

REPORTS

RELATIVE TO

NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE WITH THE NGAITERANGI TRIBE.

Return to an Order of the House of Representatives, of Wednesday, the 4th August, 1869.

That there be laid on the Table of this House—"Copies of Reports furnished in July, 1864, by Mr. Mackay, Civil Commissioner, and by Mr. Baker, Interpreter to the Forces at Tauranga, respecting the negotiations for peace with the Ngaiterangi Tribe."

(*Mr. Hall.*)

WELLINGTON.

—
1869.

REPORTS RELATIVE TO NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE WITH THE NGAITERANGI TRIBE.

No. 1.

Mr. J. MACKAY to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY, Native Department.

SIR,—

Auckland, 27th July, 1864.

With reference to the conversations which I had the honor to have with you on the 19th instant, when I expressed my intention to proceed to Tauranga for the purpose of ascertaining the particulars of a report which had been conveyed to me, that a number of Natives from the Thames District, headed by the chief Taraia Ngakuti, had been seen in arms near Tauranga; also to look after any other matters concerning my district; to which you were pleased to give your consent in the following words: "You can go anywhere that you think you can do any good,"—I have now the honor to report on my proceedings as follows:—

I started forthwith for Tauranga in the Colonial gunboat "Sandfly," Captain Marks, and arrived there about noon on the 20th instant. Mr. Baker, Resident Magistrate, and Rawiri te Ua, Native Assessor, accompanied me. On landing there Mr. Baker proceeded with me to the residence of Colonel Greer, the Officer Commanding Her Majesty's forces in that district. After Mr. Baker reporting himself, and introducing me, Colonel Greer informed us of the intention of several of the rebels to surrender their arms and return to their allegiance. He also mentioned that Mr. Rice was absent among the rebels, and expressed some anxiety about him, as he was to have sent a messenger before that time. He then requested Mr. Baker to accompany a party of the Defence Force as far as the Wairoa in search of Mr. Rice; I, having been supplied with a horse, joined the expedition. Shortly after leaving the camp a mounted orderly recalled Mr. Baker, who returned forthwith. The expedition proceeded to the Wairoa. Soon after arriving there we perceived Mr. Rice and a party of three Natives (Wi Patene, Hohepa, and Maihi Pohepohe) on the north bank of that river. We then retraced our steps, and he shortly after overtook us. He reported having visited a part of my district, and said the Natives were coming into camp to surrender on Saturday (23rd).

On returning to camp, I, with Mr. Baker, proceeded to the Native house there. Hamiora Tue, a Native Assessor, and Raniera, a Warden, informed us that Taraia and his party of Thames Natives had been at a place named Waimapu, near to Te Ranga, but had retreated on seeing a party of the Defence Force in that neighbourhood. They could not, however, furnish me with any particulars as to the names of the Natives who composed the party. They then volunteered the information that the peace movement among the Natives had originated from the "Queen's side," and it was not in their opinion a satisfactory proceeding.

On 22nd July, Retemana, Wi Parera, and Tamati Mauao, three friendly chiefs of the tribe Ngaite-rangi, arrived in camp, on a visit to Mr. Baker. These men expressed their disapprobation of the manner in which the proposals of peace had been made. They stated that when Mr. Rice and party were visiting Hori Tupaea's people in the neighbourhood of the Wairoa, they met with considerable discouragement, those Natives refusing to make peace; on which Hohepa, one of Mr. Rice's party, observed, that "if they did not agree to make peace, and Mr. Rice had to leave, they (Mr. Rice and party) would return to the soldiers who were in position at Wairoa." They then began to move away, when the people of Tupaea (Nga Tamariki o Tupaea) being afraid of an attack, followed them and expressed a wish to surrender. Some people of the Ngatihaua and Ngatimaru, who desired to surrender, were informed "that they were to go to their own districts and surrender—this peacemaking was for Ngaite-rangi" (that the Ngaite-rangi alone were to surrender at Tauranga).

The rebel chief Te Amohau, having arrived in camp, I, accompanied by Mr. Baker, went to see him. In the course of conversation, Te Amohau stated that he was not aware that when rebels surrendered they gave up their lands to the Governor. He further stated that the first proposals to make peace were sent in a letter addressed to Enoka. This letter was written at Matapihi, two days after the battle of Te Ranga. There was no signature attached to it. It was as follows:—

"Kia Enoka,—Tena koe ka nui taku aroha kia koutou ko tangata. Ehoa ma me aroha koutou kia Te Kuini, me tuku mai etahi pu, me etahi paura, he tohu aroha kia ia." Meaning: To Enoka,—Salutations to you. Great is my love to you, and to your people. Friends, do you be loving towards the Queen by giving up some guns and some powder, as a mark of attachment to her.

Enoka and party did not consent. They said if Mr. Rice came up with Maoris they would kill them all. (*Vide* speech of Hori Ngatai annexed.)

The letter was passed on from Enoka to Te Amohau's people. They supposed at first it had been written by Hamiora Tue, but Te Amohau compared it to a letter in his possession written by Wi Patene, and the writing corresponded with it.

Mr. Rice did not visit Te Amohau's party. He went to Enoka in despite of his warning to the contrary. Other persons went to the Northern Natives (Wairoa people). Mr. Rice afterwards went to them. Te Amohau observed that they were "he mea tiki ehara i te mea kuha noa mai"—invited, did not enter of themselves. I explained the terms on which surrender would be received, and promised that when the Maoris came to the meeting the whole question would be put plainly before them.

July 23rd, the day fixed for the surrender of the rebels, was very wet. On seeing Mr. Rice, I expressed my dissatisfaction at the manner in which the peace proposals or negotiations had been conducted. Some discussion ensued between Mr. Rice, Mr. Baker, and myself, about the proper course to be pursued in taking the surrender of rebels. Mr. Rice then requested me to go with him to see Colonel Greer. I objected, as I had not been asked for my advice. Mr. Rice pressed me to do it. I then consented, thinking it advisable that Colonel Greer should be informed of the intelligence conveyed by Te Amohau and others. Feeling it to be an imperative duty to see that the Government were not in any way compromised, or the Natives deceived into a peace, and considering also that as many of the Natives belonged to my district, it was my duty to see that they distinctly understood the terms on which they surrendered, or I might hereafter be blamed for not having interfered in their behalf, I then accompanied Mr. Rice to the residence of Colonel Greer.

