

2/1/10.

(4.)

Opatiki

June 17<sup>th</sup> 1879.

My dear Sir,

I regret to have to inform you that the behaviour of Tamaitouka of Te Waimana has been somewhat unsatisfactory of late. Some time ago a quarrel occurred between the Ngatiputoko and the Whiuera about one of the former tribe having "cursed" one of the latter's dead. Tamaitouka endeavoured to stir up this quarrel but without success. More lately he has given offence to the Ngatikuri by seriously wounding a young man who he suspected of having intercourse with one of his wives. I hope this has blown over. Suggestions were made to me by various natives, that it was my duty to try him for this offence, I did not however take any steps, fearing that any such interference might drive Tamaitouka to some deed of violence.

He and his people have been as you are aware road making under the Public Works department. He has just finished his contract, but has had

The Hon. D. McLean

L. S. S.

Wellington.

a dispute with Mr Crapp the Public Works Officer in charge about the amount due to him. They referred this to me three days ago. The sum Tamaitoko was to get was originally settled by me, he says however that Captain Surmer when at Te Wainana promised him something for some extra work; this Mr Crapp denies. On the occasion referred to Tamaitoko told me that if he was again denied by Government he would kill some European and run away and join the Waikatos. The word "again" referring to a claim he has for Militia services, forwarded by me some time since. I told him he would gain nothing by threats and have written to Capt. Surmer on the subject. Although Tamaitoko has sometimes been somewhat blunt and uncivil to me, he has never lost his temper so far before.

From information received from Heni Hakitu I fear that Tamaitoko is doing his best to cause mischief, but I do not think that he is supported by anyone at present. His people are anxious for further work on the roads, which I shall endeavour to arrange. I think that a letter from you to him thanking him for his services in road making might have a good effect.

I remain

Yours very respectfully

Herbert W. Hubert

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