

1879.
NEW ZEALAND.

MURDER OF JOHN McLEAN

ON 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1878, AND STEPS TAKEN FOR CAPTURE OF SUPPOSED MURDERER
(LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS RELATING TO).

Laid on the Table by the Hon. Mr. Sheehan, with the Leave of the House.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waverley, 21st September, 1878.

Inquest held to day, at Waverley, on body of John McLean, cook to survey party, Moumahaki, who was shot on 19th September, at survey camp. Verdict wilful murder against person unknown. Suspicion points to Native, Hiroki, of Papatupu, Waitotara, who is said to have fled. Information against Hiroki now being laid by police, and warrant issued for his apprehension.

C. A. WRAY, R.M., Coroner.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Patea, 21st September, 1878.

Man of Fraser's survey party found shot—supposed, by Natives, as powder and bullets taken from camp. Fraser (my partner) was surveying Moumahaki, near Wairoa, for Government.

EDWD. TREGGAR.

R. WOON, R.M., Whanganui.

Wellington, 22nd September, 1878.

The following telegrams were received by me last evening:—

“Waverley, 3.40 p.m., 21st September, 1878.—Inquest held to-day, at Waverley, on body of John McLean, cook to survey party at Moumahaki, who was shot on 19th September, at survey camp. Verdict wilful murder against person unknown. Suspicion points to Native, Hiroki, of Papatupu, Waitotara, who is said to have fled. Information against Hiroki now being laid by police, and warrant issued for his apprehension.—C. A. WRAY, R.M., Coroner.”

“Patea, 21st September, 1878.—Man of Fraser's party found shot dead—supposed, by Natives, as powder and bullets taken from camp. Fraser (my partner) was surveying Moumahaki Block, near Wairoa, for Government.—EDWD. TREGGAR.”

You will be good enough to let me know anything which may have come to your knowledge respecting this matter other than is contained in the foregoing telegrams. Information particularly required on the following points: Whether or not the offence may be regarded as a murder pure and simple, or as having any connection with the surveys now going on. Secondly, whether any rumours had previously reached you indicating any intention on the part of any body of Natives to commit such an act of violence. Whether the alleged offender is known to you; also his character and position in the tribe. Whether you have received any information as to the direction in which he is supposed to have fled. Whether any alarm exists among the European inhabitants of your district in consequence of this offence. Please note that the following offices will be open all day: Wellington, Whanganui, Waitotara, Waverley, Patea, Hawera, Opunake. His right name is Wiremu Hiroki. He is Waikato, married to a Pipiriki woman, and has no claim to the land. Waitotara Natives imagine he will make for Waikato. He is a stiff-built young man, a little over five feet high, without hair or tatoo on his face. The name of an ancestor is tatooed on right arm. Any important particulars that you may receive that will throw any light on the commission of the offence, or the movements of the supposed murderer, should be wired to the other offices at once.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Similar telegram sent to—Captain Wilson, Hawera; Deputy Inspector of Police, Whanganui; Constable, Police, Waitotara; J. Southcombe, Waitotara; Constable Burrows, Waverley; Officer in Charge Armed Constabulary, Opunake.—J.S.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Native Minister.

Whanganui, 22nd September, 1878.

Re Wairoa murder. First heard of matter by reading telegram in last night's *Herald*; no rumours had reached me previously indicating any intention on the part of Natives to commit such violence. Alleged offender unknown to me. No information as to where he has fled. No alarm here yet. I will make due inquiry as to the nature of the offence in connection with the surveys, and let you know. Seems to me rather like a simple murder, although the matter looks suspicious as coupled with the survey of the confiscated land. Last Wednesday, on way down river, met Paiaka's party on way home, and they reported that ammunition carts had left Whanganui for Waimate, as survey

would be resisted if Te Whiti so ordered it. Saw Paiaka in town, and we both treated it as an idle rumour, as previous one about Titokowaru and rebuilding of Ngutu-o-te-manu Pa. I shall at once institute inquiries amongst the Natives, and procure all the information I can on the subject, and inform you forthwith.

R. W. WOON, R.M.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Whanganui, 22nd September, 1878.

Heard nothing whatever of murder of John McLean, near Waverley, except from *Herald* newspaper report of last evening. Scene of murder is not in my district, hence local police have not reported to me: that district is in charge of officer at New Plymouth. Officer at Waihi is nearer than New Plymouth. Offender is unknown to me. Have received no information of the route he has taken. Am unable to give any further information on the points named in your telegram.

S. GOODALL, Sub-Inspector.

Captain WRAY, R.M., Patea.

Wellington, 22nd September, 1878.

Please telegraph through at once the evidence taken at the inquest on the body of John McLean, together with all other particulars that may have transpired since your telegram of last evening. Please ascertain and report how it has happened that this office has been left for so long a period uninformed of so serious a matter; also give me your own opinion as to whether or not the offence was an ordinary murder, or committed with the intention of obstructing the survey; also, whether it was the uninspired act of an individual or done with the knowledge or tacit approval of the tribe. Let me have the matters required above at once, and, in case anything further should transpire, the wire may be used without delay. The following telegraph offices will be open all day: Wellington, Whanganui, Waitotara, Patea, Hawera, Opunake—so that you can communicate with any of those places if circumstances render it necessary. Please wire fully, as, although I attach no political significance to the offence, the public will be anxious to have the most reliable information.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Patea, 22nd September, 1878.

Constable Hynes, Waitotara, telegraphs that he has interviewed the Papatupu Natives, who say that they have not seen Hiroki since day of murder, and that he has fled to Waikato, where he originally belonged. There is a report that Hiroki is in bush behind Papatupu Pa, or has gone to a village about twenty miles up Waitotara River. It might have a good effect to send Captain Wilson with some Native police and Constable Hynes, with warrant to search localities indicated. If you approve, please give instructions accordingly. I shall be at Hawera to-morrow, but will accompany police if expedient.

C. A. WRAY, R.M.

C. A. WRAY, Esq., Patea.

Wellington, 23rd September, 1878.

Thanks for your telegrams *re* murder. I approve your suggestion that Captain Wilson and Native police should go at once to Waitotara. I have good reason to believe that the murderer is lurking somewhere in the district, and may yet be captured. No effort should be spared to accomplish this. I will do all in my power to aid any efforts which you may be able to make in the district.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 22nd September, 1878.