After some unimportant conversation, Colonel Greer asked me whether I thought the present peace movement a good one? I replied, "It might be good if it rested on a good foundation. The Natives did not all appear to understand that the lands of rebels were forfeited, and I thought it should be explained to them." Colonel Greer said he thought they understood it. I recommended that the Proclamation of the 2nd February, 1864, No. 8, should be read to them and thoroughly explained before any surrender was accepted. Also, that each man should make a declaration of allegiance and receive a certificate. Colonel Greer objected to this course, and after a lengthened argument on both sides, and finding that Colonel Greer had plans of his own which he adhered to, and expressed himself about with great hauteur—also, that he treated my suggestions with contempt—I retired from the discussion not any better satisfied about the affair being conducted in a proper manner. Mr. Rice asked me to accompany him to Otumoetai, to explain the terms of surrender to the Natives there. I agreed to do so. Colonel Greer came to Mr. Rice's tent and asked me to permit Mr. Rice to go alone. I consented.

Next day, Sunday, 24th July, found that Mr. Rice had not been in his tent all night. For the first time heard that, on his return from Otumoetai, he had crossed over Tauranga Harbour to visit some Natives there. From Mr. Rice's statement, that all the Natives he had seen knew the terms, I did not imagine it necessary for him to go there, but supposed the principal object of his visit to Otumoetai was to see the Ngare and others of Te Amohau's people, whom he had not previously met.

Being desirous of hearing something more about the object of the visit of Taraia's people at Tauranga, and also wishing to judge a little for myself what the Natives thought of the war, &c., I requested Mr. Baker and Rawiri te Ua to accompany me to the friendly Natives' pa at Matapihi, where two Queen's flags were hoisted on high flag-staffs.

We first went to the house of a settler named Black, well acquainted with the Natives. He informed us that at the commencement of the war Hori Ngatai and Tupaea had taken seventy kegs of powder from Mayor and Flat Islands. The conversation having turned to the Thames Natives, Mr. Black informed me he knew the most of the men who had been with Taraia and Hira. I asked him if he would at his leisure oblige me by making a list of them, which he very kindly promised to do.

Thence we went to the Matapihi Pa, where we found several Natives. No rebels were pointed out to me. I saw some twenty Natives, who it was said had previously surrendered. I did not however make very particular inquiry, as I was informed that the main body of rebels were at a pa named Hairini, about two miles above Mangatapu. One of the Natives asked Mr. Baker whether he had a narrow escape of being shot at Te Ranga? Mr. Baker answered "Yes, a rifle bullet went close by my head." The Native observed, "I fired at you." Another Native also said he had fired at Mr. Baker, supposing him to be the Colonel, from the fact of his being mounted on the only white horse there. It was also stated that "If there had been more daylight at the Gate Pa the Maoris would have killed the whole of the Pakehas. Night favoured the Pakeha." I replied, "It is a great pity you ran away in the night, for if you had remained till next morning you would have had plenty of daylight to fight in." The Native rejoined, "Yes, but our earthworks had given way." I said, "Then of what use would the daylight have been to you?"

We then left the house, and found that Major Colville, Adjutant Covey, and another officer (name unknown to me), were in the pa having a friendly chat with the Natives.

Myself and party then left, and I proposed that we should go to Mangatapu, as I felt a little curiosity to ascertain whether the Natives there would launch out in the same strain as their fellows at Matapihi. We agreed not to go near the Hairini Pa, as we did not wish to interfere with the rebels.

On arriving at Mangatapu we found Mr. Rice had just arrived, and was busily engaged in talking to some of Maihi Pohepohe's people, who had recently come in. A woman told Mr. Baker (who was sitting beside me on a canoe) that it was not at all certain that these Natives would go into the camp to surrender (*kei te huri i te whakaaro*). Here again we found three officers (names unknown to me) who were trying a canoe which they had proposed to purchase from the Natives.

Either Mr. Rice or Wi Patene (I did not notice which, as my attention was directed another way at the time) read Colonel Grey's form of agreement. Shortly after I saw Wi Patene with the document in his hand commencing to harangue the Natives to the following effect:—

Listen—All Ngaiterangi have signed this paper, and you all ought to do the same. They have given up the *mana* (sovereignty, not possession) of the land to the Governor, and have signed their names without any discussion about the land (*kahore i hamumu te waha mo te whenua*). Some desultory conversation ensued, and the Natives evidently did not seem to properly understand the question. I therefore stepped up to Mr. Rice and said, "Why, they do not understand it, and that fellow Patene is misleading them." Mr. Rice replied, "I do not know whether they will surrender or not; I have had no previous communication with these people." Seeing the affair was not properly explained, and desiring to set it in a proper light before them, I proceeded to say—They were not compelled to surrender unless they pleased. There were two roads open for them to select: if they desired peace, well; if they preferred war, the thought was for them. (*Erua nga ara, ma Koutou e pai ki te kohounga rongo, e pai ana. Ki te pai koutou ki te whawhai kia koutou te whakaaro.*)

I then was interrupted by Wi Patene, who tried to pervert what I had said as follows: There are two roads: if you like peace, well; if not, go and fight. The rebel Natives seemed rather anxious

for an explanation, but Mr. Rice and his companions, Hohepa, Wi Patene, and Mahi, appeared to have a strong objection to any further light being thrown on the subject—Mr. Rice calling out, “Me korero ki te papa apopo” (Let the talk be at the camp to-morrow), well knowing that Colonel Greer intended to have no discussion there. I, in what I considered to be the exercise of my duty as an officer of the Government, attempted to explain things properly, and said, “It was optional with the Natives whether they surrendered or not. The Governor did not ask them to do so. (Kia te tangata ano tona hiahia me tona whakaaro. To the man was the desire or thought.) Wi Patene said, “Na te Kawana te kupu ki au kia houhia te rongu.”* I said, “It is false, the Governor never told me, Mr. Rice, you, or any other man, to propose peace.” He then fenced the question by saying, “I penei ta te Kawana kupu e hiahia ana ia, kia ora aua tamaraki” (These were the words of the Governor: he desired his children to live). I said, “Truly, but he does not ask them to make peace. The Governor is willing to make peace, but the offer to make it must come from the Natives.” Wi Patene and others attempted to stop me again, and succeeded in doing so for a time. Hohepa was very abusive, repeating the words, “Tangata kuare” (ignorant man), several times.

I said after the fighting at Waikato, some Natives being tired of the war wished to return to their allegiance. The Governor then pointed out a road for them; which was, that if a Native wished to return to the Queen's side, he must deliver up his arms and ammunition to a Magistrate or to a Commanding Officer, and sign a declaration of allegiance to the Queen and agree to obey her laws. That his land was forfeited, and it was for the Governor to return to him sufficient for purposes of cultivation. The Maoris were informed at the commencement of the war that those who remained faithful to the Queen would be protected in their persons, goods, and lands, but the lands of rebels would be confiscated; therefore, when they went into the war they did so knowing the consequences.

Maihi Pohepohe said, “Do not say this peace is not the Governor's.” “He Kawanatanga ahau, naku te whakaaro kia kumea te ivi i te mate.” (I am a Government man. Mine was the thought to draw the tribe from death.) Maihi told Mr. Baker that several Natives wished to leave Tauranga and be placed on one of the islands where oranges, kumera, cocoanuts, &c., grow almost spontaneously, and where no Pakeha will ever be likely to settle.

