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(PROVINCE OF NEW MUNSTER.)

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By His Excellency's Command,

ALFRED DOMETT, Colonial Secretary.

VOL. III.] WELLINGTON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1850. [No. 16.

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Wellington, 26th July, 1850.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Lieutenant-Governor directs the publication of the following Reports for general information.

By His Excellency's Command,

ALFRED DOMETT,

Colonial Secretary.

NOTES, Taken under the direction of Government, Embracing Statistical Returns in connection with the Native Population, and other Miscellaneous information within the Districts of Port Nicholson, Porirua, Waikanae, Otaki, Manawatu, Rangitikei, and Wairarapa, in the Province of New Munster, in the beginning of 1850.

REPORT NO. 1.

"PORT NICHOLSON DISTRICT,"

(Including the Town of Wellington.)

Wellington, 1st January, 1850.

SIR,—In compliance with instructions received, I have the honor to forward for the Lieutenant-Governor's information the Daily Journal of my proceedings for the month ending Dec. 1849. Enclosed also is a Return of Native Population, &c., for the entire District of Wellington as numbered in the margin. The Census and other particulars in each case being taken at the settlements as I visited them. In forwarding these enclosures, I would beg also to make a few general observations upon the state of the Natives in the Districts through which I passed, including those points to which no particular reference could be made in the Returns, but a short outline of which might be in-

teresting to His Excellency, and, I think, render the Journal and other Papers more complete and satisfactory. Proceeding in the order in which I visited the settlements, I beg to make the following notes :—

1st. Settlement.—"OHARIU."

"Ohariu," is situated about 6 miles from Wellington, and immediately in the rear of the Town. The road to the village is over a mountain, is difficult and available only as a footpath, principally through bush. The Pa is situated on a Reserve recently laid down by the Government under Col. M'Cleverty's directions, to which a considerable portion of suburban land is attached. The land comprised within the block on an average may be considered tolerably good, with a fair share of timber. All the Maori cultivations are included within the block, which are by no means extensive.

In addition to this they have several head of cattle, and their pigs, which are numerous, are also allowed to run at large within the boundaries. The Pa is in a state of decay, and very few of the huts are in a habitable state. Originally the Population of Ohariu was numerous, and was the principal landing place for all canoes visiting Port Nicholson from Wanganui, Otaki, Queen Charlotte's Sound, Nelson, and the other Settlements in the Straits. It is still resorted to on these occasions. The inhabitants live principally by fishing. They cultivate little, but frequently are in the employ of Europeans at daily wages. For so small a place, and from the accounts given by the Natives themselves, the mortality for the last 8 or 10 years has been great. The Native Teacher informed me that he had buried above 100 persons within 10 years, and principally adults. The present inhabitants are principally "Ngatitamas," who originally came from Poutama, North of Taranaki; some are Whanganuis, and Ngatiawas, and have all intermarried. Several persons joined William King's party, and some few others are likely soon to follow. The North West wind is severely felt with a great sand drift. The best line of road from Wellington to Ohariu seems to be through the "Karore and Makara" district, a considerable portion of which has already been completed. The Natives on the whole appear to be healthy, but a scarcity of children. Mr. Rhodes has a cattle station here. Total Native Population, 119.

2nd Settlement.—"OHAUA."

"Ohaua" is situated on the coast, south of Ohariu, distant about 6 miles, over a rocky, dangerous road. The village is in a sheltered little valley, with a N. E. aspect. The greater part of it is secured to the Natives as a reserve, but nearly deserted, there being only 5 individuals in the Pa, all the others having joined William King. The Pa and many of the huts are in a state of decay, and in a few months will be probably quite deserted. There is no cultivation; the soil is poor, and the country hilly and badly timbered. Mr. Jenkins, of Wellington, has a cattle station adjoining. Total Native Population, 5.

3rd Settlement.—"OTERANGO."

"Oterango," distant from "Ohaua" about five miles, through bush, is situated in a small barren valley on the coast exposed to the south-east. The population is small, and very badly off: The Pa is in a wretched state, and the owners of many of the houses having returned to Taranaki with William King, are uninhabited and falling to pieces. This also is a Reserve, but the cultivations are insignificant, and in bad order: the natives rear within the boundaries a considerable number of pigs, and are occasionally employed in collecting the Mutton Shell for sale. Mr. Drummond has a cattle station here. Total population, 19.

