

ATLM-0040-24

COMPLETED

2/1/1879.

16

Opotiki July 29. 1870.

My Dear Mr McLean

On my return from Tauranga yesterday I found the "Luna" here with Napata. He has been discoursing to Whakataha and has read Awamui a lecture which will not be without effect. I never have any trouble with Awamui personally but when my back is turned he is inclined to be presuming.

On July 2<sup>o</sup> I reported that I had sent Haka-raka with a small party of Nyatiawa & Nyatipuka back to Quatakuna. They have returned to Whakataha and their report may be looked upon as very favourable, it is the first time that Europeans have come into the Unuere county, and they were kindly treated by everyone, and to use their own words no one spoke better than Te Wari. It appears that he came up from the neighbourhood of Quakitani, just after the fighting at Waikanae and is now living at Hukamui.

Copies are supplied only to facilitate private research and may not be reproduced without the permission of:

The Alexander Turnbull Library  
P.O. Box 12349  
Wellington

Tahuna Valley, his numbers including women and children are variously estimated at from 50 to 70. It is evident that he wishes to come to terms, and as I do not know much of his antecedents I would like to be informed how far I may go in trusting with him.

I am satisfied that the Arawa have quite made up their minds for peace, but they do not exactly like to come out to the Coast to be regarded as 'mokei'. They argue thus "why are the Govt not content to have us in our own country," this is of course only natural, but we must adhere to the conditions first offered to them, viz. that they should come out to the Coast to live. They say also that negotiations have been opened with them from so many quarters that they do not know which way to turn and that Hoani Paiaka has been warning them that their only course is to surrender to the Arawa. Of course there is a certain amount of jealousy among the natives employed by different people to carry letters messages to the Arawa and I believe that Hoani Paiaka has been using my letters and Francis names to deter the Arawa from going out by any other route."

Copies are supplied only to facilitate private research and may not be reproduced without the permission of:

Those working with me I can only say that  
 we have simply urged them to submit to the  
 Government by any road they thought fit. They  
 are at present holding a meeting at Keratama  
 and I have written to my brother & given instructions  
 that not to say anything to the Unweera until the  
 result of this meeting is known. On the return of  
 Rakevake and party - a kaper called Nyatimera  
 came with them to within 16 miles of Whakatare.  
 When they will await the issue of the meeting they  
 say that in any case they will not go back to  
 Keratama. L Whenua ni sent a message to  
 Napuka to build him a large house, this I think  
 is very significant.

I think that it may be considered an estab-  
 lished fact that L Kooki is making himself  
 a way to Motu (between Wairoa & Turanga)  
 I cannot however arrive at an estimate of his  
 force it may be 70 or as low as 20 men. There are  
 not more than five Whakatare out now.

The people from Turanga to Rarokohone are very  
 quiet, in fact they always are, there are no people  
 in the Island who require less looking after than  
 they do.

Copies are supplied only to facilitate  
 private research and may not be reproduced  
 without the permission of:

The Alexander Turnbull Library  
 181-183, Box 129  
 Wellington

The only question that causes me any anxiety -  
 is the telegraph extension north of Taunanga,  
 the opposition of the Pivirakau is so determined that  
 I am convinced that they are backed by a party - in  
 Waikato. I have in still in that neighbourhood and  
 has been sounding Ngaiterangi about - his chances  
 of pardon should he surrender.

We have had very severe weather which of  
 course makes every thing cheerless & stagnant -  
 I find Swindley a first rate companion and a  
 good officer, he is very well liked both by Europeans  
 & Natives.

The Wilson-Kelly faction are of course giving  
 me all the annoyance that they can, they say that  
 they must have me removed as they have an idea  
 that I use my influence with the Natives to their  
 prejudice, the truth is that I only do so as far  
 as is necessary for the suppression of their prof shops.

I remain my dear Mr McLean

Yours very truly

M. J. Mason

Nothing has been heard lately of Repia Tokitahi, the impression  
 among the Natives is that he would not - unite with the King.

Copies are supplied only to facilitate  
 private research and may not be reproduced  
 without the permission of:

The Alexander Turnbull Library  
 P.O. Box 12349  
 Wellington

21/1/49 19

Opotiki July 29.

My Dear Mr McLean

Capata has just asked me to make use of some of Apina & Popo's notes in searching for Repia & Pteris. Apina thinks that they could find him, I should like to be informed ~~how~~ what - arrangements I may make to - Repia to - induce him to come in, the return generally looks upon him as not being

Copies are supplied only to facilitate private research and may not be reproduced without the permission of:

The Alexander Turnbull Library  
P.O. Box 12349  
Wellington

implicated in any murders. I am convinced  
 in fact he is called "k-kai" but his visit - with the  
 Maori people; the people please to know about  
 of Whakataua may certainly help & also about & name  
 think him is a priest - man from my  
 the their escape from the town  
 he is much last year.

A. M. M.

Kapaka has just had a  
 long talk with Nelson Nelson  
 (who came here with Kapaka's  
 in him) allowing for a little  
 reasonable explanation, I  
 believe that way he has talked

Copies are supplied only to facilitate  
 private research and may not be reproduced  
 without the permission of:  
 The Alexander Turnbull Library  
 P.O. Box 12349  
 Wellington