

THE FINE CRIMEA AND NEW ZEALAND PAIR AWARDED TO BROTHERS WHO WERE OFFICERS IN THE 68TH LIGHT INFANTRY; THE ELDEST, AGED JUST 18 CARRIED THE REGIMENTAL COLOURS AT THE BATTLE OF ALMA AND WAS SEVERELY ENGAGED AT THE BATTLE OF INKERMANN ONLY TO BE KILLED DURING THE ATTACK ON THE QUARRIES, 8 JUNE 1855. THE YOUNGEST SERVED WITH THE 68TH IN NEW ZEALAND, BEING PRESENT AT THE DISASTROUS ATTACK ON GATE PAH, AND WAS WITH THE SMALL FORCE THAT TOOK PART IN THE HARD FOUGHT VICTORY AT TE RANGA. HE LATER SERVED THROUGHOUT THE WEST COAST CAMPAIGN AND WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE ACTION AT KAKARAMEA BUT DIED 10 YEARS LATER WHILST SERVING IN INDIA



CRIMEA 1854, 3 CLASPS ALMA, INKERMANN, SEBASTOPOL 'LIEUT. JAMES MARSHALL. 68TH REGT' OFFICIAL IMPRESSED NAMING, NEW ZEALAND 1845, DATED 1864 TO 1866 'CAPTN A.F. MARSHALL. 68TH LT INFNTY'

LIEUTENANT JAMES MARSHALL 68TH LIGHT INFANTRY

Ensign James Marshall, the son of Thomas Horncastle Marshall, Judge of Country Courts, Yorkshire, was born in Leeds on 12 November. He attended Rugby School, being head of the Twenty-two and was Commissioned into the 68th Light Infantry on 17 March 1854. Serving

with his Regiment during the Crimean War, *"he carried the Regimental colours at the battle of Alma and was severely engaged at the battle of Inkermann"*.

<https://www.britishbattles.com/crimean-war/battle-of-the-alma/>

At the battle of Inkermann in particular, the 68th were very heavily engaged and due to various causes, the 68th were only able to take 4 Companies into action. These consisting just 16 Officers and 225 men.

As part of the 2nd Brigade of the 4th Division, when brought into action, the 68th under Colonel Smyth, marched forward in their grey greatcoats but as Sir George Cathcart rode in behind them, they threw off their greatcoats so that they could fight the better and get at their ammunition. Positioned on a hill, it was seen the Russian Yatustsk Regiment were outflanking the right, so the charge was sounded and down the hill the 68th charged; their red coats attracting heavy fire from the Russian artillery. The 68th fought from tree to tree and rock to rock, mainly relying on the bayonet to accomplish their aim. However as they drove the Russians before them, they found themselves caught in a gully, surrounded by massed Russian troops above them, who poured a devastating fire into the 68th, even hurling rocks down upon them. The 68th attempted to charge up at the Russians but the ground was too steep and rocky and they were forced back. Sustaining heavy casualties and unable to retreat, the 68th took as much cover as possible but were facing annihilation. They were however saved by a party of French Zouaves who appeared on the hill and drove the Russians back, allowing the 68th to retreat. During the battle, the 68th lost 2 Officers and 17 men killed, 2 Officers (1 died of wounds), 33 men wounded and 3 missing. At Inkermann, the 68th would be the only troops that day to fight in their red coats.



Promoted Lieutenant the day after Inkermann, he took part in the siege of Sebastopol, being continually engaged in the advanced trenches during the operations of the siege. A keen Cricketer, *"he was one of the very first Officers who pitched wickets on the plain before Sebastopol and played within range of the enemy's fire"*.

On 8 June 1855, Ensign Marshall was serving with a party of the 68th in the Woronzoff Road, forming a part of the reserve under the command of Lieut Colonel Norcot of the Rifles in support of the attack on the Quarries when he was killed by a splinter of shell which hit his head. He was aged just 19

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_the_Great_Redan

Marshall was noted as having been on duty with his Regiment from landing in the Crimea to the date of his death.

The original medal roll confirms the Crimea medal and 3 clasps was issued through the War Office and as such was officially Impressed

CAPTAIN ARTHUR FRANCIS MARSHALL 68TH LIGHT INFANTRY

Arthur Francis Marshall, the brother of James, was born on 2 July 1837

Serving as a Lieutenant in the West Yorkshire Militia from 13 January 1855, he was commissioned Ensign in the 9th Foot on 15 May 1855 but on 16 July 1855; shortly after the death of his brother James, he transferred to James's Regiment the 68th Light Infantry. Too late to serve in the fighting in the Crimea, he was promoted Lieutenant on 22 June 1858 and Captain on 13 January 1869. After service in Burma from 1857, in 1863, the 68th Light Infantry was ordered to New Zealand. Here Marshall served with the Regiment throughout the New Zealand War of 1864-66, his Army List entry listing him as having taken part in the "attack on Gate Pah, the engagement of Te Ranga. He later served throughout the West Coast Campaign and was also present at the action at Kakaramea."



