

## Cannons from the Ship Lady Dennison, which ran aground Wanganui River Mouth 1865

Compiled by John Osborne [jcosborne@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jcosborne@xtra.co.nz)

Two of four cannon salvaged. Property of the Wanganui District Council Information and Images courtesy Geoff Lawson



Above both Cannon from the Lady Dennison are about 5 ft long and bore diameters are just under 4" (6 pdrs)

The one on the left is possibly Carron design c1840 -50 very well made much lighter in weight and made of the much stronger malleable cast iron but has no markings. The trunnions are concentric with the bore

The cannon on the right has markings indicating it was made between 1815 and 1825 by the Bellona Foundry, Virginia, USA it is roughly finished - grey cast iron and very heavy. It is marked

6 3 0  
I. C & Co B. F. V.

Which stands for John Clarke & Co, Bellona Foundry, Virginia and is of the early marking style. The 'I' actually stands for J, although why this is so is unknown. The Bellona Foundry was close to Richmond and was a major supplier of cannon to the US and state governments up to the American

Neither of these guns would have come from the First Fleet c1788.



This  
Above cannon has markings indicating it was made between 1815 and 1825 by the Belona Foundry, Virginia, USA it is roughly finished - grey cast iron and very heavy.



Above cannon is possibly Carron design c1840 -50 very well made much lighter in weight and probably made of the much stronger malleable cast iron but has no markings. The trunnions are concentric with the bore