

HTLM - 0015 - 24

COMPLETED

Apotiki

October 28th 1872 -

My dear Sir,

I beg to enclose a letter which I have received from Tamaitowha of Te Waimara. I have also received letters from Heteraka of Ruatohuna and Tutekauhau to the same effect. The Māori generally have set themselves against roadmaking lately - Tamaitowha, Heni, Kaitiaki and others were two months since extremely anxious to commence the Waimara Road but now the authority has come down they will not go on with it - I fear that this is due to the late excitement about the confiscated lands &c. The story which was circulated in this district was that all confiscated lands

The Hon. Donald McKean
 On the 28th
 Wellington

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not actually occupied by Europeans were to be given back to the natives, and that all roads in native districts were to be discontinued. These reports were circulated here and said to come from Karaitiana. I may say however that generally they were not believed.

There has been a dispute here between the Arawas and the Whatatokena relative to the daughter of Motomako (a girl about 16). This girl was taken prisoner by the former in Taurua about three years ago. She has now got back to her tribe who refuse to give her up, but have given a present of horses a mere do for her. The Arawas wished me to send her back, on the plea that she has been given to one of them as a wife, but as the girl refuses to go, states that she was treated as a slave & that her so-called husband has left her I could not do so & told the Arawas that I considered them wrong.

They were violent and used threats at first but I urged them if they thought themselves aggrieved not to take the law into their own hands, but to apply to the Government for an enquiry. which I

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think they will do - I have reported the
affair officially to Mr. C. C. Clarke -

You will be glad to hear that the
Mr. Martin's school is going on very well -
His numbers are now 39 on the books of whom
11 are natives - The latter have promised
to send more after the planting season - Those
who have attended have been very regular
& have really made great progress in speaking
English, writing &c - You will have
seen by my official report that I am pre-
pared to go on with the building whenever
the necessity is authorized.

I remain

My dear Sir

Yours very respectfully

Herbert W. Drabant

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te Waihua

Oketopa ... 18 ... 1972

Kia te para meua Kaihaka wa
 & haa teta rakae haore he kore
 o korei kotekorela okorei
 Kote korela oterori he tika allo
 tau akorela Maara iate pirihi
 & Ngari Ma Ngati Ma Ma Wa
 & haa ka hiri pea kireira Kote take
 Kote allo i haka ha & Ngara Ngaria
 oterori Maara Kati kaa teta
 Me te puka puka hua tee mai
 & pai aha kia tu allo ote Makariri
 Kote take Me te kati & pai aha
 Me te Maara ka haki Mai kia
 Maara Ma ara hae heai allo

Kotokoa

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Ka Kaitiaki

Ki te para meua
 To Mai Kaha
 Kaihaka wa

Acknowledge glad he is keeping
up correspondence with
us. The more he does
so the better and a trip
there this summer would
not be a very notice being
given before passed to the
natives - *Opotiki*.

No intention *June 2nd 1872*
to pass the roads unless the people
generally desire them
My dear Sir,

I enclose you a letter which Tamaitoha
has sent down to be forwarded. Also, two
letters to me on the subject of roads. Some
time since Metaraka I Whatakamua was in *Opotiki*,
and I had a long conversation with him. He
expressed himself to be in favor of roads, and
also said that the Mangapohatu natives would be
glad to come out and live on the coast if suc-
cessful to do so by the government. Shortly after-
wards I received the enclosed letter from him.
I may be wrong, but I am inclined to believe that
Tamaitoha is strenuously opposing the roads not-
withstanding his professions to the contrary. I agree

Every thing is at present quiet in this district.

The natives is usual at this time of year and work

Thos. Donald McKean
Napier

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of food now; they will however have their new crops in a very few weeks now. The new crops are looking remarkably well so far and there is every prospect of abundance.

I regret to say that a difficulty has arisen about the Rev. Mr. Martin's school. As I have already informed you officially the Provincial Board of Education promised £50. towards the building and £50. per annum towards Mr. Martin's salary. They have since written to say that they object to him as a teacher on account of his being a clergyman. I have replied asking them to reconsider the matter and pointing out that no religious instruction is given in the school, and also that the appointment was made by the farmers who bear the chief expense of the school. The school committee, composed of ^{various} religious denominations, & including two R. Catholics have signed a paper (which has been sent to the Board) approving of Mr. Martin as a teacher. This objection of the Board of Education has prevented my calling for tenders for the building. I trust however it may be got over.

Remain my dear Sir

Yours respectfully

Robert W. D. D. D.

Encourage in every way
the natives in following
habits of industry and
self reliance

I hope the Board
will reconsider its decision
in Mr. Martins case regard
his settlement at Apotaki
as a great benefit to
both races but always
had misgivings as to
a continuance of grant
from Provincial Council

D.L.L.

26 Dec. 1872

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