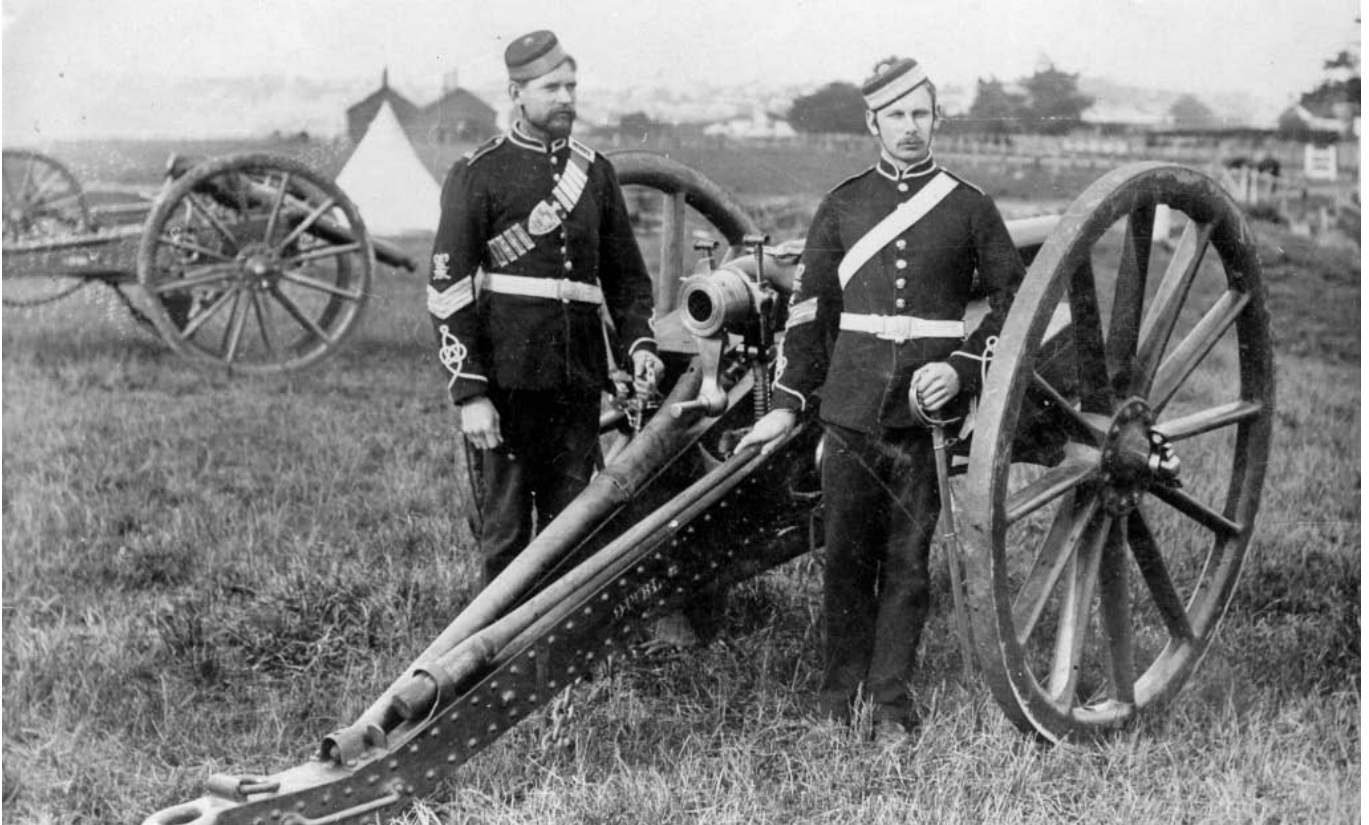


**NZAR ID 106, ARM TYPE: Artillery. Draft date 15 September 2010, Compiled by John Osborne DTT PhD FSG,
Pattern: Armstrong 9 pounder Field Gun. Introduced: 1885. Withdrawn: After WWI**

Between 1885 and 1887 New Zealand purchased eighteen 9 pounder Armstrong Field Guns (enough to equip three field batteries) as had been adopted for the Royal Horse Artillery. This Gun was the same caliber (3inch) but was shorter and lighter than the 12 pounder. 9 pounder ammunition could be fired in the 12 pounder, but the 12 pounder projectile and propellant cartridge were too long to fit in the 9 pounder. Carriages were of iron fitted with a more efficient elevating gear. The wooden wheels were of the 1878 pattern fitted with pressed steel iron naves (hubs) with staggered offset spokes for increased strength. increased strength.

