

ALLEN Mere/Mary (nee GAGE) (Mere Keeti)

these biographical notes were curated by John McAlpine,
and they await confirmation/correction, and further detail/expansion from family descendants ...



Mere GAGE was born c.1838 in Thames, Waikato. Her parents were **George GAGE** and **Waana Kahukopeka PORORUA**.

Mere had a least two siblings: **John November GAGE** and **George Puckey GAGE**.

Mere married **Luke John ALLEN** (an Englishman, known as 'John') on 14 Dec 1852 in Otawahao, Te Awamutu, Waikato.

Luke John ALLEN, son of **John Thomas ALLEN** and **Martha TURNER**, was born in Birmingham, England c.1832. He came to New Zealand in 1841, with his widowed father (who died tragically a few years later).

John and **Mere** gave birth to:

- Martha
- Mary Ann
- Arthur Robert Frederick
- Sarah b. 1865 (BDM)
- William b. 1867 (BDM)
- Alice Magdalene b. 1869 (BDM)

Two children were born 1859 and 1860 (both are registered, but unnamed in the BDM Records)

Aged about 33 years, **Mere** died on 6 April 1871 at the home of Mrs Douglas, Norman's Hills, Onehunga.
(c.f. the Notice of Mere's death: NZ Herald, 8 April 1871)

She was buried in **Saint Peter's Church Cemetery**, Onehunga (Plot 290) on 8 April 1870.

At the time of her death, the **ALLEN** family were living in Raglan.

Two years later (10 December 1874), **John ALLEN** married **Emily Annie HEASLOP** (BDM Records)
Emily brought her 2-year-old daughter, **Phedora Louisa Jane HEASLOP**, into the **ALLEN** family.

It seems that no children were born of John and Emily's relationship.

Luke John, aged 89, died in Gisborne on 18 September 1920.

Emily Annie, aged 81, died in Gisborne on 8 November 1929.

The 1898 Saint Peter's Church Map of the Cemetery Plots indicates
that a **grandchild of John and Mere** is also buried in Plot 290;
unfortunately, no other information was recorded.