

## Dauntless Dan

From Maurice McGill of Napier – a poem about his father that appeared in Wellington newspapers at the time he sailed to South Africa with the Fifth Contingent

The cry went up for volunteers  
To join the battle van  
And then we gave three lusty cheers  
And said here's Dauntless Dan!  
For years upon the football field\*  
He's been well to the fore  
But to no living man he'll yield  
In hatred of the Boer  
They tried his ardour for to damp  
By regulations stringent  
But now he's in the Newtown Camp  
Among the Fifth Contingent  
They took him to the rifle butts  
To try how he could aim  
Although they said both eyes he shut  
He got there all the same  
He passed well through the riding test  
Without a single spill  
And now he ranks among the best  
Does the Dauntless Dan McGill

\*Daniel McGill represented Wellington at rugby in 1893