead, large ships had better not anchor till so visited; should a ship, however, anchor before being boarded, open ground will be found when the Town Flag Staff bears E. S. E., and the outer Sugar Loaf Island S. W. ½ W., in about 16 fathoms water, over sandy clay.

South-easterly gales are not frequent, but are generally violent and of short duration; as they blow off the shore, they are of little consequence.

Northerly and north-west gales come on gradually, always giving ample warning by an overcast sky, a swell from the northward, a falling barometer, and moderate breeze from the north-east to north—usually with rain. At the height of the gale, or after a short lull, the wind generally shifts to the westward, if not to the south-west, in a strong, sometimes in a heavy, squall—after which, the sky begins to clear, and the weather improves. If the wind backs from south-west to north-west, it will blow hard again, but it generally goes round by the south and brings fine weather.

CHRISTOPHER FULTON, Government Printer, Auckland.