A Mr. Insley, living at Mangatapu, informed me that he believed the Natives were of opinion that the whole of the land, or nearly all of it, would be given back to them.

We returned to the camp. In the evening, Colonel Greer sent for Mr. Baker, and requested him to give him his ideas of the proper course to pursue in the surrender of rebels. It was arranged that Mr. Baker should give the subject his consideration during the night, and give Colonel Greer an answer in the morning.

On Monday morning, 25th July, Mr. Baker wrote a note to Colonel Greer, in accordance with his request of the previous evening. Whilst he was employed copying this, I, seeing the Natives assembled in front of the house occupied by Colonel Greer, went up to the gate and was refused admittance, on the ground that I must be passed in by Mr. Rice. Mr. Rice not happening to see me, being engaged, and not feeling particularly inclined to be beholden to a junior officer for admittance to a place where I considered myself entitled to enter *ex officio*, and the Natives of my own district watching and doubtless wondering why I was refused admittance when other civilians, as Messrs. Black, Shepherd, Warbrick, and others were standing inside the enclosure, I therefore turned away. About half-way to the tent I met Mr. Baker, and informed him that I had been refused admittance. Mr. Baker told Mr. Rice, but no message was sent to me. Some time afterwards I walked up again, and stood near to the gate talking with Dr. Connell and Captain Marks. Mr. Rice came out and asked why I had not come in. I replied, “Because I was refused admittance.” Mr. Rice then returned to Colonel Greer, and Adjutant Covey came and said, “You can go in.” I then went inside. I was then told by Adjutant Covey that I would not be allowed to interfere. I answered, “I do not want to interfere, and wish to know why I was refused admittance unless passed in by my junior officer.” He replied, “Colonel Greer has a right to admit whom he pleases to his own place.” I said, “I imagined the grounds were public on this occasion.” I did not interfere in the proceedings in any way whatever. I took a few notes of Natives, arms, &c., for future use. I did not see any declarations taken. I noticed two or three Natives sign the agreement and declaration, which was not read over to them previous to their signing it. I did not observe any one attesting their signatures. About twelve Natives, the names of whom appeared on that document, were called, but did not answer. After all the arms had been given up—that is, all the arms the Natives brought with them—and a large number of these Natives had accounted for the absence of weapons by saying they left them at the Gate Pa, Colonel Greer, addressing Mr. Rice, said:—“Tell the Natives I have perfect faith in their good intentions, now that they have laid down their arms. They are brave men, and I have perfect confidence in them. I shall report the proceedings to the Governor, and no person shall interfere with them until I hear from the Governor.”

Mr. Rice proceeded to interpret this speech, but he spoke so low that from where I was standing, at a distance of about six yards from him, I could not hear the commencement of his interpretation. Mr. Baker moved forward and said, “Let us go closer to hear what he says.” I did so, and was followed by Rawiri te Ua. I heard, “Koutou ki te korero o tetahi tangata ahakoa ki tana tangata no te Kawanatanga ia, kaua e whakarongo ki ana korero;” meaning—“You, to the talk of any person, although that person may say he is a Government officer, do not listen to what he says.” I considered the latter part of Colonel Greer's speech as uncalled for; and Mr. Rice's interpretation of it, whether arising from incompetency or otherwise, as being of a very mischievous tendency, and calculated to degrade the civil servants of the Government in the eyes of the Natives.

Rawiri te Ua heard Mr. Rice's words, and I have the honor to enclose his version of them, with a translation made by Mr. Monro.

Enoka then proceeded to make a speech, which consisted principally of a demand to see the Governor face to face, with an allusion to the Ngaiterangi having been drawn into the war by Waikato, and an assertion that some of Ngaiterangi had hidden their guns, which was highly probable.

The meeting then adjourned to afford an opportunity for taking refreshments. I did not return to

* Meaning, the Governor told us to make peace.

it, knowing that the business was almost concluded, and without the slightest prospect of the Natives then either making legal declarations or receiving certificates. I deemed it to be a duty I owed to the Natives of my own district to write a letter to Colonel Greer, enclosing a copy of each form. The following is a copy of the letter:—

SIR,—

Tauranga, 25th July, 1864.

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of the form of declaration of allegiance, which should be made by Natives when they surrender their arms; also, a copy of the certificate which should be given to every Native who makes such declaration. It is my intention to take the declarations and issue certificates immediately to all Natives belonging to my district (Waihou) who have surrendered at Tauranga; that is, if you do not cause it to be done by Mr. Baker, or by some other duly authorized person.

To Colonel Greer,
Commanding H.M. Forces, Tauranga

I have, &c.,
JAMES MACKAY, jun.

An answer was brought by Adjutant Covey, "That the Colonel would not permit me to visit the Natives." I said, "I should go to them if I liked, and considered it my duty." I asked for a written answer to my communication.

At 3.35 p.m. Mr. Baker told me I was placed under arrest, and was not to go more than 100 yards from my tent, and if I did not walk up there I should be marched up.

I heard about the same time from Mr. Warbrick that the Colonel had forbidden even the settlers then in camp, who resided on the opposite side of the harbour, to return to their homes; if they were not told so in words, the result was the same. An order was issued that no person should cross the harbour; a most unwarrantable proceeding, and a very unjustifiable interference with the liberty of the subject.

I went up to the tent, and at 3.40 p.m. Adjutant Covey, a sergeant-major, and file of men, with rifles and fixed bayonets, placed me under arrest; Adjutant Covey read the order. I demanded to be informed what offence I was charged with having committed. He answered, he believed for saying "I would go to the Natives when the Colonel ordered the contrary." I said, "Very well, you can tell the Colonel I shall enter an action in the Supreme Court against him for illegally imprisoning me."

On Tuesday, 26th July, 1864, I wrote to Colonel Greer as follows:—

Memorandum of request made to the Officer Commanding the Troops at Tauranga.

1st, I request to be furnished with a certified copy of the order for my arrest. 2nd, I request to be furnished with a written statement of the particulars of the offence (if any) alleged to have been committed by me, with reference to the Law, Statute, Act, Ordinance, or Regulation under which I, a Civil officer of the Government, have been deprived of my liberty, and prevented from executing my duty. 3rd, I desire to be informed for what further period I am to be kept in confinement, to the detriment of the public service. 4th, I further request that all communications shall be made in writing.

26th July, 1864.

JAMES MACKAY, junr.

At 12.20 p.m. I received a letter from Adjutant Covey, by direction of Colonel Greer, in answer to my communication of the same date, of which the following is a copy:—

SIR,—

Camp, Te Papa, Tauranga, 26th July, 1864.

I am directed by Colonel Greer, commanding the Tauranga District, to inform you that while you remain in the camp under his command, that you will not be entitled to go more than 100 yards from your tent.

