

1969

Opotiki

July 10th 1878.

My dear Sir,

In accordance with your directions I send you the following particulars of occurrences since your visit to the Bay of Plenty.

As soon thereafter as possible I paid to the Whakatane natives the several sums of money which you were pleased to grant them as compensation for their losses in the late war.

At the request of Suteku and the Ngati-awa I attended a meeting at Hokoahinau, called to settle the boundary between that chief and the Ngatipuketoko, and which he brought before you and Mr Clarke at Whakatane.

I hope the question is now finally settled.

Since then I visited Te Haha and the intermediate settlements on the Coast. You will be glad to hear that the crops generally are excellent. The natives, between Omuio and Cape Runaway - Te Haha's people - have grown,

The Hon. Sir Donald McLean

H. C. G. J.

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this year, according to a return I have no less than 7,000 bushels of wheat, besides maize and other crops - The natives all along the coast appear very anxious for the mail service between here and Waipoua on which I had the honor to report to you some time since. I found the Whanapania and the Whanau-a-Ikua were again disputing as to their boundaries. These disputes have been more frequent since the late chief Te Matenga's death. Still the natives do not seem better agreed each other; some wish to refer the matter to the Land Court, and I believe they will all come over to their view before long, as some are talking of leasing to sheepfarmers -

The school at Te Kaha (which you saw I believe) is now supplied with furniture and appliances and I think will be a great success under Mr. Duffus -

At the end of last month, I inspected the schools on the Coast between here and Lauranga - I regret to say that the measles and other sickness has interfered

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any materially with the operation of the schools during the last few months - indeed a good many children - especially amongst the Arawa are said to have died from it - I did not visit the Lake Schools as I was doubtful if any of them were open - though I have since heard that one is in operation, though on account of sickness only partially so.

I regret that the new Teacher at Sausage who had given great satisfaction has resigned. I beg to submit for your consideration that the salaries of Native School Teachers are as a rule lower than those in the Provincial Schools and I fear too low to induce really good men to undertake the office -

I've sealed letters to you from the brewers are forwarded herewith - This tribe are it appears much disturbed at present, 1st about an alleged sale of land by the Ngatikohurangi at Waitaremoana and 2nd about a road which is said to be about to be made at Te Whaiti. I know nothing about the former affair and only heard incidentally the other day from Mr. Crapp that he had been surveying a road at Te Whaiti. I may mention that Se. Ahukairangi has twice written to me asking

when Mr Price, who you informed him was
a Land Purchase Agent for the district would
arrive -

I remain

Yours Sir

Yours very respectfully

Herbert W. Dubaut

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N. W. Beckett
July 10 - 1898