Heard rumour last evening of man being murdered. Telegraphed to Captain Wray this morning to ascertain if true. Received reply—"J. McLean murdered. Hiroki suspected, and warrant out for him. Supposed to have fled King country." I telegraphed Sub-Inspector Kenny to say that supposed murderer would probably go by one of the bush tracks between this and Patea. If so, he would have to pass White Cliffs Police Station. I would have gone to Waitotara myself, but do not feel justified in leaving Waimate Plains surveys, in case of any excitement on receipt of news; therefore sent for Sergeant Blake, of Native police, to go to Waitotara and get all the information he can for the Government. Have heard of no opposition to lead me to suppose murder was in consequence of surveys: if so, those actually surveying would have been victims. Believe it resulted from private quarrel. My work lies chiefly between this and Stoney River. Know little of Waitotara Natives. Do not know the supposed murderer, or his position; and believe that he will go by one of bush tracks between this and Patea, if escaping to King country. For that reason telegraphed to Sub-Inspector Kenny *re* White Cliffs Station. No alarm among settlers, as murder considered result of some private quarrel.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z. Militia.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waitotara, 23rd September, 1878.

Re murder of cook of survey party. The Natives tell me that the Native Hiroki has, they believe, fled to Waikato, as his mother lives there; that there is no political significance to be attached to it. He had no reason for doing it that they are aware of. He is a man of a very bad character; is of a thievish nature. The whole of Natives came in from Papatupu this morning and told me they were very much cut up about it, asking me what they were to do, as they were afraid to live up the river, for fear the pakeha would shoot them down if they caught them prowling about. I told them to go home and have no fear, as Hiroki was pretty well known to Europeans about. They have gone home, and promised to give him up if he attempts to come back; also to let me know if he is in the neighbourhood. The Natives here deny all knowledge, act, or part in the murder.

JOS. R. HYNES, District Constable.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Whanganui, 22nd September, 1878.

Arrived here 5 p.m. Will leave for Waitotara at 7 p.m.

HONE PIHAMA.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Whanganui, 22nd September, 1878.

People here are not alarmed; newspaper reports say it is a private murder, not connected surveys. S. GOODALL, Sub-Inspector.

Major BROWN, C.C., Wellington.

Patea, 22nd September, 1878.

Constable Hynes, who knows Hiroki, telegraphed description to Commissioner, Wellington. Hiroki is supposed to have gone in direction of Taupo or Waikato. I have communicated with Captain Wilson, Hawera, and Captain Kenny, New Plymouth. C. A. WRAY.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Patea, 22nd September, 1878.

The death of John McLean was supposed by surveyors to have resulted from his having accidentally slipped and impaled himself on a stake whilst drawing water out of Moumahaki Creek, and evidence of murder did not transpire till after *post mortem* examination yesterday, when bullet was extracted. Hence affair was not reported earlier. The murder was committed during absence of survey party from camp. Deceased being cook, and alone in charge, no evidence throwing light on perpetrator elicited from survey party at inquest beyond the fact that some weeks previously there had been a slight quarrel with Natives about pigs and a dog which a European of the party charged Hiroki with stealing; the evidence given against Hiroki was merely hearsay, and to the effect that he had been heard to say (not by the witness) some time previously that he would kill Murdoch McLean, a brother of the deceased, and further, that some Natives had stated to witness's mother that Hiroki had told them that he had gone to the survey camp on the 19th, and had quarrelled with the cook, who had fired at him, and that he (Hiroki) had returned the fire, and shot McLean dead. I am of opinion that the deed, if committed by the Native at all, is without any political significance, and was not done with the intention of obstructing the survey, but was probably the act of an individual, actuated by personal motives, and carried out without the approval or consent of the tribe. Nothing further has transpired, but I am in communication with the police, and will telegraph as soon as I receive report. Hiroki is known personally to Constable Hynes, who has warrant out for his apprehension, and who has telegraphed description of Hiroki to District Officer, New Plymouth, and to Chief Office, Wellington. Hiroki is reported to have made his escape to King country. C. A. WRAY.

Major SCANNELL, Taupo.

Wellington, 22nd September, 1878.

A man named McLean, cook of a survey party at Moumahaki, Waitotara, has been murdered, supposed to be by a Native named Hiroki, who is stated to have fled in the direction of the King country. Please keep a sharp look-out, and let me know the moment you receive any information. JOHN SHEEHAN.

R. W. WOON, Esq., R.M., Whanganui.

Wellington, 23rd September, 1878.

You are at liberty to do anything which you may think desirable in order to procure the arrest of the supposed murderer. JOHN SHEEHAN.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Native Minister.

Waitotara, 24th September, 1878.

Pihama anxiously awaiting reply. Natives much grieved about late murder, and will render utmost assistance in apprehending Hiroki if you forward instructions that effect through Pihama. JOHN T. BLAKE.

PAIAKA, Native Office, Wellington.

Whanganui, 23rd September, 1878.

A European has been murdered at Moumahaki. The police are after the murderer. It will be good if he be caught and hanged. R. W. WOON, R.M.

RICHARD WOON, Esq., R.M., Whanganui.

Wellington, 23rd September, 1878.

You are at liberty to do anything which you may think desirable in order to procure the arrest of the supposed murderer. JOHN SHEEHAN.

[TRANSLATIONS.]

HONE PIHAMA, Whanganui.

Wellington, 22nd September, 1878.

The Ngarauru will meet me to-day at my house. The object of their meeting is to repudiate any complicity on their part in the murder of the European who was killed at Moumahaki. With regard to Hiroki, they say that he is not a Ngarauru, and that there was no question affecting the land to cause that murder.

Now, I think that the Pakaraka people should meet, and that they ought to repudiate any complicity in the murder. This will then put matters clear between the Europeans and the Natives.

The telegraph offices are now open at Wellington, Whanganui, Waitotara, Patea, Waverley, Opuake. If you hear news, wire to me. JOHN SHEEHAN.

Wellington, 22nd September, 1878.

TE HURITAU HURUTARA, Papatupu, Waitotara.

Telegraph to me all that you know about the murder of the European—the cook of the surveyors at Papatupu. JOHN SHEEHAN.

APERAHAMA TAMAIPAREA, Waitotara.

Wellington, 23rd September, 1878.

Friend, we have had a meeting at Wellington about the European who is dead. We want the man apprehended. We have selected for that purpose Wirihana, Huritau, Moetapapa, Heremaia, and Ngawini. We hope that they will use their best endeavours to catch him. Do you tell them to

be speedy in catching that man. We are very dark about this trouble which has occurred in our absence. Tell us if they go.

TAPA.
TE KEEPA.
URU.
J. SHEEHAN.

FRIEND MR. SHEEHAN,—

Te Aro Pa, Wellington, 22nd September, 1878.

This is a notification of ours, the Ngarauru Tribe, now in Wellington, about the news of this murder, as we heard that an European had been killed at Moumahaki, Waitotara District. We are very sad in consequence of this evil news, and we are at a loss to know the reason for this murder being committed by that man, because he was out of place among the Ngarauru people: that murderer belongs to Waikato.

Friend Mr. Sheehan, if we had been at Waitotara we would have caught that man, but we, the leading men, are here at Wellington. As it is, we will telegraph to the Maoris to arrest that murderer. Friend Mr. Sheehan, do you publish our words that the Europeans may see them.

From us, the Ngarauru people, in great distress in consequence of this murder.

