

Auckland Volunteers were kept chiefly on garrison duty within the town, but they took part in several expeditions against the



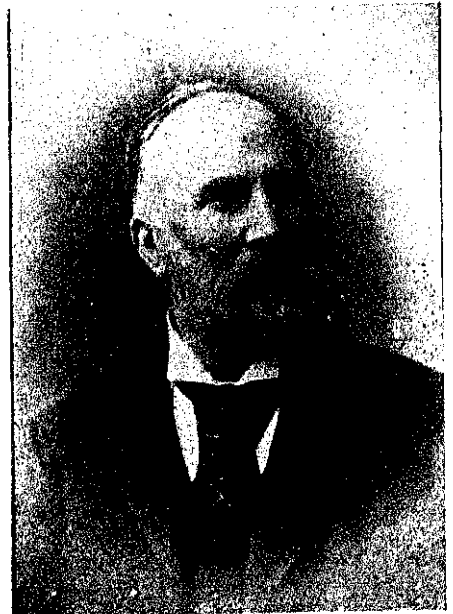
CAPT. C. HEAPHY.

natives. They were sent out to Otahuhu and Drury, and with the 70th Regiment formed part of a "flying column," which went out to Papatoitoi, fourteen miles from Auckland. They were designated a flying column, but their only claim to that description appeared to be that they had to find their own firewood! But in none of these expeditions did they come in contact with the natives. The first time the City Volunteers smelt powder was when, later in the year, they were sent to the Northern Wairoa in company with the 18th Royal Regiment, some of the Militia and the Wairoa Rifles. Major A. Morrow, V.D., an old volunteer, supplies the following narrative of the expedition:—

"It was on a raw, dreary morning in the early spring of 1863 that the detachments of the Auckland Rifle Volunteers—intended to relieve the militia garrison doing duty in the Galloway redoubt (in the Lower Wairoa

district)—embarked at the Queen's Wharf, at Auckland, on board the Government steamer Sandfly, then commanded by Capt. Marks. After an uneventful run—if I may except the loss of a large troop boat, which was towing astern—over a heavy cross sea, we arrived up the Wairoa River, at the landing on the farm owned by the late Capt. Salmon, where, having disembarked, we made all possible speed by a bush road, or rather track, arriving at our destination during the afternoon.

"The site upon which the camp was situated commanded the bridge and approaches to the river some three or four hundred yards distant to the eastward, whilst some few hundred yards further in that direction, on the other side of the river, the stockade, a heavily-timbered, loopholed structure, frowned upon the immediate surroundings, in the vicinity of which a building of unpretentious dimensions served in the dual capacity of store and district post-office, supplying the literary and general



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household requirements of the settlers. The ground on the north and west faces of the redoubt—an earthwork of rectangular