NZAR ID 410 ARM TYPE: Pistol. Draft date (V1) 11 August 2013, Compiled by Phil Cregeen FSG, Pattern: Bentley percussion pocket revolver. Introduced: c1850s. Withdrawn: c1880s?

Specifications; Maker: Joseph Bentley and the Birmingham Gun Trade including James Webley, hence commonly referred to as Webley Bentley revolver. Bentley patented his revolver in 1852 with improvements in 1857 but the patent lapsed in 1861. Caliber: .330 in. 7 groove rifled bore. 6 chamber cylinder. Self cocking trigger action. Weight: 1 lb 1.0 oz (480 grams). LOA 7.6 in. Barrel: 2.8 in. Forged steel Birmingham proofed. Serial Number: London No 758. Birmingham proofed high strength maleable cast iron cylinder and one piece frame/back strap with a removable side plate on the left side. Two piece chequred walnut grips secured by a single screw. Steel round fore-sight and vee rear sight cast on top shield. Adams type safety stop spring fitted to left side of frame, when applied, to prevent hammer from resting on percussion cap / nipple. Kerr type loading lever on left side of the barrel. Colt type barrel retaining wedge.





New Zealand Service: Most gunsmiths and arms dealers in New Zealand sold "Webley" Bentley revolvers in pocket and holster versions, cost 30 to 50+ shillings depending on size and quality. They were easy to load and operate, very effective for personal defence and popular with early settlers, gold-miners and Provincial Governments Special Constables who had to buy their own arms. Pocket revolvers were often carried as a backup weapon by Special Constables.

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Reference: The Webley Story By W C Dowell