

38 **ARTIST UNKNOWN**

c. 1865

Case of Tangi Mode of Salutation

Watercolour 15 x 16

Inscribed *Case of Tangi mode of salutation* on separate paper
15,000 - 25,000

The Mode of Salutation

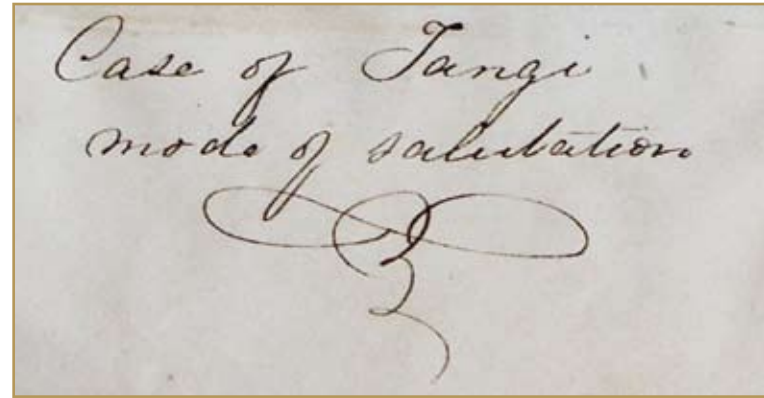
*When a party of visitors arrives at a pa belonging to another tribe, it is usual to receive them with some show of ceremony; the salutation is commenced by a spear being thrown by one of the chiefs: the visitors then sit down, and after some time has been passed in silence, they exchange civilities by the performance of hongi or pressing noses; this frequently occupies a considerable time, and when it is concluded, feasting immediately commences. Page 85, *The New Zealanders Illustrated*, George French Angas, 1847*

In the background of this historically significant watercolour we see the Shortland Street shop frontage of Isaac McEwan's Bakery. Glaswegian settlers, Isaac and Janet McEwan arrived in Auckland aboard the *Duchess of Argyle* in October 1842. McEwan's, was one of Auckland's first bakeries, opening its doors in the mid 1850s. The family business was later passed down to a daughter, Margaret McEwan and her husband, Phillip Otto.

A few years after its opening, McEwan's Bakery is mentioned in newspaper reports of the great central Auckland fire, July 1858. Heroic acts by numerous citizens are recalled and a link established with the artist Charles Heaphy:

'..... Mr Heaphy was hauling the hose up the high ladder against McEwan's store and afterwards removing the burning spirit casks from Keesing's public house.'

In 1860 with a metropolitan population of 13,915 Auckland retained the look of a frontier town with small wooden houses and shops lining narrow, muddy streets. It was not until the end of the decade that a modern city began to emerge.



The inscription reads: *Case of Tangi mode of salutation*

Note: This inscription is not necessarily that of the artist as it is inscribed on a separate piece of paper to that of the watercolour.