4th Settlement.—"WAIARIKI."

"Waiariki" is situated on the coast, distant from Wellington about 15 miles in a south-easterly direction, is on a Reserve made for the Natives by Government. In the small valley immediately in the rear of the Pa are the Plantations belonging to the Waiariki Natives, and though limited, are in unusually good order; the maize and kumara plants promise well, and upon the whole the Natives of this village are much better off than those of the preceding ones. The Pa and huts are also in tolerably good repair. This season they have collected a considerable quantity of the Mutton Shell for exportation, which they convey to Wellington in large sealing boats and war canoes. They are a subdivision of the Ngatiawas, and I think are likely

to remain,—two or three only having returned recently to Taranaki. Mr. Rhodes has a cattle station adjoining. Total Native population—44.

His Excellency will observe that at each of these settlements there is a cattle station; if not within the boundaries of the Native Reserve, on a section immediately adjoining, so that it is a matter of difficulty with the natives to keep the cattle within their proper bounds. They are anxious that there should be some definite arrangements made with the Proprietors of stock in these localities, so as either to secure the use of the Reserves for their own cattle, or to prevent any one or more of the Chiefs leasing and appropriating to private purposes the rents of land which they have been told is public property. To prevent this latter proceeding, individuals of the Tribe are now beginning to receive cattle at so much per head, to graze on the particular lands they claim; these are properly speaking their old cultivations, and are generally of a very limited extent. If this system is attempted to be carried out to any extent, by each member of the Tribe, it must in the end be attended with great confusion and trouble to both Europeans and Natives.

5th Settlement.—"TE ARO."

"Te Aro" is situated within the Town of Wellington, the Pa being equally divided between two sub-divisions of the Ngatiruanui and Taranaki Natives, who are also connected with the Ngatiawas. Every encouragement has been given to the resident Natives to improve their dwellings, &c., and to this end a village has been laid out by one of the Government Surveyors, so as to ensure regularity in the construction of the houses and paths, but as it seems that Te Aro has always been, and is now held as a temporary residence for visitors from the interior, Taranaki, and the country North of Whanganui, there is little hope of so desirable a change taking place. At present the huts, with scarcely an exception, are in a state of dilapidation, and the general state of the Natives, far from being healthy. The Pa is a reserve under Captain Fitzroy's arrangement, and they hold also a considerable portion of land on the hills adjoining the Town, but their cultivations are principally on the Porirua Road, which also is a reserve. The Flax is again engaging their attention, and a small quantity has already been prepared for exportation. Total Native Population, 186.

6th Settlement.—"KUMUTOTO."

Only one clay hut now remains of the old Kumutoto Settlement, within the Town of Wellington. The principal Chief, E Tako, has substituted a good weatherboarded house, which is now occupied by the Police, and is rented by the Government for the sum of £30 per annum. In consequence of this E Tako with the other members of his Tribe are removing to Ngauranga which he intends making his permanent abode. Kumutoto is a reserve, and to this is added a considerable portion of land on the hills immediately adjoining. This he is anxious to exchange for land on the Hutt, where the whole of his cultivations now are. To effect this exchange he is desirous to have the assistance of the Government, and to have it done with their consent, and under their direction. I need scarcely add that he is one of the few whose general conduct shows that he is anxious to improve, and from his general intelligence, is thought a good deal of among his own countrymen. Total Native Population, 14.

7th Settlement.—"PIPITEA."

"Pipitea" within the Town of Wellington, is a reserve, with a fair share of plantation ground immediately in the rear of the Pa, which is also a

reserve. At Pipitea there are several substantial weatherboarded houses, the property of the Natives, principally in the occupation of the Europeans, at very fair rents. There is also a neat little weatherboarded Church in the course of erection to which the Natives have contributed a portion of the material, but the Pa itself and the huts are much out of repair. Several of the Natives belonging to Pipitea are collecting material on the Hutt for the purpose of rebuilding their huts and constructing one good substantial fence round the Pa. The wood they have selected is dry Totara, and if completed, will be very durable and add much to their own comfort, and give the settlement a neat and respectable appearance. They are all Ngatiawa Natives, and their cultivations are principally on the Hutt. Last year they collected a considerable quantity of the Mutton Shells for exportation, and a small quantity will also be brought into the market this year. The mortality in the Pipitea Pa within the last 2 or 3 years has been very great. Total Native population, 96.