The "Sandfly" will sail for Auckland this evening. You can take that opportunity of leaving the camp. I will during the day inform you at what hour I will be at liberty to see you on board.

With regard to your second query, it has come to the knowledge of the Commanding Officer that you have, contrary to his orders, and to your own promise not to interfere with the Natives in this district, been visiting and tampering with the enemy then in arms in the neighbourhood of his camp; and further, that you have notified your intention again to interfere with them in opposition to the Commanding Officer's orders, and although well knowing his promise to the Natives that they should not be meddled with, until His Excellency the Governor's decision regarding them should be known.

Your confinement to a certain portion of the camp is the necessary consequence. All further explanation will be given to the proper authorities.

The Commanding Officer declines to have any further correspondence with you.

I have, &c.,

To James Mackay, jun., Esq., R.M.,
Civil Commissioner, &c., &c.

CHARLES COVEY,
Lieut., Adjutant 68th Light Infantry, and
Adjutant Tauranga District.

(Received at 3.45 p.m., No. 119.)

SIR,—

Camp, Te Papa, Tauranga, 26th July, 1864.

With reference to my former letter of this date, I have the honor by order to inform you that I shall be at your quarters at or about 4.30 p.m. to-day, to see you on board the "Sandfly," if you are desirous of availing yourself of that opportunity of leaving the camp.

James Mackay, jun., Esq., R.M.,
Civil Commissioner.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES COVEY, Lieut., &c.

I was allowed to go on board the "Sandfly" at 4.45 p.m., after being twenty-five hours under arrest.

I have the honor to enclose herewith an extract and copy of speeches made by Hori Ngatai and Penetaka respectively, as taken down by Mr. Baker. These of themselves, without the statements of Te Amohau, Wi Parera, Wi Patene and others, are a strong proof that pressure of various kinds has been brought to bear upon the Natives to bring about a peace. Much as a speedy termination of the war is to be wished for, and much as I would personally rejoice in a lasting peace, I cannot view

the whole proceedings of Colonel Greer and Mr. Rice at Tauranga as being otherwise than premature, and to say the least indiscreet, if not discreditable to the Colony at large. It might have been imagined, from the careful manner in which Mr. Baker and myself (who have both had some considerable experience in Native affairs) were excluded from any participation in the negotiations, or from any knowledge of the Commanding Officer's plans, that some skilled diplomatic agent of the Government had been employed to arrange the preliminaries of a peace, instead of a junior officer of the Native Department. Mr. Rice, willing, active, and persevering as he undoubtedly is, cannot from his brief acquaintance with the manners and customs of the Natives, and his imperfect knowledge of their language, be either a fit or reliable person to be intrusted with an undertaking in which the honor of the Colony is at stake. I would only draw attention to the following circumstances:—

1st. To the deceit practised on Tupaea's people in leading them to believe that if they did not surrender they would be attacked by soldiers stationed at Wairoa, it being without doubt that none were there at the time. Most likely Mr. Rice knew nothing of this assertion, but he would have the credit of it.

2nd. To the anonymous letter.

3rd. To Wi Patene's assertion that the Governor told him to make peace.

4th. To Te Amohau's assertion that they were *invited*, did not enter of themselves (invited, did not come of their own accord). I cannot conceal my opinion that it would be highly injudicious for His Excellency the Governor to comply with the desire expressed by Enoka and others that he should visit their district and confirm the peace; for, in despite of the well known sagacity and diplomatic skill which His Excellency invariably displays in his dealings with Natives, I fear that it will only increase and strengthen an idea which is gaining ground among them that peace is required by the Government on account of orders being expected for the withdrawal of a large portion of the troops from New Zealand.

With reference to the charge conveyed in Adjutant Covey's letter of the 26th instant, that contrary to the Commanding Officer's orders, and my own promise not to interfere with the Natives in this district (meaning Tauranga), I have visited and tampered with the enemy then in arms in the neighbourhood of his camp, I would remark,—

1st, That I have yet to be informed what right Colonel Greer had to order me to do anything. New Zealand is a British Colony, and the Natives are subjects of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. This is not an enemy's country, and I am not aware that "martial law" has ever been proclaimed at Tauranga. In the event of a riot or rebellion in England or Ireland, the civil power would come and go as it pleased, and the military authorities would have to assist the Justices of the Peace in quelling the riot or rebellion. The military force would arrest, kill, or disperse the rioters or rebels, and would leave the high tribunals of the country to deal with the magistrate if he did anything contrary to law.

2nd, As to breaking my promise, I never gave any promises other than those underwritten:—

(1.) That I would not read the Proclamation No. 8 to the rebel Natives at Tauranga. I have kept this promise faithfully in every respect.

(2.) That I would not go to visit the Natives at Otumoetai. This I faithfully kept; I did not go with Mr. Rice to that place.

I never gave any other promise not to interfere. I said two or three times I did not wish to interfere with either Colonel Greer or Mr. Rice in the matter, and the only time I have interfered was at Mangatapu, when I endeavoured to contradict and neutralize a gross misrepresentation. I did this out of a sense of duty to the Governor and Government of this Colony. If Colonel Greer blames me for such an interference in behalf of the honor of my adopted country, I can only say I do not envy him the enjoyment of the difference of opinion.

With reference to the charge "of visiting and tampering with the enemy," I have clearly proved that I have only visited the friendly Native pas at Matapihi and Mangatapu. If this is a grave crime in me, an officer in the Civil Service, who had business there (about Taraia's people), how much blacker an offence it must be in the case of Major Colville and five other officers, under Colonel Greer's command, whom I saw, three at each of the above-mentioned pas, on that day. When Colonel Greer brings those six gentlemen to a Court-martial, or orders them under arrest for visiting and tampering with the enemy on that occasion, then I may be brought to believe that he was justified in ordering me under arrest. "Tampering" is rather a strong term, and I think that a reference to my antecedents in the service of the Government is quite a sufficient answer to Colonel Greer's accusation without my stating that I am incapable of tampering with any enemy of the Government.

With reference to the further charge of notifying my intention again to interfere with them (meaning the Natives of the Tauranga District), I never expressed any intention of interfering with the Tauranga Natives. My letter distinctly stated it was my intention to take the declarations and issue certificates immediately to all Natives belonging to my district (Waihou). Twenty-seven Natives* belonging to that district surrendered at Tauranga. They were not residing in Tauranga Hundred when Mr. Rice visited them, but in the Waihou District, and crossed the Wairoa to surrender. It may be contended that I had no right to transact business with these Natives when temporarily residing in the district of another Commissioner. I should, however, imagine it would be quite competent in me to ask the Natives of my own district to meet me anywhere, especially in the present disturbed state of the country, when an officer cannot always safely enter into all parts of his district. If I interfered with the Natives belonging to a district other than my own, then I might be liable to censure unless peculiar circumstances warranted the interposition as in the case at Mangatapu.