RERERANGI and Others.

From the Ngarauru people now in Wellington.

Hon. Mr. SHEEHAN.

23rd September, 1878.

I know your trouble at this moment *re* McLean's murder.

Had the matter any political significance, the surveyors or the chainmen would have been the victims. I expect a dispute about pigs, or, perhaps, a woman, is at the bottom of it. Rewi and all our people will be very vexed, and it will upset their minds for some time thinking of such a crime.

I telegraphed to McMillan to go direct to Mokau from New Plymouth last night, and keep his own counsel until he saw Shore and Takerau together. If the murderer goes that way—which is the most likely road—Takerau will safely hand him over to Government in spite of anybody. He will either bring him into Pukearuhe, or detain him and send word to the commanding officer.

If the murderer has gone through Mokau ahead of McMillan, word will be immediately sent to Pukearuhe.

There is a track and chain of settlements from Ketemarae (Normanby) through the back country. He may have taken that way.

I have, &c.,

J. JONES.

[TRANSLATION.]

To JOHN SHEEHAN, Native Minister.

Kaipo, Waitotara, 23rd September, 1878.

I beg to report to you respecting this crime, and also about the man who has murdered this European.

From your friend,

HONE PIHAMA.

HONE PIHAMA asked, Who knows about this crime?

Te Uranga: I know nothing about it.

Hone Pihama: You may sit down. Perhaps there is some one else who knows.

Rangiwahakairione: The bridge at Moumahaki was put up; the bridge was crossed; the pigs came back; the dog was caught by that man attacking the pig; the dog was shot: therefore I know [or conclude] that he stole the gun and the money, and that that was the reason why he killed the pakeha.

Pairama said that he heard from the European that his property had been stolen by that man Hiroki.

Te Huritau: I do not know about it. I have heard. I have not seen. I heard that he stole the property of the European.

Wi then stood up and said, When we saw our children with Hiroki, he called out and said, "Go back with your children. I have broken my ——. I have shot the European at Moumahaki, and he is dead."

That old man then become afraid, and he went and told the Maoris and Europeans about that murder, and that it was the act of that man alone.

Afterwards, on Sunday, the 22nd September, the murderer came out at Tamanui's place, at Momohaki, but Tamanui did not know that that man was a murderer; and on Monday, the 23rd, his child went to fetch him.

I then asked Nui, What did that man have in his possession?

Tamanui: Hiroki had a gun and a watch in his hand; the gun was loaded, and there were caps on the nipples—it was a double-barrelled gun. He (Tamanui) believed that it was the gun of the European, which had been stolen by that man, because the tribe knew that he never possessed a double-barrelled gun before.

Hiroki's mother is a Waikato woman; his father is of Whanganui—Ngarauru.

HONE PIHAMA.

REWI MANIAPOTO, Waitara.

Wellington, 23rd September, 1878.

In my opinion there is nothing to cause uneasiness in connection with the murderer of the European at Waitotara. It was Wiremu Hiroki. Hiroki's place of abode is at Waitotara. These are the words that I have heard about that man: Wiremu Hiroki is known by the Maoris of Whanganui. His wife's name is Herera. That woman's mother's name is Tarare, and she belongs to Ngarauru. Her father's name was Katene, of Pipiriki, who was killed at Moutoa. Hiroki's father's name was Hohepa, belonging to Ngarauru, who was taken captive by Waikato. Hiroki's mother's name is Amiria, belonging to Waikato, who was bought by Hohepa for a gun in Waikato. She was a slave. He brought her to Waitotara, and Hiroki was born there. His age is about twenty-three years. It is not known whether he has fled to Waikato or to Parihaka, or whether he is hiding in the scrub in

his own district. I have sent a message to Te Whiti and to Te Wheoro, that we should all be strong to repress this evil, and also to make known to all persons that all those who kill men without the authority of law will be condemned. The way that affairs are being conducted by Ngarauru and other hapus in the district is very good. They are lifting up strongly the Government to assist the law.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Mr. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waitara, 23rd September, 1878.

Friend, I have received your telegram, apprising me of the killing of a European by a Maori. Friend, I am very dark about this news.

Let me know all the particulars about this trouble.

MANGA MANIAPOTO.

Mr. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waitara, 23rd September, 1878.

It was Hiroki who committed the murder. That man has not been seen by us since the murder. That man is not to be found.

HURI TAU and Another.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Patea, 23rd September, 1878.

Telegram from Constable Hynes, Waitotara, *re* Hiroki: "The Natives here disclaim all act or part in the affair. The first they heard of it was from an old Native, who saw Hiroki up Otehaha, about two miles from Papatupu, who told him he had shot a pakeha, and left him in the Moumahaki. This was on the day of the murder. No others have seen Hiroki since. Natives think he will make for Parihaka or Waikato.—J. R. HYNES." Blake, half-caste, interpreter, is at Waitotara, making inquiries amongst Natives.

C. A. WRAY.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Opunake, 23rd September, 1878.

Hiroki well known to Oeo Natives; belongs to Ngatiporua, hapu of Ngarauru; not of any note. Has claim to land, and has always been obstinate about it. Repeatedly urged by his tribe to leave the land to Government, and go to Parihaka, where they are now living. His wife is living with half-caste named Bishop at Harriet Bush. It is thought he will not make this way by Upper Whanganui to Waikato. No alarm here, as murder not sanctioned by tribe. Description of him given by Natives agrees with your telegram.

H. K. HARRISON, Sub-Inspector.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Whanganui, 23rd September, 1878.

Wiremu Hiroki well known to Whanganui Natives. Wife's name Herera; her mother, Tarare, belongs to Ngamatu; her father, Katene, belonged to Pipiriki—killed at Moutoa. Hiroki's father, Hohepa, of Ngarauru, formerly enslaved by the Waikatos. Hiroki's mother, Amiria, a Waikato woman. Hohepa bought her for a gun at Waikato, she being a slave, and brought her to Waitotara, where Hiroki was born, who is a young man about twenty-three. Shall I send messenger to Pipiriki by canoe, to inform assessors and police, and offer a reward for capture of Hiroki, who might make for up-river district, although he could get to Taupo or Waikato by way of Waitotara, Taanga Rakau, and Tuhua? If you authorize expenses, I despatch a canoe with three men to Pipiriki. I am still of opinion that it is a murder, and simple, although there is cause for apprehension that it may be otherwise, judging from the past.

R. W. WOON, R.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER.

Waverley, 23rd September, 1878.

Public meeting, *re* murder of McLean, resolved that, whilst indorsing verdict of jury, have reason from concurrent circumstances to believe that the murder was committed by a Maori or Maoris from political motives, or for private revenge, and that Government be earnestly urged to take immediate steps for the discovery of the perpetrator; also that Government be petitioned to offer a reward for the apprehension and conviction of the murderer, which the meeting will take steps to supplement.