CAPTAIN A F MARSHALL

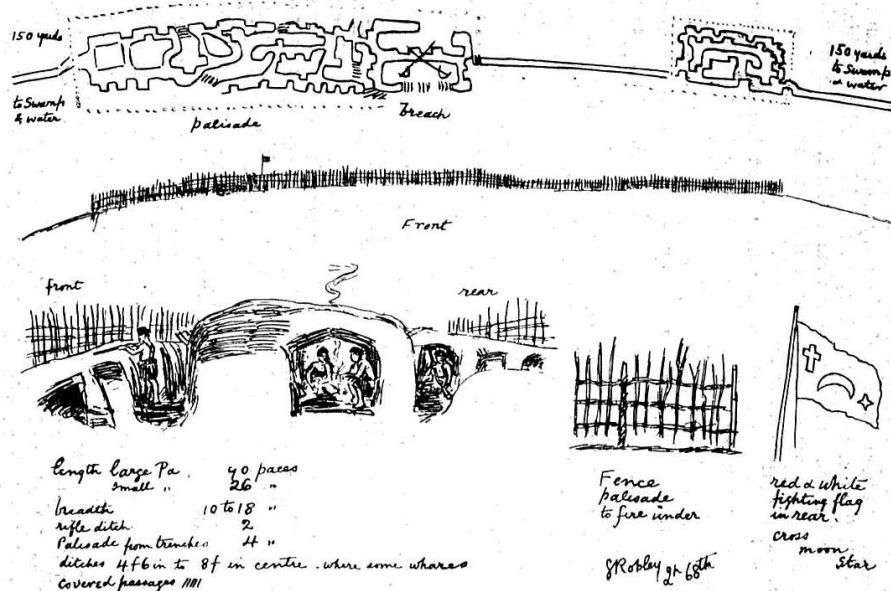
BATTLE OF GATE PA

On the afternoon of 28 April 1864, General Duncan Cameron launched an hour-long attack on the front of Gate Pa with four batteries of artillery placed at a range of between 350 and 800 metres. Late in the night Colonel Greer moved his 700 men from the 68th Light Infantry across swamps to the east of Gate Pa under cover of darkness and rain to take up a position to

the rear of the redoubt to cut off a Maori retreat. Those forces were joined by a detachment of the Naval Brigade from the warships Esk, Falcon and Miranda. By daybreak on 29 April Cameron had a total of about 1650 men surrounding the pa: 700 of the 68th, 420 from the Naval Brigade, 300 of the 43rd Light Infantry, 50 Royal Artillery another 180 members detached from various Regiments

At first light on 29 April the assembled guns and mortars opened fire again, this time maintaining the bombardment for more than eight hours. They destroyed the palisade and completely suppressed Maori gunfire. An estimated 30 tonnes of shell and shot were dropped on or near the Maori position, killing about 15 of the defenders.

At about 4pm, with no sign of life in the pa, Cameron ordered an assault by 300 men—a combined force of Naval Brigade under Commander Hay and the 43rd Regiment, led by Lieutenant-Colonel H.G. Booth—who ran in four abreast with fixed bayonets. Another 300 men followed at a distance as a reserve. Some in the initial British assault force were shot as they entered the main pa, and inside the redoubt more fell as they engaged in hand-to-hand combat with Maori armed with shotguns and mere (short clubs). A lull of about five minutes occurred, during which time Captain G.R. Greaves, who was with the leading files of the assault party, left the pa and reported to Cameron that the redoubt had been captured and that British casualties were light.



From sketches and plan by Lieutenant G. Robley, 68th Regt.]

The Gate Pa, Tauranga

But minutes later, as the rear of the pa was breached by the 68th Regiment, all changed. In a sequence of events that is still unclear, fierce fighting erupted, taking a heavy toll on the invaders and panicked British forces began streaming out of the pā. Historian James Cowan wrote: "More than a hundred of the assaulting column were casualties, and the glacis and the interior of the pa were strewn with dead or dying. The Maori suffered too, but not severely." Thirty-one of the British force died, including 10 officers, while 80 were wounded. At least 25-30 Maori were killed or missing.