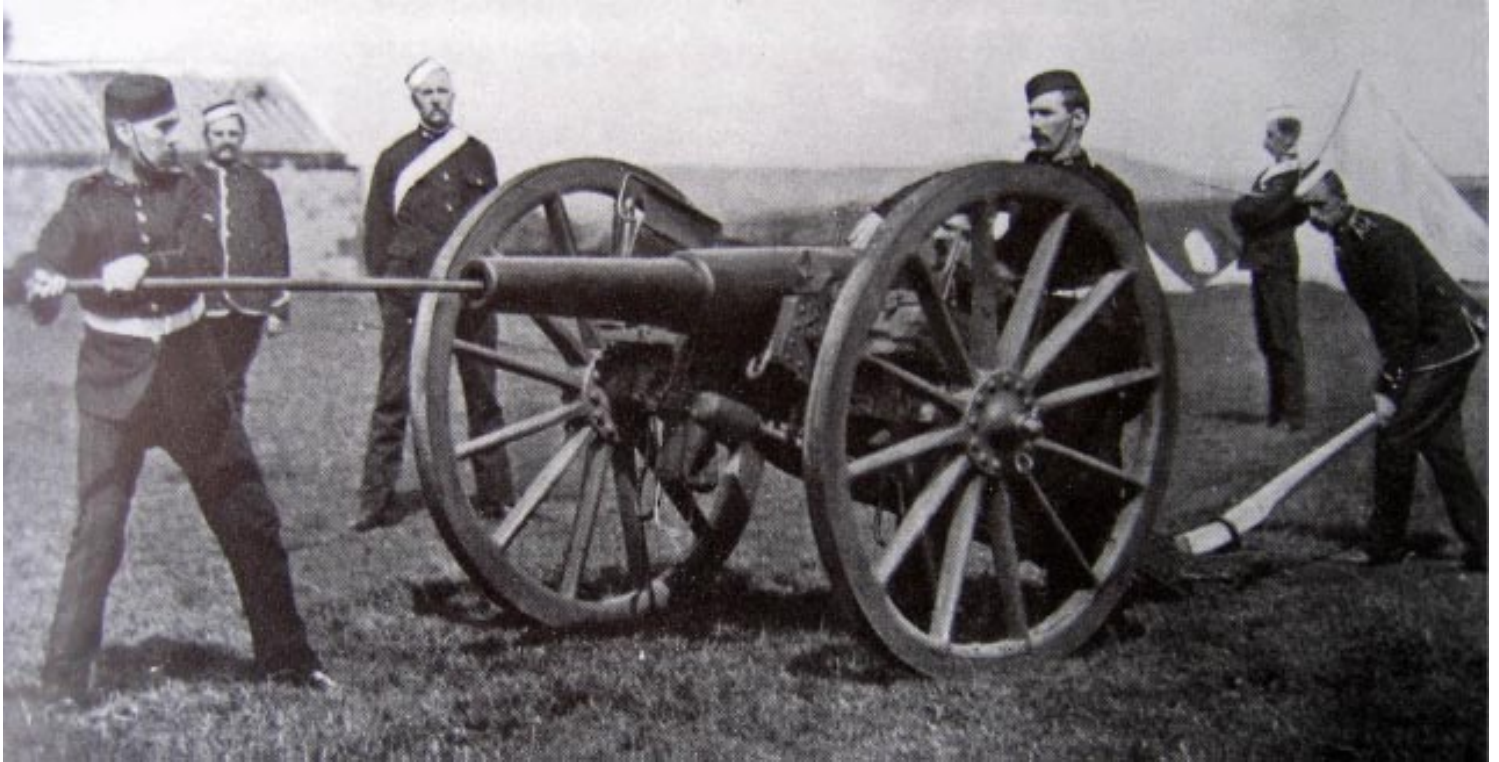


I Battery Oamaru NCOs with 9pdr Armstrong guns and pattern 1821 Artillery Swords Image c1886 courtesy North Otago Museum