The view I have for many years past taken of my position as an officer of the Native Department is, that I am personally answerable to the Government for all proceedings connected with my own district. That all communications of importance from the Government concerning the Natives of any district should pass through the hands or be done with the knowledge of the officer in charge of the district.

* Ngaiterangi, 5; Ngare, 1; Pirirakau, 5; Ngatiwhiwhia, 10; Ngatitokotoko, 6. Total, 27.

That although it is an imperative duty to see that law and order are enforced and maintained in the district, and that offenders are brought to justice, it is equally the duty of the European officer to most carefully watch over and protect at all times, and in all places, the interests of the Natives committed to his charge.

Now the present position of the men who have surrendered at Tauranga is not satisfactory. If they remove to any loyal district, they, from having no certificate, are liable to be apprehended as rebels, and brought before a magistrate. They have nothing to show they have surrendered, and not one of them could say he had made a "legal declaration of allegiance," as no declarations have been duly taken in their case before any person authorized to take the same. For that reason I intended to take the declarations of allegiance of, and issue certificates to, the Natives belonging to my district. It will however be remembered that I did not intend to do so, if Mr. Baker, or any other duly authorized person, would do it instead.

As to Colonel Greer having promised the Natives they should not be interfered with, he certainly said so in English, and I heard him. But I have very strong doubts whether any portion of that promise was ever conveyed to the Natives; at least I can assert I never heard Mr. Rice tell them so. What Colonel Greer may have said after the reassembling of the Natives I cannot tell, as I was not present. All I know is, that Adjutant Covey brought me a verbal answer to my letter, after the meeting was finished. My interference therefore would have been confined to visiting (outside Colonel Greer's camp) the Natives of my own district, and acting in a magisterial capacity.

There is only another circumstance to which I would allude before concluding this very lengthy report. If Saturday, the 23rd instant (first fixed for the surrender of the Natives), had been fine, and they had been assembled, it may reasonably be supposed that they would not then have been in a fit state to have surrendered, as Mr. Rice was absent from the camp negotiating with them from Saturday until Monday morning.

I hope that I may have been enabled to remove any bad impression which may have arisen in the mind of the Government from the report of my having been placed under arrest at Tauranga. I hope, however, that if any censure is attached to me for any of my proceedings at Tauranga, Mr. Baker may not be included in it; for whatever I may have done, I can say he carefully abstained from speaking at Mangatapu, in the matter of the misunderstanding which arose there.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
(Native Department), Auckland.

I have, &c.,
JAMES MACKAY, jun.,
Civil Commissioner.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Tauranga, Te Papa, 25 Hurae, 1864.

Ko te korero tenei o te Raihi ki nga tangata Maori i muringaiho o te tukunga i o ratou pu.

Ko tana kupu tenei kei whakarongo koutou ki te korero a tetahi tangata, ahakoa ki tana tangata no te Kawanatanga i a kua e whakarongo ki ana korero.

RAWIRI TE UA.

[TRANSLATION.]

Tauranga, Te Papa, 25th July, 1864.

THIS was what Mr. Rice said to the Maoris after the giving up of their guns:

This was his word, "Do not listen to the talk of any man, although that man may say that he belongs to the Government, do not listen to what he says."

RAWIRI TE UA.

True translation—H. Monro.

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Extract of Speech of Hori Ngatai, at Tauranga, 25th July, 1864, as copied from Mr. Baker's notes.

"THERE will be no more evil, all have come in. Now draw in your hand; do not fire guns here, carry them elsewhere. Let the thought be yours to go elsewhere. Let it be peace to the land, peace to mankind. Mr. Rice fetched me, so I came, and peace has been made. If it had only been Maori ambassadors, I should not have come down. It was Mr. Rice's *mana* (courage) in fetching us, so I came. Let him not go away; let him stay to be my friend. This is "he kupu tuturu" (sincere declaration). If Mr. Rice had not come there would have been no peace. This was his good point, he did not fear our threats; so I say let him remain, this is what I desire."

Penetaka's Speech, as copied from Mr. Baker's notes.

"WELCOME to your tikanga. Salutations to thee, O God, whom I have despised. I did not believe thy commands issued through Archdeacon Brown; I was deaf to them, and went to fetch fire from Waikato. Now, O God, I am punished by thee. Formerly I was saved by thee, now save me again. Salutations to thee, oh aroha, so long despised. In the days of evil I was punished, now I am snatched from death. I have led the Tauranga chiefs to death. This was said to be sacred ground, but I brought war on it, and death in the end. The chiefs are dead, and I, the slave, remain. It is well, O my friend, you have saved me; be kind to me and to the few chiefs who remain. If we offend once more, we shall perhaps be swept away. Befriend me, I have given back your arms. Let the flag now wave over me; let the arms be yours, flags mine, lest it be said I am going back to evil. Now befriend me; we will not turn to listen to false reports. (Nau te ritenga, e pai ana.) Yours is the arrangement, it is well. I agree to the proposal about Mr. Rice. (Nana tenei kununga.) This drawing together has been his."

JAMES MACKAY, jun.

No. 2.

Mr. BAKER'S DIARY, from 19th to 26th July.

19th July.—Embarked at 3 p.m. on board the "Sandfly" for Tauranga. Sailed at 5 p.m.

20th July.—Arrived at Te Papa about noon. Found every one in a great state of anxiety and excitement regarding the peace movement, which the military seem to look upon as the first step towards their return home. From what I can learn, there appears to have been some degree of pressure brought to bear upon the question, and there seems no doubt about the fact that overtures were made from the Government side. The guides (Tu and Te Kiahia) have little faith in the movement, which has been chiefly carried on by Wiremu Patene and Hohepa. Mr. Rice was still absent, and as he was over the time fixed for his return, I went out with a party of the Defence Force to look for him, but was followed by a mounted orderly, who informed me that the Colonel had received a letter explaining the cause of his delay. In the evening he came in, in high spirits at the success of his mission. Mr. Mackay and myself engaged till a late hour conversing with the Natives, sifting the question and explaining to them (the friendly Natives) the nature of the terms of peace. I do not think, from all I can gather, that the rebel Ngaiterangi understand them. They imagine it is to be chiefly a cessation of hostilities.

21st July.—Only a few friendly Natives about, and they, for the most part, engaged in trading for firewood. Went out with Mr. Mackay to Te Ranga and the Gate Pa. No news of any importance in to-day. Intended to cross over to Te Matapihi and Mangatapu, but could not get a boat. (Memo. to remind the Collector of Customs to send the boat which has been lying in Auckland some time, waiting for an opportunity to be sent down.) The Field Adjutant showed me a letter authorizing the release of Hone (wounded at the Gate Pa). I told him he would of course have to leave the Hospital dress he has been using, and requested him to inform me whether his friends could supply him with clothing, and asked where he wished to go. He at once turned sulky, and after behaving in an unbecoming manner, complained that I had threatened to *muru* him. Fortunately Mr. Mackay was present when I spoke to him.