H. F. MASON, Chairman of Meeting.

Major BROWN, C.C., Wellington.

Patea, 23rd September, 1878.

Constable Hynes reports that Hiroki was seen by a Native at Okotuku yesterday morning. It is likely he will make for Parihaka, coming out of the bush near Ketemarae. He told this Native he was going to Parihaka. I have repeated this to Captains Wilson and Kenny. The Native police should be on the track.

C. A. WRAY, R.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Waitotara, 26th September, 1878.

Just had a good meeting with all the Natives at Kaipo. I told them that I could see the blood of murder on their hands; that it could only be washed off by their bringing Hiroki to justice. They all agreed to do all they could to wash off the blood, and are organizing a party to go after him. Katene is going with them. Hone is doing all he can. Captain Wray is also here. Nine men went out yesterday. The Natives think that he will not leave the district. There is no doubt in the minds of the Natives about Hiroki being the murderer.

W. WILLIAMS.

[TRANSLATIONS.]

Mr. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waitotara, 23rd September, 1878.

A European has been killed at Moumahaki. He was shot by Hiroki. I want to go in search of that murderer. Do you reply. My policeman is Tio Punohi.

TE URANGA KAIWHARE.

Mr. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waitotara, 23rd September, 1878.

Friend, it is true that the European was killed by Hiroki, at Papatangi. He was a Government man.

TE WIRIHANA.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Native Minister, Wellington.

Waitotara, 24th September, 1878.

The telegram just received by Pihama from you is sufficient reply to yesterday's telegram, and will bring about his best endeavours regarding Hiroki's arrest. Let Pihama know if Te Waero and Uru te Angina are in Wellington still.

JOHN T. BLAKE.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Patea, 24th September, 1878.

Hone Pihama's telegram, explained to me by Blake, interpreter, was to the effect that the Waitotara Natives had offered their services to catch Hiroki, and that Pihama awaited your instructions before having a meeting to settle course to be pursued. I have telegraphed to Waitotara to have Pihama's message repeated to-night. I return to Waitotara to-morrow, and have arranged that Fraser's survey party shall be on the bush behind Okotuku. No further news.

C. A. WRAY, R.M.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waitotara, 24th September, 1878.

I have asked Captain Wilson to come to Waitotara with some of his men, leaving sufficient to watch tracks Ngaioingo and northwards. Impression here appears to be that Government be urged to take immediate steps for the discovery of the perpetrator; also that Government be petitioned to offer a reward for the apprehension and conviction of the murderer, which the meeting will take steps to supplement.

H. F. MASON, Chairman of Meeting.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Wanganui, 24th September, 1878.

I am despatching to-day a canoe and three good Native police to convey notice of murder to all the assessors and the police on the river one hundred miles up, and to capture Hiroki if he turns up there, and, if captured, a reward will be given. I have also telegraphed to Topia and Kingi Herekieke, Taupo.

R. W. WOON, R.M.

Major BROWN, C.C., Wellington.

Hawera, 24th September, 1878.

Omitted to mention in telegram that some of the Natives wanted to know what reward Government would give for capture of Hiroki. Reward might insure his capture.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 15th October, 1878.

Abraham, old Ihupuku chief, Mihaka, Pirimona Pairama, Wirihana, and Tamanui, Natives of Waitotara, slept here last night. I have gone to Parihaka to try and get Hiroki given up to them.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Opunake, 16th October, 1878.

Just leaving for Parihaka with the Ngaraurus. No further reliable news of Hiroki; his friends are *pouri*, because they think he is dead. The search parties returned from Ngatimaru and the bush between Koukaponui and Oeo, but could not find the body.

W. WILLIAMS.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Oeo, 15th October, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honor to lay before you a statement of the efforts made to capture Hiroki since Saturday, the 6th instant, the day on which Kaitaua and others of Blake's party fired on him; since which time none of the search parties have seen him, but we found his kit, which contained a bag with bullets, part of a Testament, cheque-book, a nipple-wrench, six figs of tobacco, and sheet, but there was no food in it. We found them in the bush, about two chains from where they fired at him, and we traced him a long way; but the rain stopped our search on that day, and Hone and Katene thought it possible that he would try to pass through with some of the Natives going to the Parihaka meeting, and we thought it best to have a force at Oeo to watch and prevent it. And, as all have now passed through, I have sent the men to see if they can find Hiroki's body, as all the Natives say, and believe, he shot himself on the same Sunday that he was fired at. They say that a gun was fired on the evening of that day in the bush at Otekeau, five or six miles from where he was fired on in the morning. I intend going to Parihaka with the Ngarauru, who have just arrived at Oeo, so that I shall know for a certainty whether he is there or not. If he does not get to the meeting I shall feel almost sure that he is dead. I have visited all the places where it is said he has been seen except Parihaka, but I feel sure that none of the Natives have seen him since that. I saw here is one thing: Te Whiti and all the Maoris say they will give him up, as he is a thief and a murderer; but this I shall soon know if he is there. Patohe and Taumahaki have returned from Ngatimaru: they saw no sign of him there. Patohe was very wroth because he was not shot, as the trap was so well laid. I fear we shall never get him so well trapped again; but if he is alive I feel sure we shall get him on the 17th at Parihaka.

I have, &c.,

W. WILLIAMS.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 18th October, 1878.

On my way to Oeo to see Titokowaru, who is there, met several of his people. There is no need of anxiety or alarm. Te Whiti and Tohu were annoyed because search party searched whares at Parihaka, where the women were. Te Whiti has sent word to say if Hiroki came to Parihaka he would send word to the Government; and, after doing so, he felt annoyed that the houses were searched without his consent. The party were murued for their conduct in searching whares. Had no other reference to Hiroki. Threat to shoot party was not meant in earnest—Natives state merely to give them a scare.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 19th October, 1878.

Was informed by Natives at Okaiawa that Titokowaru and his people were to be back from Parihaka last night. Thinking the people might be excited, I hastened on to meet them before they

got to survey camp; met several, and wrote you a telegram by person I met going to Hawera. On reaching Oeo, I found that the whole of the Natives made the same statement made by those I had met—namely, that the whole of the Natives assembled at Parihaka considered it an insult to search the whares, especially their sleeping-whares where the women were, in quest of Hiroki. Te Whiti had sent word that, if Hiroki took refuge at Parihaka, he would send word and inform the Government. After his having done so, Te Whiti, Tohu, and Parihaka people consider that the search party ought to have gone to Te Whiti, who would have told them where Hiroki was or was not at Parihaka. Natives wish it understood that they did not *murū* because they sympathized with Hiroki or objected to general action of Government to capture him, as Te Whiti had publicly stated that he would not hide or conceal Hiroki. Searching the whares was an insult, and the party were murdered as payment for the insult. The form of *murū* having been gone through, Te Whiti told Natives to return them their things and order them to leave Parihaka at once. Natives state that threats were used merely to hurry their departure from Parihaka. Titokowaru will probably telegraph to you on the subject.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Patea, 26th September, 1878.

