

Wellington. Feby. 27, 1866

My dear McDonnell,

I am sorry you did not get yr. Lt. Colonelcy, but I fancy you won't remain Major long. I shall do what I can to obtain land for the Captain: as soon as Haultain returns. You had better see him. I have asked yr. Brother to get Atkinson to put his promise in writing. They are committing a mistake in sending the Native Contingent to Phipiriki ? instead of allowing them to join Butler at Nukumaru ? as the General wished. The Rebels there ought not to have been allowed a moment's breathing time. The Governor intends marching from Tauranga to Taupo, & thence to the West Coast. The General has in his despatches spoken in the highest terms of the services of yourself & Brother, but unfortunately the Imperial Gov. almost ignores Colonial Forces. Will you send me Mrs. book, & let me hear from you as often as you have time. I need not say you can always depend upon my doing what I can to promote your views

Yours ever faithfully

J. E. FEATHERSTON

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