22nd July.—Engaged during the greater part of the morning in talking to Parera and Tamati Mana. Mr. Mackay present the greater part of the time. They do not appear to put much faith in the promises of Ngaiterangi, and allege that Wi Patene has been playing a double game to suit his own purposes. Sent the "Mavis" off at noon with a short note (private) to Hon. W. Fox, one from Mr. Mackay to Dr. Shortland. Did not think it advisable to write officially with my present limited knowledge of proceedings—still of opinion that the matter has been prematurely arranged. Had a long conversation with the Colonel on the matter, in which he informed me that he intended to let them stay at Otumaetai. I objected, on the ground that in all probability the Government would require that land for the Waikato Militia. The Colonel however seems bent on carrying out his own plans, and will have his own way. Thinks it would be an advantage to have the Maoris along the coast line, and proposes that the settlers should take up the land behind them. From my experience of the difficulty that has been found to attend such a system elsewhere (especially at New Plymouth and Whanganui), I can only see great and unsurmountable evils in so doing. Interminable disputes about cattle trespass, dogs, fencing, &c., would arise, and prove a fruitful source of litigation, annoyance, and perhaps bloodshed. Again, if their location there is only temporary, there are no end of troubles to encounter, arising out of the jealousy of the original owners, the difficulty of removing them ending, I fear, in forcible ejection. I apprehend that for the present the less they are meddled with the better. They have retired off the land, for some months they have lived elsewhere, and I cannot see why complications should be encouraged at a time when all the energies of the Government are required to establish peace, harmony, and order throughout the country. It is far better, in my opinion, that they should suffer temporary inconvenience in the wooded retreats to which their follies have driven them, than that the Government should be hampered by them in the fulfilment of the pledges given to the Waikato Militia. It is estimated that each regiment will require 60,000 acres. Half of this quantity will be required for the right wing of the first regiment now stationed here; and there will be very little to spare within the limits of the territory from which the Ngaiterangi have been ejected, after the deduction of even the smaller of these two quantities. The terms of the Proclamation are "Kia noho noa iho," it does not say "Ka whakano hoia ratou," which makes a wonderful difference. Mr. Rice went to Otumaetai with two Native police. Bishop Williams arrived in the "Tawera," reports that the Tauranga Natives are quiet, but that a large party of Ngatiporou were to start on Monday for another attack on Tauranga. Rev. E. Clarke, from whom I received a letter, states that some of the young men even of Tauranga had been proposing to join the rebels, but had quieted down since the news of the action at Te Ranga. Rev. Mr. Grace arrived. Reports a very unsatisfactory state of affairs at Taupo. In the evening Te Kiepa Amohau, of Ngaiterangi, came in to see the authorities. Was accompanied by six of his family, escorted by seven friendly Natives from Opounui. Sat talking with him to a late hour; Mr. Mackay remained with him till past midnight. He told us plainly that the overtures of peace were made by friendly chiefs in the pay of the Government; that it was a case of "tiki" (fetch), not "kuhu noa mai" (creeping in of their own accord), thus confirming our fears that the matter did not originate with the rebels. He laughed when we told him that we expected to have this thrown in our teeth at some future day. In fact his whole manner was such that I inferred he was ignorant of or misunderstood the great question of confiscation and the disposal of their lands. I could hardly imagine a Maori so cheerful in the prospect of surrendering for ever the *mana* of his paternal acres. When Mr. Mackay came to bed he informed me that my surmises were correct; that Te Amohau had informed him that he knew nothing about the *whenua* part of the question, and did not know that he was to lose his land. Te Amohau also said that when the party went up to Te Moananui's place, they were peremptorily ordered off "hokiatsu." Whereupon one of Mr. Rice's party replied, "We have not far to go, for our friends (the soldiers) are just at hand." This threat had the desired effect, and they were more civilly received.

23rd July.—Heavy easterly gale. This morning the "Mavis" put back, having lost her jibboom last night. Mr. Mackay had a long conversation with Colonel Greer on the subject of peace, with the nature of which Mr. Mackay will, I presume, make the Government acquainted. The weather so bad that we could not get about among the Natives. No news of any importance.

24th July.—This morning Mr. Mackay and myself, having procured a boat, went over to Te Matapihi, called at Mr. Black's, where we staid some time, being desirous of ascertaining the views of a person who, from his residence among them, is most likely to know their intentions. He does not appear to look favourably upon the present movement, and referred to a conversation with one of the field-officers now in camp, who emphatically declared that he did not care on what terms peace was made, so long as it resulted in their removal from the country. The military are tired of foreign service, and having no stake or interest in the country, care not for the future troubles and perplexities that may arise out of any error in the system by which terms of peace are negotiated. The war is unpopular with them, and their chief care is how quickest to get out of it. It is in this way that pressure has been brought to bear upon the question, and I feel daily more convinced that it is premature and not thoroughly understood, either by the rebel Maoris or the parties engaged in the negotiation.