Katene and Ruakere, Te Whiti's cousin, accompanying me to Waitotara this morning to assist Pihama in searching for Hiroki.

C. A. WRAY, R.M.

Major BROWN, C.C.

Patea, 2nd October, 1878.

I have sent Patohe and Taumahaki to Ngatimarū, and others to Pingairi, and into the bush on the other side of the Waingongoro. Those from up the Waitotara, with Hone Pihama, returned yesterday. Those from the Patea are just come in, but saw no trace of him; but all the Natives are determined to get him. They say the blood shall be washed off the tribe. I wish you would stop McDonald from trying to unsettle the Waitotara purchase. He is offering 6s. per acre. I have just returned from Normanby.

W. WILLIAMS, L.P.C.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Whanganui, 26th September 1878.

I have just posted letter from Mr. Fisher, of Waitotara, to Mr. G. C. Rees, interpreter. It contains particulars *re* murder of McLean, which throws further light on the subject. Hiroki confessed to Maori last that he had shot a surveyor. Hiroki last seen by Tanamua, at Herokaou, on Potuakau Stream, last Sunday, with gun, kit of potatoes, and tin of pork. Hiroki likely to have made for Waikato, where he went with Paruma, a Waikato, and others last year, so he knows the road. Canoe, with two police and my despatch, to Whanganui River. Police assessors and police started yesterday morning. It is quite possible Hiroki might make for Upper Whanganui *en route*.

R. W. WOON, R.M.

[TRANSLATION.]

To Mr. CLARKE.

Normanby, 19th October, 1878.

Friend, salutations to you. Your letter has reached me to-day. Friend, greetings to you—the rock and the man whom God has created to send news to the Maori tribes. Friend, greetings to you. Hearken. Ngarauru has reached Parihaka, and Wiremu also. This is my word to you, that Te Whiti is very much distressed on account of the policemen intending to proceed to Parihaka to search for Hiroki. Do you hearken: they are taking their own authority in their own way, not that of the Government. And also do you hearken: that man is thinking that he is a man of a high rank. I do not think the matter will be settled by his means. Sufficient (ended).

WIREMU KATENE.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Waverley, 25th September, 1878.

Party of Natives under Blake, with Constable Burrows, assisted by two of survey party, are about starting to search bush tracks and inland settlements. Will start another party later to-morrow, probably.

C. A. WRAY, R.M.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Patca, 24th September, 1878.

Captain Wilson was to leave for Ngarongao this morning to try and intercept Hiroki. I am going to Waverley, and possibly Okotuku and Waitotara, to see what can be done there. The following statement of settlers may assist you in arriving at cause of murder. The surveyors, however, deny any quarrel with Hiroki, about which I am making further inquiries. Francis Williamson states, "About three weeks ago I was at Papatupu. I entered into conversation with Hiroki, who complained to me that Murdoch McLean and a former cook to the survey party had been killing his pigs. Hiroki said he would kill Murdoch McLean and the cook on account of the pigs. Hiroki had made use of this threat on two or three occasions previously, and I had cautioned McLean and Fraser."

C. A. WRAY, R.M.

Captain WRAY, Waverley or Waitotara.

Wellington, 24th September, 1878.

Thanks for telegram. Leave no stone unturned if possible to secure the supposed criminal. I do not know what is the telegram to which Pihama refers. Please ascertain.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Native Office, Whanganui, 27th September, 1878.

PRESENT—Paiaka, Piki, Patormu, and Naioro; when Pukehika informed me he had seen Rawiri, of Rakato, near Kaiwhiki yesterday, who returned on Wednesday, 25th, from Kaipo, where he had been residing for some little time. Rawiri reports that Hohepa, father of Hiroki, informed Ngarauu, in meeting assembled at Kaipo, on Monday night, 23rd instant, that Hiroki had shot McLean on account of his pigs, supposed to have been killed by survey party, he (Hiroki) having found three head of his

pigs on a certain day, when out to feed them at Momohaki. That Hohepa saw him (Hiroki) take up his double-barrel gun (the one stolen) and go out with it; that he asked him why he was going out, seeing his child was ill, to which Hiroki replied, he had no child, wife, or other relatives now—that they should see his face no more.

Hohepa further said that Hiroki shot McLean when stooping down to get water in a bucket out of the creek; that the ball entered his posterior and came out at his head; that Hiroki went to the tent and brought away therefrom some powder, shot, caps, bullets, and a gun, and other things, clothes, &c., returned to the kainga of Hori Tamahira and Ruta, and Tahua Pehimana. They—up Momohaki Stream—entered their house, when Hori saw Hiroki had caps on nipples of his gun; when Hori ordered Ruta to prepare food, of which Hiroki partook a little, and then went out. Hori asked him why he did not finish his food. Hiroki replied, "You can judge from my strange appearance that I am a bad man now;" that Hori at once surmised that he had committed murder. Hiroki then asked him if there was a crossing inland of Whenuakura and Patea, and Hori said, "Yes, at times." Hiroki then made off.

Pukehika says Hiroki is a brave and hot-tempered man; that he was always foremost in the expedition (Amiowhenua) under Kemp and Topia against Te Kooti in 1870. Related to Whanganui, Ngarauru, and Waikatos. Believes Hiroki has fled to Waikato.

This may or may not be the correct version of the affair: at any rate the story is a plausible one. It does not appear how Hohepa knew all about the manner in which the deed was committed, unless got from Hiroki.

P.S.—Pukehika belongs to Komiti, in the Upper Whanganui, Ngatipa Tribe. Rawiri says Hiroki belongs to Ngawairiki, of Ngarauru, and other hapus.—R. W. W.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Whanganui, 29th September, 1878.

Re Hiroki. Search parties returned last evening without success. Report having seen Hiroki's tracks, and that he is making for Parihaka. Have warned Wilson to be on the look-out.

C. A. WRAY, R.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 27th September, 1878.

Saw Natives inland of this yesterday; also Titokowaru's Maoris and Hokeri's Omuherangi people to-day. The whole are very decided in saying that Hiroki will not attempt to go to Parihaka. They condemn Hiroki's act as that of a dog, and that he deserves dog's death. They say, if Rewi protects, he will go to Ngatimaniapoto; if Rewi is with the Government, he will try to reach Taupo *via* Whanganui. Natives every day becoming more reconciled to survey of Waimate Plains. Behave with more friendly spirit to surveyors. It requires constant attention to augment a friendly feeling, and prevent misunderstandings that might lead to serious results; and for that reason I did not feel justified in going to Waitotara in quest of murderer, and leaving survey parties without some one between them and the Natives. Major Tuke just arrived here, and saw Natives in vicinity of Parihaka. They say murderer will not attempt to take refuge at Parihaka.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Waverley, 28th September, 1878.

