

Sir

40 men }
4 Officers } Native Contingent

4 Officers }
1 Sgt } Contingent
39 Men }

1 Officer }
16 Men } Cavalry

Capt Ross }
68 Men }
2 Officers }

Capt Newland }
2 Officers }
34 Men }

I have the honor to report that I started at 10 A.M. on the morning of the 5th Oct. Force as per margin and crossed the Opatiki River for the purpose of finding the cart road said to lead to Pungu Pa while so doing we observed some Cattle & Horses belonging to the Hauhaus close to a Village burnt by us a fortnight previously and attempted to drive them in but were fired upon by the Hauhaus we immediately retreated to a slight rise exposed and advanced against the Rebels who rapidly retired to a new Pa built since our last visit on the side of a swamp and commanding the main road inland seeing every appearance of strength in the new position I placed the fire men I had in the most advantageous places and advanced to within 100 yds of the Pa partially surrounding it commenced fire and awaited reinforcements which arrived about one hour afterwards (Capt Hips with the remainder of the Native Contingent and Lieut McTherson with the Cavalry 16 in number being the first to arrive I then ordered Lt. McTherson & his Cavalry to take position on an open fern flat on our left flank to prevent reinforcements joining the Rebels from their hill Pa shortly afterwards we were joined by Captains Ross & Newlands Companies of Bushrangers force as per margin with whose aid we completely invested the Pa the fire at this time was very heavy several men being wounded & we killed the Rebels from their position before mentioned in our next attempt to turn our position and rescue their comrades in the Pa but were charged by the Cavalry under Lieut McTherson who completely routed them killing 4 men and severely wounding one whom they brought in prisoner I then considered it my duty to send an orderly to you with a note informing you of what had taken place and asking you to send me what men you could spare as I wished to have no chance of preventing their escape from the Pa and also to have sufficient force to resist any more attempt at rescue shortly after this Major Staff arrived and took command among the Rebels killed were several men of note recognized by Hori Kawaikawa a man of the Ngatiapa tribe who lately took the oath of allegiance at this place their names are Tama, Tamoti, Akurati, three High Priests of the Hauhaus Karama who had red crosses on their breasts & Huiamata Kahapua the latter was the man who placed the rope round the Pa's last Volcanic neck and afterwards assisted to cut his head off the conduct of the Cavalry under Lieut McTherson was splendid particularly that of Sgt Major Kerck & Private Major Duff nothing could have been better timed or more effective than their charge previous to our arrival 3 of the Hauhaus in the Pa were killed by our fire the behaviour of the whole force was admirable

To Major Bressy }
Comd'g Lt Force }
Opatiki }

I have the honor to remain
Sir
Your most obedt servant
Wm. Ross Lt Colonel 1st Major
Comd'g Native Contingent

FTLM-0062-24

COMPLETED

Opotiki

October 5th 1865

Sir

40 men } Native
4 officers } Conty.

I have the honor to report that I started at 10 a.m. on the morning of the 5 Oct Force as per margin and crossed the Opotiki River for the purpose of finding the cart road said to lead to Kereopas Pa while so doing we observed some Cattle & Horses belonging to the Hauhaus close to a Village burnt by us a fortnight previously and attempted to drive them in but were fired upon by the Hauhaus we immediately retreated to a slight rise reformed and advanced against the Rebels who rapidly retired to a new Pa built since our last visit on the side of a swamp and commanding the main road inland seeing every appearance of strength in the new position I placed the few men I had in the most advantageous places and advanced to within 100 yds of the Pa partially surrounding it commenced Fire and awaited reinforcements which arrived about one hour afterwards (Capt Kepa with the remainder of the Native Contingent and Lieut. Pheasant with the Cavalry 16 in number being the first to arrive I then ordered Lieut. Pheasant to lead his Cavalry

