

James La Roche was born on 9 Dec 1849 in Westminster, Middlesex, London, died on 16 Mar 1883 in Auckland, New Zealand at age 33, and was buried on 18 Mar 1883 in Auckland, New Zealand. James came to New Zealand on the Hydaspes, arriving in Auckland on 6th November 1874. He died 15 days after his marriage, from enteric fever.

The following is an extract from the Southern Cross newspaper of 7 November 1874 giving details of the voyage:- The splendid ship Hydaspes, Captain Babos, arrived from London and anchored off the North Head at an early hour yesterday morning, having completed the passage from the Isle of Wight (where the pilot was landed) to Tiri Tiri in 80 days. We are indebted to Mr Robb, the purser of the ship for the following particulars of the passage: The ship left Gravesend on the 11 August, and came to an anchor off the North Foreland the following day; remained there until the 15th, and the pilot left the vessel off the Isle of Wight on the 17th. After clearing the English Channel light winds and fine weather prevailed until the Equator was crossed on the 12th of September. The N.E. trades were very light and unsteady, and the trades to the southward of the Equator were equally unsatisfactory, being so light that they could scarcely be termed trade winds. Passed the meridian of the Cape on the 4th October, and made the easting on the parallels of 45 and 46 S. Passed in sight of the Crozet Islands, and had strong westerly winds until rounding the S.W. Cape of Tasmania, on the 28th ultimo. The Three Kings were passed on the 4th inst. had strong westerly winds down the coast, and anchored off Tiri Tiri on the night of the 5th inst. At daylight of the 6th got under weigh, and arrived off the North Heads at 9a.m. yesterday. She brings 350 immigrants, children included; also a number of salon passengers. There were 12 deaths on the passage, of these 6 resulted from scarlet fever, and the last case having occurred only a fortnight previous to her arrival Dr. Philson, our Medical Officer, felt it his duty to order the vessel into quarantine. This gentleman, together with Mr Ellis, the Immigration Agent, Mr. D Cruickshank - to whom the vessel is consigned - and several others came down by steamer about 10 a.m., but as she could not lay alongside, Dr. Philson and Mr. Ellis were pulled near to her by a waterman's boat, and after asking the usual questions ordered the yellow flag to be hoisted, much to the discomfiture of those on board. The medical officer of the vessel stated that there had been 6 deaths from scarlatina, in all the cases they were children under five years of age. Four of the remaining six who died of other causes were also children, the exception being a man named Dutton, aged 60 years, who died on the 23rd August, and a girl named Mary Long, who died yesterday morning from brain fever. The emigrants deck has been fumigated twice, and whitewashed four times since the last case of fever. All of the saloon passengers have arrived in good health, and are not well pleased at having to rusticate at **Motuihi** but probably forget that in communities private interests are, or ought to be, subservient to the public well. Captain Burgess, the Harbour-master, took the vessel down to the quarantine station yesterday afternoon, and today the whole of the passengers are to be landed, and should no fresh cases appear, will probably remain there not longer than a week. Meanwhile the fittings on board the ship are to be taken down, and the entire vessel thoroughly fumigated and then admitted to pratique.

In the interval we can assure Captain Bardot's friends that he is looking as jolly as ever, and the noble vessel under his command has come into port in excellent trim, and with 2,000 tons of cargo in her hold. This is the second consecutive passage made by this ship in under 80 days from land to land, proving that with all the recent modifications, alterations, and boasted improvements which have turned our splendid sea going vessels into extreme clippers, they cannot out-sail the Hydaspes, a vessel built nearly 20 years ago, under control of a skilful captain, energetic officer and a willing crew. The following is a list of deaths and births on board... Among the list of passengers listed under Single Men, was James La Roche, 24.