Blake and party returned. Saw Hiroki's tracks making for Ngatiruanui. They followed him for two days and a-half, to a place named Pukemakemoki. They saw two of [his] camps, but decided that he had too good a start of them, so they returned to intercept him about Te Ngahere or Mountain Road. I think it would be well to watch the White Cliffs, as he [may] make for Mokau.

W. WILLIAMS, L.P.C.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Opunake, 9th October, 1879.

Just received word from Parihaka that Hiroki has arrived there, and states that he killed McLean because the storekeeper at Waitotara detected the cheque which he had stolen from some pakeha's whare when he broke open a box, &c. Shall I go to Parihaka with Hone Pihama, or with the men I have had with me—viz., Blake's party—or with the Constabulary? I believe Te Whiti will give him up without any difficulty. I am waiting your advice, and I have sent for Hone Pihama, who will be here soon. I think we shall get him this time. If the men had not been so frightened he would have been taken on Sunday. He told them that he was shot at three times on Sunday morning, and thought that he was killed. Reply urgent.

W. WILLIAMS, L.P.C.

W. WILLIAMS, Opunake.

9th October, 1878.

Hon. Native Minister directs me to reply to your telegram that he wishes to have the opinion of Hone Pihama before deciding what steps shall be taken. Communicate opinion to Hon. Native Minister.

C. BROWN, C.C.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Whanganui, 30th September, 1878.

Just seen Epiha Patapu, of Waipakura, who came to inquire about the murder. He suspects the Ngatiporua hapu of Ngarauru; says some fifty of them went to Parihaka lately (principal chief, Wiremu te Whare Konete); that they were much incensed with Tapa and Uru for receiving money and goods from some European at Waitotara, on account purchase Matemate-Aonga Block, inland of Waitotara, and not giving them any; and thinks it likely they have avenged themselves by deputing Hiroki, of same hapu, to shoot a white man to bring Tapa and Uru into trouble with the Europeans. Believes that Hiroki would fly to Parihaka, and thinks inquiry should be made there. Tapa and Uru are in Wellington. Sir George Grey knows Patapu well, and his statement can be relied upon.

R. W. WOON, R.M.

Major BROWN, C.C.

Hawera, 2nd October, 1878.

J. Drake's search party returned; tracked Hiroki on track leading to Ngatitemou. Left his track day and half journey from Ngatitemou; as tracks were four or five days old, party considered it hopeless overtaking him. Natives think he will go straight to Waikato.

P. G. WILSON, Captain N.Z.M.

[TRANSLATIONS.]

Mr. CLARKE and the Hon. Mr. SHEEHAN.

Whanganui, 3rd October, 1878.

Friends, salutations to you. We have heard that Peretini and others have said that Hiroki has reached Parihaka, and that he will perhaps be detained by Te Whiti. Another report says that he will go to Mokau. Mr. Woon and I think that, should I go to Tuhua and hear that he (Hiroki) has gone thither, I should go direct and take him, because he belongs to me, as he is a Ngarauru of Whanganui. Let the murders of Waikato suffice. If he is withheld, I will not come back. I rests with me. If he is at Parihaka, that place is Manga's.

If he is soon caught he must be hanged at Patea, at the place where he shed blood. However, I am going to Parihaka, and will go by Ohura to Waitara.

We shall be wrong if the persons who act right take part in and assist the shedder of innocent blood; for it is not that the pakehas are powerless to seek redress for those who have been killed without cause by the Natives. No: in my opinion, peace has been thoroughly established throughout this Island, and both races have been benefited, and that is why the murders in Waikato have ceased. There are two principal things which cause loss of life—namely, land and women.

Now, notice has been sent to all the pas up the river to be on the look-out for that man, and to capture him if he is seen within these districts.

Friends, salutations to you and your friends, who administer affairs for us in the pa (fortress) of safety. Ended.

From your friend,

PAIAKA.

Hon. JOHN SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Normanby, 3rd October, 1878.

Friend, greetings. I returned this day from Whakakahurangi, the Mountain Road, and Te Ngaere, where I had been in search of Hiroki. I did not find him; probably he is still to the southward. I have told my people not to leave that man at large, but to catch him; the whole tribe agree, but they will not catch him. The policemen must go and arrest him.

I have arrived at Waimate, and told my people to allow the Europeans to proceed with the survey, and not to do as was done at Waitotara. Such actions cause difficulties. The Government will show us, the Maori people, some consideration.

WIREMU KATENE.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER and Major BROWN.

Hawera, 3rd October, 1878.

Greetings. Friends, we have returned from Waitotara, whither we went by canoe in search of the murderer. We continued the search for four days, and returned on the fifth, Te Ure and myself coming on to Te Hawera, being tired by so much travelling: not that our fatigue is to be compared with the death of our friend who was murdered. We returned to Hawera because his tracks had been seen at Whenuakura, going towards Parihaka or Waikato. However, search is still being made. Finished.

From your friends,

HONE PIHAMA and
TE URE.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 5th October, 1878.

Sent urgent telegram in case Major Brown away. Send to you direct. Natives have just come in. Say saw Hiroki nowhere; he is hiding. If definite reward offered them they will bring him into Hawera. They describe him and dog correctly, and are waiting reply.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 5th October, 1878.

Just returned from Stratford. Investigated the report *re* Mountain Road. Taylor saw Patoe and Taumahaki, and was frightened; rode back about eight miles and reported to two men named Haggett and Turner, who in their turn were frightened, and bolted for Inglewood and spread the alarm; and Stewart also telegraphed the same: and now it turned out to be all lies. I gave them a good talking to, and intimated that they might have to pay all expense the Government had to pay. I am put to see for Hiroki, whom Heki Wharerata and others say they have seen this morning. I think it is true, as I heard him tell one of the Natives.

W. WILLIAMS, L.P.C.

Major BROWN, C.C.

Hawera, 5th October, 1878.

Have given Natives arms, and sent four Native police with them. Reward, £200, to be divided amongst party. Williams, here, talks of going with them.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Opunake, 7th October, 1878.

At crossing of the Mangawhero Stream, which runs into Kaupokonui, three of party fired on Hiroki. He escaped, and threw off his *pota*, or mat, which had a bullet-hole in it. We got no trace of blood. Making for Parihaka. Hone Pihama here with me. Hiroki will be greatly sympathized with, in our opinion, by the Ngatiwhaua people, as he has relations among them. Hone wishes me to state that he is greatly troubled as to how he should act now, and anxiously awaits a reply. We wire to Mr. Williams to come up immediately, although he may be on the way now for here.