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4 officers } Native
 1 Sergt } Contingent
 9 Privates }
 1 officer } Cavalry
 5 men }
 Capt Ross }
 8 men }
 2 officers }
 Capt Newland }
 2 officers }
 4 men }

to take position on an open Fern flat on our left Flank to prevent reinforcements joining the Rebels from their hill Pa shortly afterwards we were joined by Captains Ross & Newlands Companies of Bushrangers force as per margin with whose aid we completely invested the Pa the fire at this time was very heavy several men being wounded & one Killed the Rebels from their position before mentioned in our rear attempted to turn our position and rescue their comrades in the Pa but were charged by the Cavalry under Lieut McPherson who completely routed them killing 9 men and severely wounding one whom they brought in prisoner I then considered it my duty to send an orderly to you with a note informing you of what had taken place and asking you to send me what men you could spare as I wished to lose no chance of preventing their escape from the Pa and also to have sufficient force to resist any more attempts at rescue shortly after this Major Stapp arrived and took command among the Rebels killed were several men of note recognised by Hori Koroa a man of the Ngatiapa Tribe who lately took the oath of allegiance at this place their names are Pauro, Timoti, Akuata,

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three High Priests of the Hau hau Karakia who had red crosses on their Breast & Heremita Kahuparea the latter was the man who placed the rope round the Revd. Mr. Volckners neck and afterwards assisted to cut his head off The conduct of the Cavalry under Lieut McPherson was splendid particularly that of Sergt Major Kimick & Farner Major Duff nothing could have been better timed or more effective than their charge previous to our arrival 3 of the Hauhaus in the Pa were killed by our fire the behaviour of the whole force was admirable.

I have the honor to remain

Sir

Your most obedt Servant

(Sd) THOS. McDONNELL Bt Major

Comng Native Contingent

To Major Brassey

Comng Ex Force

Opotiki

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The Alexander Turnbull Library
P.O. Box 12349
Wellington

Oportiki
12th Oct 1868

Dear Sir

In consequence of the information received on the afternoon of the 10 instant from a native woman from Whakatare to the effect that the Tribes Nga ti Pukeko Ngatiaona and Whanan Apanie expected to be attacked by the friendly Arawas the Tribes before named took the oath of alliance a few days since, and had already built numerous Wharks & shot-batter & houses belonging to them & then by your order proceeded in the Huntress to that District accompanied by Mr Inari R. Esq. 3 Arawas Chiefs & Hope Apanie & Hepa Tamahangi of the Whanan Apanie 28 men of the native party and Kupapas and landed the next morning we were met at the point by Tahamea who accompanied us out our expedition to Hoko Hoko on the coast Tahamea led the way to the Hespero Pa the natives came out to meet us we entered the talk began by my telling Hori Kawakura and others that upon the receipt of his letter we marched to his assistance but that I believe it to be a false alarm I also thought it as well to show him the benefit he now received from his people becoming Queen men & that they could call for assistance when required the Arawa Chiefs who accompanied us appeared to be highly annoyed that these Tribes should think that they were likely to be attacked by the Arawas when it was well known they had submitted to the Queen authority after a few more speeches the talk ended and I rose to walk about I was followed at a short distance by Hori Kawakura and Hepa Tamahangi chief of the Whanan Apanie they drew one on one side and told me not to be in a hurry to leave as they expected Hoki Inate Te Whi Haraki one of the chief men who had to do with the murder of J. Tuloin and companions so I returned to the Pa where I found Inate Kingi holding forth as usual the burden of his song of self glorification and found Mr Inari and the Arawas had left for Awa Te Atua in a few minutes Te Whi appeared in looks of amazement I shall not easily forget upon seeing me but I had no time to speak to him for loud firing was heard on the other side of the river and some 70 Arawas were seen approaching I sent some of my men across the river to meet them with a letter explaining that these Tribes were under our protection and warning them of the consequence if they persisted in their intentions of fighting they came over in a body to see me and after a war dance on both sides the Arawas agreed to accept the invitations of the Chiefs of the Pa and remained there all night as it was growing dusk I went to visit Te Whi was and told him they must come with me he said at first he would not but as I had no time to waste I told him we must give him strong reasons to believe he would have to do as he was told the result was he came the Arawas not knowing who I had with me called me to them and told me Te Whi was in the neighbourhood and that they would return again and again until the man was either killed or taken prisoner the astonishment was very great when I told them I had him and intended to take him to Oportiki I then left in the Huntress for