At the pa we saw about twenty persons, who were regaling themselves with biscuit and tea. They were pointed out to us as the men who had surrendered their arms (such, I presume, as had any), and were now friends. They appeared to be in high spirits, and joked about the incidents of the war. They told me I had several narrow escapes. At the Gate Pa they nearly succeeded in cutting me off, when there was no one near me but one of the guides carrying my rifle. At Te Ranga they took me for the Colonel, as I was riding the only grey horse in the staff, and particular orders were issued to knock me over. They were certainly in a very jubilant mood for conquered men, and did not seem at all inclined to think we had much the best of the fighting. They stated that night favoured us at the Gate Pa, or they would have annihilated us; and that at Te Ranga we were too soon, and took them unawares. Their bearing indicated anything but a consciousness of defeat. From Te Matapihi we went on to Mangatapu, where we found a large number of people, some of whom were said to be those of Maihi's tribe who had come in to surrender their arms. They did not appear to have much idea of what they were doing; in fact, Patene and Hohepa, Mr. Rice's coadjutors, were so evidently misleading them that Mr. Mackay interposed, whereupon a warm discussion ensued. Patene tried to explain, but floundered about, getting deeper into falsehood and perversion of what the Governor had said, and the authority upon which he was acting, until he and Hohepa both lost their temper and became abusive. He admitted that he had gone to *tiki* his relations, but maintained that he was authorized to do so by the Governor. On being contradicted, he said the Governor's words were that he was "aroha" to his children, and wished them "kai ora," which was strained by him to mean that he might fetch them. Maihi Pohepohe claimed his right as an assessor to act on his discretion; he was to put down evil, and had done so by fetching his children back. Hohepa's language took a directly abusive turn, especially when Mr. Mackay said there were two roads open for them to choose, the good, and the bad. If they chose the former, well; if the latter, it was their own doing or thought, "na koutou te whakaaro." This annoyed Hohepa, who said it was calculated to do mischief, and much more to that effect. Mr. Rice then broke up the meeting by saying that there was to be no more korero—all the korero was to be at Te Papa to-morrow; which, considering that there were two officers of the Native Department present, both senior to himself, struck me as rather a disrespectful proceeding, especially as Mr. Mackay (Civil Commissioner) was the principal speaker all through the discussion. One thing is quite certain, there can be little chance of discussion being permitted to-morrow, so that this decision, abruptly announced, virtually put a stop to any explanation, and I am quite sure that these people do not understand the terms upon which they submit. By Mr. Rice's own admission he has not seen these people before; and if, on the occasion of his first interview, discussion is prohibited, I apprehend the Government will be able to draw their own conclusion as to the probable fate of these negotiations and promises. Upon our arrival a paper was being read purporting to be a declaration of the surrender of their arms to Colonel Greer, leaving their lands to the disposal of the Governor. Even on this head there was an evident misunderstanding. The *mana* of the land was spoken of. On this being set right, it leaked out that they fancied the Governor would be satisfied with what may be call a nominal or temporary surrender; that he would retain a portion, but give them back the greater quantity. Then again Maihi has a scheme to propose. He wants to see the Governor arrange for their transportation to one of the small islands of the Pacific, where there are no Pakehas, where there is nothing to tempt the Pakeha to reside among them, where the orange, banana, kumara, and taro grow spontaneously, and so on. He has heard of Paora Tuhaere's visit to the South Sea Islands, and fancies that such a home would suit him and his people. He tells me that forty men, besides women and children, are prepared to go. This, I have no doubt, has been one of the arguments used by him. In the evening I had a long chat with Colonel Greer on the subject of the peace movement, when he commended me for not interfering. I then put the question as to how he intended to act in the matter of the certificate, which was referred to in the Proclamation, and for which forms were issued by the Government. The Colonel replied that he objected to the Proclamation, and would not have it read. He, however, wished me to issue the certificate. After some conversation, in which the Colonel spoke very harshly of Mr. Mackay, he said he had a will of his own, and that he would not have it read. I remarked that it was the basis of all negotiations regarding peace, and I did not see how a magistrate could receive a declaration if the declarant did not know what he was signing and became liable for. He then said it should not be done. In the course of further conversation, I remarked that I was present at the peace-making at Wanganui in 1848, and took part in the proceedings. I drew his attention to the present state of that district. Again, at Taranaki in 1861, when Governor Brown made peace with Hapurona and W. King, I was present as the Governor's interpreter, and quoted a remark made by a Native a day or two ago that, "before the ripples of the steamer's screw had disappeared, the report of guns was heard on the shore." I was well acquainted with the views of the Natives in such matters, and looking at the antecedents of the present case (here for the first time the Colonel seemed rather excited, and exclaimed, "Why, Baker, I had always taken you for a man of sense! antecedents be —"). Immediately recovering his equanimity, he said that he

wished to get himself well up in the question, and would be glad to take my advice; hoped I would be present to-morrow; and, desiring that I would think the matter over gravely, especially that regarding the certificate, bade me good-night apparently with the best good will.

25th July.—A fine morning, and the Natives flocking into camp. After breakfast had a conversation with the Bishop of Waiapu regarding the peace movement. He appears to have heard the whole of one side of the question. As he objected to the Proclamation being read I thought no more about it, but on returning to my tent consulted with Mr. Commissioner Mackay, when it was agreed to propose that the Natives should surrender to Colonel Greer, but make declarations and receive certificates from ourselves. With Mr. Mackay's concurrence I addressed the following to Colonel Greer:—

MY DEAR COLONEL,—

Tauranga, 25th July, 1864.

In reference to our conversation of last evening, I propose, as I have in no way interfered with the negotiations under which the Natives have come in, to be present at the meeting this morning in compliance with your request, but simply in a magisterial capacity.

Should there be any misunderstanding, however, I presume that you will permit me to draw your attention to it, whether it be an error of interpretation or otherwise.

With the form of declaration signed or to be signed by the Natives, and the surrender of their arms, which may be regarded as a military proceeding, I may have no right to interfere; but I imagine myself to be right in assuming that the certificate required to be given should be signed by a civil officer who should be a Resident Magistrate.

In fact, I propose that when the arms have been given up the Natives should be handed over to the civil authorities here, by whom a Magistrate's Court will be formed either within the limits of your camp or elsewhere; and from the number of Natives coming forward, it will probably require two days to do this.

I am, &c.,

Colonel Greer, &c., &c.

WILLIAM B. BAKER, R.M.

Whilst I was thus engaged Mr. Mackay and Rawiri Te Ua, Native Assessor, went towards the place where the Natives were assembled, but was ordered back by a sentry, who stated that no one could be admitted without a pass from Mr. Rice; Mr. Mackay therefore remained outside the enclosure. The Colonel having sent an orderly for me, asked me if I was at Mangatapu last evening. I replied, "Yes." "What business had I to go there?" I said, "I was not aware that any restriction was placed upon my movements; that others had gone, and I did so not meaning any harm." Then he told me I had no business to go. I replied, "That I had the honor to hold a commission, and believed that I was free to go anywhere in Her Majesty's dominions, unless expressly ordered to the contrary."

The Colonel (still speaking in a very irritating manner): "You said you would not interfere, now I require a pledge from you that you will not do so." I denied having interfered, as I was not aware of having said one word to the Natives. That so far as a pledge was concerned, I had but my word to give. He then referred to Mr. Mackay having interfered. The Colonel then ordered (using the word) me to take down the speeches, and threatened me if I refused; said he had the power, and he would use it. He then asked me again if I would promise not to interfere? I replied, "That I had not done so, nor had I the wish or intention to do so." As it had been previously arranged by Mr. Rice that Mr. Shepherd should interpret, and this without any reference to me beyond telling me that Mr. Shepherd was to do it, I did not feel at all flattered, and felt nettled at being ordered to do what another person had been asked to undertake. The Colonel then said, "Will you take down the speeches?" I replied, "Certainly, in the Government service." He remarked, "I mark your reservation—not because I order you to do it." Being desirous of doing my duty, though objecting to the harsh manner in which I was treated, I proceeded to take notes of the proceedings, occasionally at the Colonel's request explaining anything that did not appear quite clear.

The Natives were arranged on the grass lawn in front of the Colonel's quarters, a table with writing materials being placed on the verandah.

Mr. Shepherd having read a declaration which he asked if they understood, was desired to read it again. They then replied that they did. Colonel Greer remarked that some of the Ngatihoko had not signed, and desired them to come forward and do so. The signatures having been obtained, the Natives proceeded to surrender their arms, as (per enclosed list) follows:—Flint muskets, 39; fowling pieces, smooth-bore percussion, 6; fowling pieces, flint, 3; cartouch boxes, 69; boxes caps, 4; papers caps, 1; double-barrel guns, percussion, 2; spears, 4; hatchets, 3; taiaha, 1; pistol, 1; rifles, 5; tewhatewha, 1; whalebone patu, 1.