8th Settlement.—“TIAKIWAI PA.”

Only a few huts remain, which are used temporarily by visitors coming to Town from Ohariu, and the other settlements on the coast and Cook's Straits.

9th Settlement.—“KAIWARA.”

“Kaiwara” in the outskirts of the Town of Wellington, belongs to the tribe called Ngatitamas, who are distinct from the Ngatiawas—they originally came from Poutama, North of Taranaki, and were the first who commenced to drive out the Ngatikahuhunus, who formerly inhabited the Port Nicholson district. They have intermarried with the Whanganui's, and, with the Ohariu Natives, and form a party of themselves. Their Pa is also a reserve, and a section on the hill adjoining was recently purchased for them by the Government, but they have this year confined their cultivations to the Hutt, upon lands rented from settlers there. The Pa is in a damp situation, being nearly surrounded with water, is small, unhealthy, and out of order. The Natives would gladly exchange it for a piece of land of equal value a little higher up. Their offers, however, have been rejected. They sell a considerable quantity of firewood, and are frequently employed by Europeans at daily wages. Total Native Population, 44.

10th Settlement.—“NGAURANGA.”

Distant about 2 miles from Wellington, on the Hutt Road, was the residence of the celebrated chief, Wharepori. It is now inhabited by a few of his followers. The fences of the Pa are down, but the huts are in tolerably good order.

Ngauranga is a reserve with plantation ground immediately adjoining. The Natives of Ngauranga and Pitone have always been on the most intimate terms of friendship, and they look even now to E Puni as the representative of their deceased parent Wharepori. They intermix very much with each other, and are allowed by E Puni to cultivate upon his land on the Hutt. They have also intermarried, but the population does not seem to be on the increase. They rear and sell a small quantity of poultry; they also procure firewood and fish for the market. Native Population, 34.

11th Settlement.—“PITONE.”

Pitone Pa, situated about 7 miles from Wellington, is the largest and best fortified within the District of Wellington, is a reserve, with sections on the Hutt attached. Their cultivations of Kumara and Maize look well, and in point of comfort and wealth are better off than any of the Port Nicholson

Natives. E Puni was one of the last who left Taranaki for Cook's Straits. His principal reason for visiting Kapiti was to procure fire-arms, after “Pukerangiora” had been taken by the Waikato's, he and his party having driven off the Waikatos prior to their leaving—his return to Taranaki was prolonged by the wars into which he became involved with the Ngatikahuhunu's, and the colonists. Arriving shortly afterwards, he determined to remain. Te Puni contemplates a visit to Taranaki this summer for the purpose of escorting their old and venerable chief “Rauakitua” who it appears was contemporary with the late “Te Rauparaha” and shared with him in several engagements;—this old man will have many followers, and the expedition is likely to be very interesting. They propose to visit Rangihaeata, and all the old PAs between Whanganui and Waitara, the scenes of many bloody conflicts, in which both these old men took very active parts.

The Natives of Pitone have again commenced the cleaning of flax, and it is to be hoped that the merchants will offer remunerating prices as an encouragement to their going on with it. Hitherto they have found it unprofitable, and the consequence is, that a great prejudice prevails against it. I explained to them, and the other Natives, the necessity of turning the indigenous productions of the country to account, as a means of securing wealth and prosperity to the colony, and I believe that with a little trouble, and the promise of small sums as a reward, the whole Native population would, in a short time, engage with spirit in the Trade. Total Native population, 136.

12th Settlement.—“WAIWHETU.”