Several theories exist to explain the British stampede from the pa. A contemporary report by a seaman in the pā suggested that the flood of soldiers from the 68th Regiment at the rear was mistaken for Maori reinforcements. Historian James Belich has postulated that the bulk of the

Maori garrison remained concealed in camouflaged bunkers as the British forces stormed the pa, before unleashing waves of heavy volleys from close range on the British, who were standing almost on their hidden foes. Belich cites descriptions of the main redoubt as being *"like rat holes everywhere, with covered ways and underground chambers"* and notes that Rawiri Puhirake ordered defenders to *"not utter a word or fire a shot till the proper time came for the order"*. Belich claims that by providing only a feeble defence from the garrison during the storming of the pa and keeping his garrison hidden, Rawiri Puhirake employed a *"remarkable tactical ploy ... brilliantly implemented as well as brilliantly conceived"* to lure the British into a deadly trap.

As night fell, the Gate Pa garrison, assuming the site would be stormed the next morning, evacuated their position, passing through the lines of the 68th Regiment and fleeing across surrounding swamps before dispersing

BATTLE OF TE RANGA

On 21 June 1864, Colonel Greer of the 68th, leading a reconnaissance patrol of about 600 men of the 43rd and 68th Regiments and 1st Waikato Militia, came upon the 500-strong Māori force labouring on Te Ranga's defences. Knowing any delay would allow his foe to strengthen their defences, Greer chose to launch an immediate attack. He sent back to Te Papa for reinforcements, then deployed his men to fan out and open fire on the pa's outposts and trenches. As the reinforcements—220 men including cavalry and one Armstrong gun—arrived two hours later, he ordered a charge on Te Ranga. The Maori responded to the ferocity of the advance of British bayonets with double-barrelled shotguns, but had little time to reload and were forced to fight hand-to-hand with mere. Between 83 and 120 Maori were killed or fatally wounded, half of them with bayonets; Gate Pa commander Rawiri Puhirake was among the dead. His death prompted the survivors to flee. Total British casualties were 48 killed and wounded



Of the 68th, 13 Officers, including Colonel Greer are listed as taking part in the attack at Te Ranga (including Marshall), 4 of whom were wounded. 3 other ranks of the 68th were killed and 21 wounded, 2 of whom died of wounds. Sergeant John Murray of the 68th was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions during the storming of the rifle pits.

Te Ranga, the last serious engagement of the Tauranga campaign, as *"by far the most brilliant achievement obtained throughout the whole war"*. Coming so soon after the humiliating defeat at Gate Pa, they viewed it as a satisfying act of revenge that reclaimed the honour of the troops.

Returning to England with his Regiment in late 1866, in 1872, the 68th were posted to India in 1872. In September 1874, Captain Marshall was seconded as Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General of the Bombay establishment, however on 11 1875, he died of cholera at Ahmedabad

Tablets in the memory of both brothers were placed (and remain) in The Lady Chapel, St Peters Church, Leeds:

IN MEMORY OF/ JAMES MARSHALL/ LIEUTT(SIC) 68TH LIGHT INFANTRY,/ SECOND SON OF THOMAS HORNCastle MARSHALL/ JUDGE OF THE COUNTY COURTS OF THIS DISTRICT/ WHO FELL AT THE SEIGE OF SEVASTOPOL/ ON THE 8TH OF JUNE 1855/ IN THE 20TH YEAR OF HIS AGE

IHS/ SACRED/ TO THE MEMORY OF/ ARTHUR FRANCIS MARSHALL,/ CAPTAIN 68TH LIGHT INFANTRY/ AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT/ QUARTER MASTER GENERAL/ BOMBAY ARMY./ THIRD SON OF/ THOMAS HORNCastle MARSHALL/ FORMERLY COUNTY COURT JUDGE OF THIS DISTRICT/ WHO DIED OF CHOLERA AT AHMEDEBAD, EAST INDIES/ ON THE 11TH JUNE 1875, AGED 37 YEARS/ ERECTED BY HIS OLD BROTHER OFFICERS OF THE 68TH/ LIGHT INFANTRY IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF/ A GALLANT SOLDIER AND BELOVED FRIEND

A third and youngest son, Herbert Menzies Marshall, born in 1841 did not follow his elder brothers into the army but studied Architecture in Paris. He later became an accomplished painter, becoming Vice-President of the Royal Society of Painters in Watercolours between 1898 and 1900 (among others). In 1904, he was appointed Professor of Landscape Painting at Queen's College, London and died at home on 2 March 1913.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herbert_Menzies_Marshall



Condition GVF, both medals with officially impressed naming. Sold with a copy of *'Well Done the 68th, The Durhams in the Crimea and New Zealand 1854-1866'* (347 pgs). Both fine and rare in their own rights but a most poignant pair of medals to brothers who died during their service

Note; book is hardbound 347 pages so would add a fair weight for overseas customers