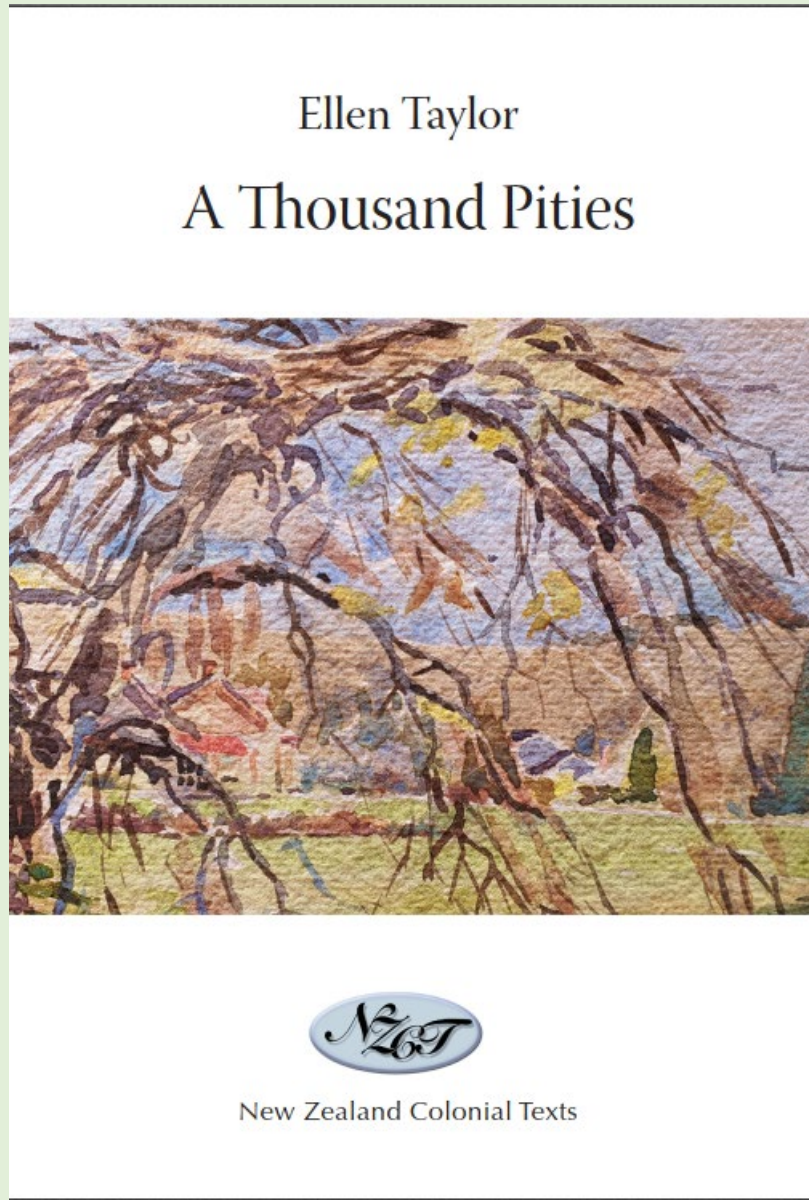


Ideal Xmas Gift

An early New Zealand novel written by a Marsden and Nga Tawa woman
edited by Kirsty Carpenter.



Author Ellen Taylor 1857-1945

Founding pupil at the Fitzherbert Terrace School.

Early teacher at Marsden and at Nga Tawa where her sister May Taylor
was the founding headmistress.

Novel set in the Rangitikei published in 1901 during a visit to London.

Special Offer

(valid through December 2021 while stock lasts)

	Price
NEW ZEALAND COLONIAL TEXTS:	
Ellen Taylor: <i>A Thousand Pities</i>	NZ\$25
Two copies	NZ\$45
Three copies	NZ\$60
<i>All offers incl. postage within NZ; contact us for Int'l post</i>	
Number of copies requested	
TOTAL	

“He saw his wife upon her knees beside her old lover; he watched her feel frantically for the pulse that would beat no more, and he realised that he was a murderer. It was the clasp of her hand on his arm that awoke him in some degree to the urgent necessity of the present.”

An isolated farm in the Rangitikei, a far-away country of escape, and a crime of passion. This early colonial plot is made up of unintended consequences and deliberate actions—of people striving to make a home in the new colony. Characters search for a future that turns out . . . not as it was meant to be. *A Thousand Pities* traces the dreams and disappointments of settlers in nineteenth-century North Island, New Zealand. It is a warning to potential immigrants, especially women, that life in the early Manawatu and Rangitikei is not the happy idyll that it is portrayed to be in Britain. It explores in fiction the social history of rural settler society and the pioneering challenges of farming the high country.

Noted for her descriptions of the native bush, the author is an insider, a second-generation New Zealander, and a teacher who was intimately acquainted with Wellington society. Like other national authors from Katherine Mansfield to Janet Frame, Ellen Taylor travelled to London, a city she had never seen, escaping the confines of colonial society only to encounter the horrors of World War I.

Kirsty Carpenter is an Associate Professor of History at Massey University. She is a specialist on the émigrés or refugees who left France during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. She is the author of the history of Marsden School published for its 125th anniversary, *Marsden Women and their World* (2003), and other books, *The Novels of Madame de Souza in Social and Political Perspective* (2007) and *Refugees of the French Revolution, Émigrés in London 1789-1802* (1999).

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