

ing record, therefore, will be extracts from the said journal, interwoven with such remarks and explanations as may be thought necessary to make the whole as intelligible as possible to the ordinary reader.' Then follow almost daily entries up till 20 July, after which he wrote: 'Although my journal for the next two months contains a large amount of matter, much of it is not such as would be interesting to the general reader. I shall, therefore, only copy such portions as may be considered either instructive or amusing, or both.' The armies and the war having moved away from the Waimate area, the extracts and summaries given in the remaining dozen pages are of less interest to us today.

It is for the period 3 March to 20 July, when Burrows acted as an intermediary between Nene and Heke, as well as between the British and their opponents, and was an eye-witness of the attacks on Puketutu and Ohaeawai, that the published *Diary* is most informative. An illustration is the account of the construction of Ohaeawai pa. Colonel Despard was so impressed with the design and strength of the pa that he was convinced some European had a hand in building it.² Cowan and others, following Maning, have written that it comprised an existing pa, belonging to Peni Taua, to which Heke and Kawiti made substantial additions.³ But on 17 May, only a month before Despard's arrival at Waimate, the *Diary* records: 'Learned from Heke's natives who are here that there has been a disagreement between Heke and Kawiti as to where they should erect a second pa, the former wishing to have it at Ohaeawai, the latter at Te Ruapekapeka,....' On 21 May, a mere four weeks before Despard approached what was to be for him an impregnable fortress, the *Diary* reports a visit to Ohaeawai where Burrows found Heke and Kawiti reconciled, and the pa begun. 'Found Kawiti busy marking out the lines and otherwise helping on the work. Whilst waiting for the return of Heke I had a good opportunity for observing the locality they have selected as a site for their new pa.' If this is a contemporary journal entry it seems clear that no pa could already have stood on the site. The engineering skill and industry of Kawiti and his followers (Heke taking no further part after being wounded on 12 June) are therefore the more remarkable. On the strength of several subsequent entries mentioning visits to the site we can also accept the assurance given to Despard by Burrows that no European had any hand in the construction of the pa.

Many other examples of the usefulness of this document, assuming it to be a contemporary record, could be quoted. There are, unfortunately, grounds for suspecting that in preparing it for publication Burrows did rather more than interweave, as he said, 'such remarks as may be thought necessary to make the whole as intelligible as possible to the ordinary reader.' Some of these interwoven remarks are obvious and irrelevant from the point of view of the historical validity of the pub-