“Waiwhetu” Pa is situated at the confluence of the two principal rivers of that name—is on a Reserve to which is appended one of the best sections on the Hutt, lately purchased for them by the Government. The Natives of Waiwhetu, from information I gathered, have diminished within the last five or six years, to a very inconsiderable number, and since the murder of their principal chief, shortly after the arrival of the first immigrants by a party of the Ngatikahuhunus, they have dispersed, and some have joined the Natives of Pipitea. The Pa and huts are in bad order, and being greatly exposed to the wind and sand drift, the Natives are hardly ever free from disease. They are anxious to shift the Pa if the proprietor of the adjoining section would be willing to make an exchange for that part of it which lies nearest the river and is sheltered from the cold S. W. winds, by high land on either side. As a ship building yard the site of the present Pa would, I am told, be very valuable, both on account of the depth of water, and from its proximity to the timber on the Hutt. Total Native population, 48.

His Excellency will notice by the Returns herewith enclosed, that the Natives within the district of Wellington, are to some extent possessed of Houses, Cattle, Horses, Carts, and Mills, all of which they now begin to value, and are anxious to obtain—carts in particular are articles much in request among them, and it is likely that within 12 months the traffic by vehicles of this kind between Wellington and the Hutt among the Natives will be considerable.

The Natives of Wellington have no cultivations to speak of on the lands in the outskirts of the Town—all have hired land from Settlers upon the Hutt. Some for a period of two or three years at a nominal rent,—others have chosen cleared land and are paying so much per acre, according to the locality and quality of the soil. The quantity of land newly cleared by the Natives on the Waiwhetu Rivers, within the last two or three years is large,

and the whole of the crops promise a plentiful harvest. The Natives in the Town, I think, would be willing to let or lease the whole of their lands on the outskirts, or would be glad to exchange it for land on the Hutt of equal value, and they seem anxious that the Government should undertake this for them. The soil on the Hutt is better, and much more productive, while, from their habit and mode of culture, it is better fitted as a field for the Native agriculturist, and there is no doubt that in the course of a very few years, if they are allowed to go on, the whole of that valley will be cleared by them of its bush, and afterwards laid down to pasture by the settlers.

Without exciting any suspicion on the part of the Natives, I was enabled to ascertain that they have no fire-arms or ammunition of any account within the district. What few fowling pieces they have are out of order and seldom used. The whole of the fire-arms belonging to the Port Nicholson Natives are, I believe, in the charge of their relatives at Taranaki, and were sent there five or six years ago, when a hostile descent upon Taranaki was contemplated by the Waikato Tribes.

The Native population within the district of Wellington, fluctuates very much. Many of their friends come in from Taranaki on long visits, and generally return accompanied by some of their relatives. Some of those at the villages on the coast will in all probability join William King, in the course of the ensuing year, and make a final move to their Native place. The whole of the "Ngatiawas" entertain to this day the strongest attachment for their Native soil, and a desire once more to mingle with their relatives and friends. If they ever leave Port Nicholson, it is not improbable that they will collect together, and settle down within the "Mokau," "Taranaki," and "Ngatiruanui," districts, and become what they once were, one of the most powerful Tribes in New Zealand.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

H. TACY KEMP,

Native Secretary.

The Honorable,
The Colonial Secretary,
New Munster.

[For further particulars in reference to the foregoing Report, *vide* Table No. 1, annexed..

REPORT NO. 2.

"WAIKANAE AND PORIRUA DISTRICTS."

Waikanae, 31st January, 1850.

SIR.—Herewith I have the honor to enclose for His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor's information, Journals and Return for the month ending January, 1850. I beg leave also to accompany them with a few general remarks on the several Settlements between Porirua and Waikanae in the order in which I visited them.

13th Settlement.—"TAKAPUAHIA."

"Takapuahia," situated within the harbour of Porirua, 15 miles distant from Wellington, is on part of the Native Reserve made at the time of the purchase of the district, and has been laid out as a village under the direction of Government. It is the residence of the Tribe called "Ngatitua," who originally came from "Kawhia," north of Taranaki. Two neat reed Chapels have already been erected on sites chosen at the time of the survey. The

Natives have also collected money sufficient to construct a water mill, on a small but convenient stream of water in the centre of the village—the stones have been purchased and are on the ground, waiting for the wood work, &c., to have it completed; they have also several wheat stacks on hand which will very nearly defray the expense and cost of the mill. The village of Takapuahia has many facilities to which the Natives are fully alive. Its contiguity to the Town of Wellington, with a good road and water conveyance, an abundance of fish in the harbour, with good timber accessible, have induced them to abandon the old Taupo Pa, and with the whole of the Natives of Pukerua, have chosen allotments in the newly surveyed village. Nearly all their cultivations are at Takapuahia, and the maize and potato crops look remarkably well. Total Native population, 252.

