

No. 27.

THE GOVERNOR TO COLONEL GOLD.

Auckland, 7th July, 1860.

SIR,—

I have the honor to inform you that at my request Commodore Loring, C. B., takes some Marines and Sailors from H.M.S. "Iris" and H.M.C.S. "Victoria," and goes in the "Cordelia" to Taranaki. On arriving there the Commodore will offer his services and those of 180 men for any operation you may desire to undertake without delay. The late reverse has had a very unfavourable influence on our relations with the Maoris generally, and if you see the means of making a combined attack and striking an effective blow, it would be very desirable.

Should this not be possible (of which I do not offer any opinion) I have to request you to ask Commodore Loring to return. * * *

I have, &c.,

T. GORE BROWNE.

The Honourable Colonel Gold,
Commanding H.M.'s Forces in New Zealand.

No. 28.

THE GOVERNOR TO COLONEL GOLD.

Government House,

Auckland, 12th July, 1860.

SIR,—

The assurances of friendship given by influential Chiefs assembled at the Conference in Auckland have enabled me to request Commodore Loring, C. B., to return to New Plymouth.

* * * * Believing that some decided and indisputable success at Taranaki is absolutely necessary to prevent other tribes from joining those now in arms against us, I have been most anxious to place every available man at your disposal and have incurred some risk in so doing—you will now have upwards of 2000 men of all ranks, and a large force of Artillery under your command, and you will I trust be able to strike a vigorous and effective blow on the rebel forces either on the North or South of New Plymouth.

In urging this upon you, I beg you not to suppose that I desire you to exceed the bounds of prudence or to forget that another reverse would be attended with disastrous consequences.

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I have, &c.,

T. GORE BROWNE.

The Honourable Colonel Gold,
Commanding H.M.'s Forces in New Zealand.

No. 29.

THE GOVERNOR TO MAJOR-GENERAL PRATT, C.B.

Government House,

Auckland, 27th July, 1860.

SIR,—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter, dated Melbourne, 15th July, and thank you very much for your immediate attention to my request.

It may be important to you to know that the main strength of the Natives supposed to be disaffected to H.M.'s Government, is in the tribes dwelling near the Waikato, and in the centre of the Island. It is from thence that the Chief Wm. King has received support and expects more, and that a descent upon Auckland has been contemplated.

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I took advantage of the temporary security to request Commodore Loring, C. B., to go to Taranaki, with all the men he could collect.

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By that opportunity I wrote also to Colonel Gold as follows:— * * * "Believing that some decided and indisputable success at Taranaki is absolutely necessary to prevent other Tribes from joining those now in arms against us, I have been most anxious to place every available man at your disposal, and have incurred some risk in so doing. You will now have upwards of two thousand men of all ranks and a large force of Artillery under your command, and you will, I trust, be able to strike a vigorous and effective blow on the rebel Forces either on the North or South of New Plymouth."

"In urging this upon you I beg you not to suppose that I desire you to exceed the bounds of prudence." * * * I do not of course presume to offer any advice on Military operations, but I trust you will permit me to say that, though some unequivocal success is absolutely required, * * * and that delay will add to the strength and confidence of our opponents, and weaken both the number and faith of our adherents, no precaution which can be adopted to ensure victory and avoid surprise ought to be neglected.