No. 96

Militia & Volunteer Orderly Room Wanganui 16 Feb 1866.

Sir

In reply to your letter of this days date applying for leave of absence to proceed to Auckland on account of ill health.

I have much pleasure in granting you leave.

With regard to the latter portion of your letter applying for a passage to be provided for you in the S.S. Storm Bird for the purpose of recruiting your health which has been injured from a wound received in the field I will do so pending the approval of the Honble The Defence Minister.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Edward Mertai. Lt. Col.

Comdt Was James

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

The Alexander Turnbull Library P.O. Eox 12349 Wellington

Major McDonnell Condg. Native Contingent

Wanganui