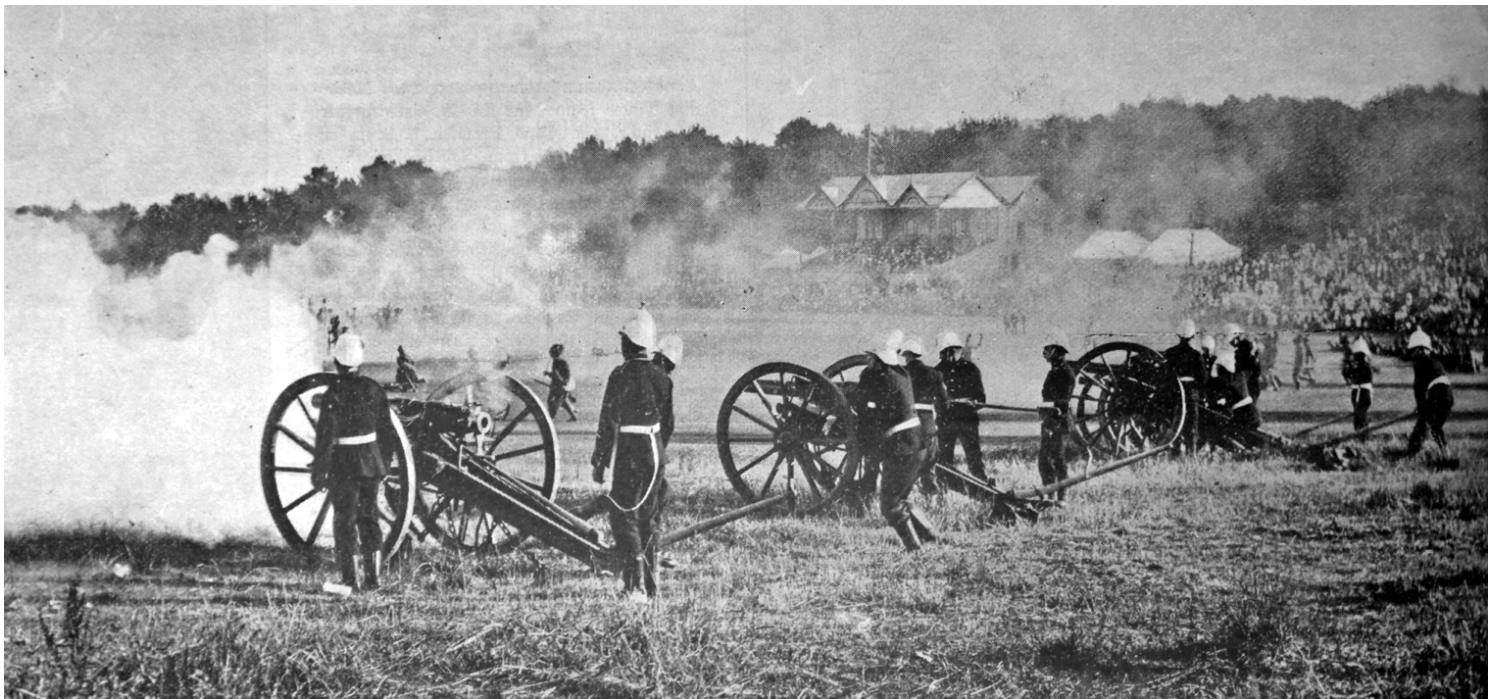


B Battery 9 pdr Armstrong Guns at practice, Ocean Beach, Dunedin, c1886, Commissioned Officer with P1821 Artillery Officers Sword
Courtesy Alexander Turnbull Library

On 3rd December, 1878 all Volunteer Field Artillery Units were formed into the New Zealand regiment of Artillery Volunteers known as "Batteries" ("A" Battery – Auckland, "B" – Dunedin, "C" – Timaru, "D" – Wellington, "E" – Christchurch, "F" – Napier, "G" – Invercargill, "H" – Nelson, "I" – Oamaru,, "J" – Gisborne (Cook County)). The Armstrong Field Guns were used extensively for training and practice purposes.



B Battery 9 pdr Armstrong Gun at Training, Dunedin, c1886. Courtesy Alexander Turnbull Library



Armstrong 9 pdr field gun Auckland Military Display "A" Battery Artillery shelling the BLUES' KOPJE c1900 – 1901
Courtesy Army Museum

Acknowledgements and special thanks to:

Queen Elizabeth 2nd Army Memorial Museum, Waiouru. www.armymuseum.co.nz

North Otago Museum, Oamaru. www.northotagomuseum.co.nz

Armstrong Guns in New Zealand by John Osborne published in the NZ Antique Arms Gazette September 2005

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