J. T. BLAKE.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 7th October, 1878.

Hiroki was seen by search-party yesterday, across bush clearing at back of Mawhitiwhiti. Search-party fired three shots at him, but missed him. They are following his tracks. Another party has gone on by Otakehu to intercept him, if possible. I telegraphed to Officer in Charge A.C., Opunake, asking him to keep strict watch in that district. Te Whiti has sent word that, if Hiroki comes to Parihaka, he will send word to Government. Hiroki cannot have got to Parihaka by any possibility. Telegraphed this information to Major Brown this morning.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Captain WILSON, Hawera.

Wellington, 7th October, 1878.

Have been told by Natives here that Hiroki has got to Parihaka. Do not know source of their information, but will make inquiry, and let you know.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Major BROWN, C.C.

Hawera, 8th October, 1878.

Received telegram from Major Tuke last evening to say that Wallace, of Armed Constabulary, had returned from Parihaka, and reports that Te Whiti says if Hiroki takes refuge there he will send word to Government. I sent Te Whiti's brother to Parihaka some days ago to remain and report if Hiroki took refuge there. Hon. Native Minister telegraphed last evening to know if Hiroki was at Parihaka. I replied to telegram.

P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. Mr. SHEEHAN.

9th October, 1878.

Major Tuke's messenger, Wallis, brought word that Te Whiti said he would let Government know directly should Hiroki get to Parihaka, and that then an officer of Government could go and talk to him (Te Whiti) about the matter. It is from conversation with Hone Pihama that I am led to believe that it would be advisable for some officer to see Te Whiti.

W. WILLIAMS.

Hon. Mr. SHEEHAN.

9th October, 1878.

No word has yet come from as he promised. Hone Pihama is doubtful as to what course Te Whiti will pursue. My reason for thinking that Te Whiti would give up Hiroki is that he told Wallis that he did not want Hiroki.

W. WILLIAMS.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Opunake, 10th October, 1878.

Saw Titokowaru on plains. Told me not to carry any message to Parihaka. Replied that as he gave no reason I would go. Will report on my return to-morrow from Parihaka, if you keep here open.

C. BROWN, C.C.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Opunake, 10th October, 1878.

I think the plan suggested by you, relative to the Waitotara Natives going to demand Hiroki from Te Whiti, a very good one, and the most likely to succeed, as it would help them in washing off the blood of murder. Hone has not yet arrived from Oeo, but I am expecting him every minute.

W. WILLIAMS.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Opunake, 10th October, 1878.

Hone Pihama thinks the plan proposed the very best, as it will enable the Ngarauru to remove the *pouri* and the *toto kohuru*.

W. WILLIAMS.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Opunake, 9th October, 1878.

Hone Pihama has gone home to Oeo, but I will try and get him up in the morning. Major Stapp is here at Bartlett's.

W. WILLIAMS.

W. WILLIAMS, Esq., Opunake.

Wellington, 10th October, 1878.

Will you tell Hone Pihama that the Hon. the Native Minister has decided on the course approved by him, that a deputation of Ngarauru Natives had better go to Parihaka, and demand Hiroki? Mihaka Rererangi has been telegraphed to, to that effect. You had better go and fetch them, to make sure. Please reply to Hon. Native Minister.

T. W. LEWIS.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Opunake, 10th October, 1878.

Kaparanga has just arrived from Parihaka, and says that Hiroki is not there, and that, if he was, he would not be concealed but be given up. Hone says this information is reliable.

W. WILLIAMS.

[TRANSLATION.]

Mr. SHEEHAN.

Waitotara, 11th October, 1878.

It was on this day that I saw your telegram, whereupon I called all the people together and the meeting opened at four o'clock.

Aperahama Tamaiaparea said, "Rere, the telegram from Mr. Sheehan is satisfactory. Hearken, all the tribe: I am the one to go." I have thus carried out what you said about sending some one to search for Hiroki at Parihaka: ten people are to go under Aperahama Tamaiaparea; the day they are to start is Monday the fourteenth.

MIHAKA RERERANGI.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Opunake, 12th October, 1878.

Just returned from tracking Hiroki; found his kit and bag of bullets, one cheque-book and shot, and six figs of tobacco, nipple-wrenches, portion of Testament; but he had no food with him: was evidently making for Parihaka. Hone and Katene think that he will pass through here on Monday, and want to know if they have your permission to take him by force, as they think he will come with a large number of sympathizers; but Hone and Katene say they will have him if you

say that they can use their own judgments. If he should go through, Katene says we are sure to get him at Parihaka on the seventeenth; and they are bound to talk the matter over. Pihama wishes Uru te Angina, Tapa, and Rererangi to be sent at once. Please reply to-night.

W. WILLIAMS, L.P.O.

[TRANSLATION.]

MIHAKA RERERANGI, Waverley.

Wellington, 14th October, 1878.

A message has been sent to Mr. Williams to make arrangements for a supply of food. Your speedy going is good. What I desire is that you all should be strong in persuading the tribe to give up the murderer, so that he may be tried before the law.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Patea, 22nd October, 1878.

Had satisfactory meeting at Waitotara yesterday. Told them that you were quite satisfied that they had used every effort to relieve themselves of any imputation as regarded Hiroki's crime. Said they were pleased to hear me say so, but they wish to hear you say so, to be satisfied.

C. BROWN, C.C.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Hawera, 23rd October, 1878.

Mr. Rennell telegraphs that Te Whiti has sent in Ruakere to report arrival of Hiroki at Parihaka severely wounded. Te Whiti wants an interview with you before anything else is done. Have telegraphed asking Ruakere if I had better go in the meantime.

C. BROWN, C.C.

Major BROWN, C.C., New Plymouth.

Wellington, 23rd October, 1878.

Thanks for telegram *re* Hiroki. I think you had better go up and see Te Whiti. You may thank him for giving us notice of the arrival of Hiroki at Parihaka. You may add that I regret the indiscretion of Ngarauru should have given his people offence. I will consider and reply to his request, and let him know.

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 24th October, 1878.

Saw Titokowaru *re* Hiroki's arrival at Parihaka. Asked him if desirable for Major Brown to go to Parihaka. Titokowaru thinks no one should go to Parihaka until Te Whiti has had an interview with you. On my return here Major Brown had left for Opunake and Parihaka.

C. J. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Major BROWN, Opunake.

Wellington, 24th October, 1878.

Following received from Captain Wilson, Hawera:—

"24th October, 1878.—Saw Titokowaru *re* Hiroki's arrival Parihaka. Asked him if desirable for Major Brown to go to Parihaka. Titokowaru thinks no one should go to Parihaka until Te Whiti has had an interview with you. On my return here Major Brown had left for Opunake and Parihaka.—C. J. WILSON."

JOHN SHEEHAN.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Hawera, 24th October, 1878.

Katene does not think it would be politic for you to see Te Whiti about Hiroki. Do not think he can survive gunshot wound through stomach. Am now leaving for Parihaka with your message to Te Whiti.