Received for the facilitator
 12th Oct 1868
 Oportiki

this place desiring the men of the Native Contingent and Kupaas to stay until morning to see that the Maori attempted no mischief against Apurini since we arrived. The following morning at this place I have also to mention that a chief named Le Wepika asked me what terms the Whakawhaka and Arimera Tribes portion of which were in the Pa we took the other day might expect, as I had no instructions I replied "unconditional surrender" but that if they gave up the man Kerepa and any other implicated in the murders of Mr Volckers Mr James Furlong and companion Abjure their Heathen Religion and become Queen Men that no more land would be taken from them and that they would not be molested in any way whatever. Le Wepika's reply was that he was sure they would consent to these terms as messengers had arrived the day after the fight telling them that they had lost 40 men killed and several severely wounded he asked and obtained permission from me to visit the before mentioned Tribes and see what he could do I allowed him two days to bring back an answer as they were some distance off.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours &c &c &c
Thos M^r Donnan
Rt Insp^t Com^d Native Cont^y

To
The Hon the Minister
for Civil Defence
Wellington

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Opotiki

12th Oct 1865

Sir

In consequence of the information received on the afternoon of the 10 instant from a Native woman from Whakatane to the effect that the Tribes Ngati Pukeko Ngatiawa and Whanau Apamis expected to be attacked by the friendly Arawas the Tribes before named took the oath of allegiance a few days since, and had already built numerous Whares & shot Cattle & Horses belonging to them I then by your order proceeded in the Huntress to that District accompanied by Mr. Mair R.M. 5 Arawa Chiefs & Hope Apaihi & Kepa Tamarangi of the Whanau Apamiai 25 men of the Native Contingent and Kupapas and landed the next morning We were met at the point by Tahawera who accompanied us on our expedition to Moko Moko on the coast Tahawera led the way to the Kopeopeo Pa the natives came out to meet us we entered & the talk began by my telling Hori Kawakura and others that upon the receipt of his letters we marched to his assistance but that I believe it to be a false alarm I also thought it as well to show him the benefit he now received from his people becoming Queen men viz that they could call for assistance when required the Arawa Chiefs who accompanied us appeared to be highly annoyed that these Tribes should think that they were likely to be attacked by the Arawas when it was well known they had submitted to the Queen authority after a few more speeches the talk ended and I rose

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to walk about I was followed at a short distance by Hori Kawakura and Kepa Tamahangi chief of the Whanau *Ahanui* they drew me on one side and told me not to be in a hurry to leave as they expected Hoki Mate Te Wahi Karaki one of the chief men who had to do with the murder of J. Fulloon and companions. So I returned to the Pa where I found Mete Kingi holding forth as usual the burden of his song of self Glorification and found Mr. Mair and the Arawas had left for Awa ta Otua in a few minutes Te Wahi appeared his look of amazement I shall not easily forget upon seeing me but I had no time to speak to him for loud firing was heard on the other side of the river and some 70 Arawas were seen approaching I sent some of my men across the river to meet them with a letter explaining that these tribes were under our protection and warning them of the consequence if they persisted in their intention of fighting they came over in a body to see me and after a War Dance on both sides the Arawas agreed to accept the invitation of the Chiefs of the Pa and remained there all night as it was growing dusk I went to were (sic) Te Wahi was and told him he must come with me he said at first he would not but as I had no time to wait I told him he must and gave him strong reasons to believe he would have to do as he was told the result was he came the Arawas not knowing who I had with me called me to them and told me Te Wahi was in the neighbourhood and that they would return again and again until this man was either killed or taken prisoner the astonishment was very great when I told them I had him and

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intended to take him to Opotiki I then left in the Huntress for this place desiring the men of the Native Contingent and Kupapas to stay until morning to see that the Arawas attempted no mischief against Apamis men we arrived the following morning at this place I have also to mention that a Chief named Te Wepiha asked me what terms the Whakatohua and Uriwera Tribes portions of which were in the Pa we took the other day might expect, as I had no instructions I replied "unconditional surrender" but that if they gave up the man Kereopa and any other implicated in the murder of Mr. Volckner Mr. James Fulloon and companions Adjure their Hauhau Religion and become Queen men that no more land would be taken from them and that they would not be molested in any way whatever Te Wepihas reply was that he was sure they would consent to these terms as messengers had arrived the day after the fight telling them that they had lost 40 men killed and several severely wounded he asked and obtained permission from me to visit the before mentioned Tribes and see what he could do I allowed him two days to bring back an answer as they were some distance off

I have the honour to be

Sir

Yours &c &c &c

(Sgd.) THOS. McDONNELL

Bt Major Comng Native Conty

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To The Hon the Minister
for Col Defence
Wellington

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