Colonel Greer, through Mr. Rice, assured them that he had perfect confidence in their professions; they were brave men, and, believing them to be honest, he put faith in what they said now they had laid down their arms. The Governor should be informed of all that had taken place, and would not let any person interfere with them; would wait for instructions from the Governor. (As the words were translated by Mr. Rice, they stood thus:—"Kei whakarongo koutou ki te korero o tetahi tangata ahakoa ki taua tangata no te Kawanatanga ia, kaua e whakarongo ki aua korero.")

It was then proposed by Colonel Greer that the meeting should adjourn to enable them to partake of refreshment, but Enoka said, "Let the Governor come in person. Did not expect Ora and Kai had given themselves over to death. Do not wish the Governor to send a letter; let him come in person that we may see him face to face. This work was not mine in the first instance; I took up what had been begun by others. Now, I say, let the Governor come, in order that I may hear words from his own mouth. As for what the Colonel says about fighting, we reply that we will not fight again. If I had found that Ngaiterangi were coming without arms, I would have sent them back; some, I think, have hid their guns. I am now like a minister—unarmed. The war is finished. If any one takes up arms in future, let the law judge him. (Then turning to Ngaiterangi.) Now faithfully keep your promise, as I intend to do."

Hoani Waiaruhe.—Send for the Governor.

The meeting then broke up for half an hour. On resuming,

Hori Ngatai.—We will not go back to what we have given up. If we knew how to repair our arms,

it might be otherwise. We have now nothing but our hands, and this peace must be lasting; we are in earnest. All the men who took part in the fighting are here, or else they are dead. I have done fighting, let there be an end on your part. There will be no more evil, for all are come in. Now draw in your hand; do not fire guns here; carry them elsewhere. Let the thought be yours to go elsewhere. Let it be peace to the land, peace to mankind. Mr. Rice fetched me, so I came, and peace has been made. If it had been only Maori ambassadors I should not have come down. It was Mr. Rice's *maia* in fetching us, so I came. Let him not go away. Let him stay to be my friend; this is "he kupu tutuni." If Mr. Rice had not come, there would have been no peace. This was his good point; he did not fear our threats, so I say let him remain. This is what I desire. (He was then prompted to speak on this subject by Wi Patene, and repeated his words.)

Penetaka.—Welcome to your tikanga. Salutations to thee, O God, whom I have despised; I did not believe thy commands issued through Archdeacon Brown. I was deaf to them, and went to fetch fire from Waikato. Now, O God, I am punished by thee; formerly I was saved by thee, now save me again. Salutations to thee, O Aroha, so long despised. In the days of evil I was punished, now I am snatched from death. I have led the Tauranga chiefs to death. This was said to be sacred ground, but I brought war upon it, and death in the end. The chiefs are dead, and I, the slave, remain. It is well, O my friend, you have saved me; be kind to me and the few chiefs who remain. If we offend once more, we shall perhaps be all swept away. Befriend me; I have given back your arms. Let the flag now wave over me; let the arms be yours, flags mine, lest it be said I am going back to evil. Now befriend us; we will not turn to listen to false reports. "Nau te ritenga, e pai ana." It is well, I agree to the proposal about Mr. Rice. "Nana teni kumenga mai" (this drawing together has been his).

Colonel Greer.—Will send your words to the Governor. Don't believe any stories you may hear, nor what any one else may say to you. If there is any interference, or you suffer any annoyance, come and inform me; I will be the medium of your communications to the Governor. (This being agreed to, the Colonel continued) Now I have nothing more to say.

Here the meeting broke up.

I may here note a few of the incidents of the meeting as they occurred. One man, named Ropata, had no gun, was a preacher and produced his book. Some of the names on the list were those of men too old to come in to make the declaration; another was the name of a "porangi" (idiot or insane person). Another was a cripple. A second preacher came forward with his book, but no gun; one of the missing, whose name was on the list, was reported to be a child (*iti rawa*). Penehamine, a preacher, produced his hymn book as his only weapon. Kapā (absent) reported to be a "tino tamaiti" (quite a child). Hirini, a deaf and dumb man. Maka, a discharged policeman, was one of the number. Several of them had been wounded at Te Keti or Te Ranga. About one-third of those who had no arms reported that they lost them at the former action, the majority of the others lost theirs at Te Ranga. Now, considering that at the former engagement they had time and opportunity to carry off their arms, besides plundering the officers, this tale, in the face of the small number of arms taken there, does not appear to have much truth in it. The same may be said of the others. Again, with the exception of a few Enfield rifles, for which one of them distinctly said they had no ammunition or caps, the arms were of the most worthless description. Even Enoka hinted that the Ngaiterangi had hidden their arms. The people all went over to Te Matapihi, where I presume there will be a great korero to-night.

Having to attend to some Customs business I then went on the beach, and on my return to my tent found Mr. Covey, the Adjutant, who had brought a verbal answer to a letter written by Mr. Mackay, stating his intention to take the declaration and give certificates to all the Natives of his district who had surrendered at Tauranga in the event of my not doing so. Mr. Mackay then desired that he might have a written answer, as he had written officially.

The verbal answer was to the effect that the Colonel would not permit any interference with the Natives. Mr. Mackay stated that he would visit them if he thought it his duty to do so. The Adjutant went away, and a few minutes after the sergeant-major told me he (the Adjutant) wanted to see me. On going to meet him he put a paper in my hand, of which the following is a copy:—

Camp, Te Papa, 25th July, 1864.

THE Colonel commanding the District directs that Mr. Baker does not leave the camp without his knowledge.

By order.

CHARLES COVEY,

Adjutant, Tauranga District.

He then said that he was directed to place Mr. Mackay under arrest, and asked me to request him to go to my tent, as that would avoid a scene. I did so, and on walking up with Mr. Mackay found a sentry over the tent, who was ordered not to allow him to go more than one hundred yards from his tent, &c. The Adjutant asked Mr. Mackay if he was likely to suffer any inconvenience by the arrest? He said he was deprived of his liberty, and desired to know his offence. Mr. Covey said he believed it was because Mr. Mackay intended to communicate with the Natives against the Colonel's orders. Mr. Mackay then desired the Adjutant to inform Colonel Greer that he would bring an action against him in the Supreme Court for illegal imprisonment.

26th July.—Mr. Mackay still under arrest, a sentry pacing in front of our tent ever since he was arrested. This morning Mr. Mackay wrote requesting to be informed as to the grounds of his arrest, &c. No answer as yet. Have seen no Natives this morning.

WILLIAM B. BAKER, R.M.