



*Portrait of Sarah Selwyn, ca. 1842, engraved by F. C. Lewis from the painting by George Richmond. Courtesy New Zealand Historic Places Trust*

She considered it

a duty to help George's young staff in homey ways lest their influence should be lowered. So we assembled in evening attire at our tea without milk and our bread without butter and made ourselves agreeable according to our lights and behaved "pretty" as the nurses used to say.<sup>10</sup>

She turned her attention to the local Maori people and was soon in high favour as they responded to her 'cheerful eye, and friendly face' and bestowed upon her the title of *Mata Pihopa* (Mother Bishop). She looked forward to the organisation of regular and serious contact with them as she busied herself learning the