C. BROWN, C.C.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Whanganui, 24th October, 1878.

Te Whiti is reported to have said, "Katahi te mahi ko tenei. Ta Hiroki tona tikanga. Na te Atua te whakaaro kia mahi. Waiho ki a maua te whakaaro kia Hiroki mo te ora mo te mate ranei."

R. W. WOON, R.M.

Translation: "This is extraordinary work. Hiroki acted on his own responsibility. It rests with God to order things to be done. Leave to us two the decision with respect to Hiroki either for life or death."

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Opunake, 25th October, 1878.

Large number collected in meeting-house, Parihaka, to hear your message. I asked if there was any reply, and Tohu got up and said there was no reply, because the message was satisfactory. Said he did not wish police of either race to go there, as they would not understand him. Te Whiti was ill, and Tohu spoke for him; said Hiroki was lying in a whare wounded in the chest and back, and his inside comes out of the wounds. I went then to Kahui's place, and learnt from his wife that, as told to her, the bullet went in at the short ribs, at side of his chest, and went out below ribs behind. Bullet took in end of shawl and packet of caps, and packet, which he pulled out. Came to her house last Monday evening tattered and worn-out. Said he was from Waikato, going to Parihaka, and had missed the turning. He went on when he found he was in Kahui's house, as the latter is known to be in Government pay. Had no gun, only coat and shawl. There was no coolness or ill feeling shown at Parihaka. I did not anticipate any, unless Hiroki had died, when his brother and blood relations might have shown some.

C. BROWN, C.C.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Hawera, 30th October, 1878.

Tamaki tells Rennell that Hiroki lay several days in the bush, swollen up, and that at last the wound discharged copiously, and then he felt sufficiently relieved to dress his wound with juice of a creeper, and that he is now recovering rapidly.

C. BROWN, C.C.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Hawera, 2nd October, 1878.

Just received following note from J. Blake, Hiroki search party: "Ridge between Makino and Patea, October 2nd, 1878.—Came on Hiroki's tracks, crossing our track to Tutaiariari. He is

going towards Egmont. I send Terowaho back to put Tuwhakaruru on Hiroki's track. I have decided on going on to Teruatawa's, across Patea River; get guide there to cut Hiroki's tracks, in event of his deviating from course. He is now going and making for Waitara. Opinion of our party that he is near Parihaka, as tracks appear four or five days old; but will cut across country to ascertain if he has made for Ngatimaru, but believe he has gone to Parihaka.—J. BLAKE." Am going to send to Hone Pihama, who is at Oteo, to try get party to cut Hiroki off there, as Tuwhakaruru's party have been away two days, where he strikes in from Stratford. P. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Wellington.

Opunake, 18th October, 1878.

Parihaka meeting broken up. Titokowaru's explanation of Ngarauru's reception is as follows: Ngarauru, on arrival at Parihaka, and before turning their house out, at once commenced to ask for Hiroki, and to search whares—the expression Titokowaru used was “te kongi putui ana a Ngarauru.” If, after *kai*, they had gone to the whare runanga, and asked a plain question about Hiroki, there would not have been any trouble, although they would not have given him up.

H. C. MORRISON, Sub-Inspector, A.C.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER, Wellington.

Pokeno, 6th November, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honor to forward, for your information, a report from Mr. King, Native Interpreter, having reference to a conversation he had with Hemi Manu about Hiroki. I can vouch for the truth of the report. Hemi Manu is considered to be the most reliable Native in the District of Waiuku.

I have, &c.,

THOMAS JACKSON, R.M., Waiuku District.

[ENCLOSURE.]

Captain JACKSON, R.M.

Waiuku, 4th November, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honor to report, for your information, that Henare Kamariera, who left Waiuku with others to live in the King country (being invited, I am told, by Henare Kaihau to come, in order to make arrangements to lease some land he and others received from the Government as returned rebels), arrived here on the 2nd instant from Kawhia, and from whom Hemi Manu learned Hiroki escaped unhurt to Parihaka to Te Whiti, who asked, “Have you fled hither?” He said, “Yes.” “How many of them did you kill?” He answered, “One; and put his body and their tents into the river.” “Why did you spare them? Had you killed them all there would have been nothing more of it; no measures would have been taken: but as you spared them do not meddle further with them.” Some time after, a Ngatiruanui Native, it was said, was told by Major Brown they would have to give up Hiroki—that they had no one now to stand by them, for Tawhiao and Rewi were on the side of the Government. On this being repeated to Te Whiti, he said it was by such proceedings as theirs that things went wrong: “had they left the arrangements with me everything would have been finished long before now. As it is, I will call all the small tribes to come to me at Parihaka—let them hasten hither before the fog covers over.” (This may mean before there is any attempt to take Hiroki.) In answer to this invitation, Henare Kamariera says great numbers are gone and others are going to Taranaki from Kawhia and other places to assist Te Whiti in protecting Hiroki. Hori Tauroa says that he now knows that Hiroki will not be given up; that there was a cause for what he had done. The surveyors had been warned not to proceed, but took no notice, and therefore it was not murder to kill them. That Tawhiao had sent word to Rewi to return to Waikato, and he would have to come. Henare's statement may be exaggerated as to the numbers going to Taranaki. Under the circumstances I thought it right to report to you what I have heard, in case you should think it of sufficient importance to report to the Hon. the Native Minister.

I have, &c.,

PHILIP H. KING.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER.

Hawera, 8th November, 1878.

Telegraphed to Native police, Opunake, to contradict report *re* force to be sent Parihaka. Received reply, no such report in circulation at Opunake.

J. G. WILSON, Captain, N.Z.M.

Hon. J. SHEEHAN, Dunedin.

Opunake, 8th November, 1878.

Bishop (of Whitiara) informs me that a Native named Hoera told him at Stoney River a week ago that if Te Whiti did not give up Hiroki you would send armed party to take him by force. Bishop understood this as having been obtained by Hoera from newspaper report. Maoris generally discredit story, and impute it to some drunken pakeha or Maori.

H. C. MORRISON, Sub-Inspector, A.C.

Hon. NATIVE MINISTER.

Whanganui, 10th November, 1878.

Just back from up river monthly trip. Found lower river pas deserted; all gone to Parihaka. Whiti's influence on the increase here, and numbers are quite infatuated with this man. Kuramate, of Koriniti, pronounced him a false prophet, and gave Turei and Kawhaiki people a good talking to for believing in him at the last; his prognostications are much unsettling the Native mind here, and, although hoping for the best, I think the movement ought to be watched. Reported up river that Te Whiti will not give up Hiroki unless Waimate lands are first returned; also that Rewi declined to assist in delivering him up, asking how many like offenders had been given up. One of the Native assessors, Hohepa Paraone, has gone to Parihaka meeting to see and hear for himself what is going on there. If he does not return after meeting of 18th instant I shall report him absent from the district. Left letter for Mamaku to come to town to see you at Ranana, where he and Tuhua chiefs are expected to a great tangi for Reimana.

R. W. WOON, R.M.