14th Settlement.—"KOMANGA-RAUTAWHIRI."

Distant from Takapuahia about 3 miles, is situated on the coast opposite the island of Mana; is a fishing station. The inhabitants are few in number, and are continually on the move. Some have cultivations intermixed with the Ngatitua at Porirua, and some at Nelson. The whaling stations on the Coal Heaver and Mana I believe first induced the Natives to settle on so barren and isolated a spot. Total Native population, 45.

15th Settlement.—"TAUPO,"

Is deserted, and Natives removed to Takapuahia. Any of the building material that can be conveniently removed, will be conveyed to the new village to help in erecting new huts, &c., viz.—doors, windows, and perhaps some of the better part of the fencing of the Pa.

16th Settlement.—"PUKERUA."

One of the earliest settlements belonging to the Ngatitua, was the residence of the late chief "Tungia," and is also deserted, the Natives having joined "Puaha," at Takapuahia. The houses are in a state of decay, and the settlement abandoned. The population, was never very large, and many have died within the last 5 or 6 years. Mr. Couper has a cattle station here.

17th Settlement.—"PARIPARI."

Situated on the sea coast, distant about 7 miles from Porirua, and 3 miles from Pukerua, through heavy bush; is occupied by a sub-division of the Ngatiawas. The village, which is generally known by the name of the Rocky settlement, is nearly abandoned, very few persons now remain, and they will probably soon remove to Waitara. Cultivations they have but little, and in every other respect badly off. Their principal man died a few weeks since. They live chiefly by fishing, and grow on the side of the hill which has a northerly aspect, a few kumaras. The huts are falling to pieces, and their only object now in remaining seems to be a hope that the Government will buy up their claims which are very small. It is doubtful whether the Ngatitua, who originally gave them leave to occupy the ground, would sanction a sale without their consent. Total Native population, 22.

18th Settlement.—"WAINUI."

Is the residence of a division of the Ngatitua and included in its census are the Natives belonging to Paekakariki and Wairaka, two small plantation grounds. Wainui is one of the new villages laid down by the Government. It is a desirable situation for a settlement of the kind, as it not only has the benefit of being near the coast, with a very

fair share of good land, but it also has the additional advantage of being close to the new public road, and may now easily convey their wheat either by land or water to the mill at Porirua, in which the Natives of Wainui have a share. They have several stacks of wheat on hand only waiting for the completion of the mill at Porirua, to have it ground, so that the use of flour will soon become more general than it is now. At Wainui the Natives have commenced again to clean the flax, and is usually their evening's occupation. The old or present Wainui Pa is in a state of dilapidation, and unhealthy, but in the course of a few months, the Natives will probably remove to the new village which is more sheltered, and in every other respect more convenient. They have a Day School under the superintendence of one of the young chiefs, and apparently well conducted. Their cultivations are in good order, particularly the kumara, and the soil at the head of the valley is very rich, although the extent of land is very limited. Total Native population, 195.

19th Settlement.—“WHAREROA.”

“Whareroa,” distant about a mile and a-half from Wainui, is occupied by a division of the Ngatiawas under their principal chief Mitikakau. Although the Pa is small, it is one of the most compact, and in perhaps better order than any I have yet visited. Their cultivations which are some little distance inland are also in excellent order and they appear, on the whole, to be a very industrious little body of people. They have two weather-boarded barns, and several stacks of wheat unthreshed, and they also prepare a considerable quantity of flax for the European market. I was invited by the Natives to see the flax cleaned by a simple, but very convenient method, suggested entirely by themselves. The quantity of flax prepared in this manner they state to be much more, and the labour less fatiguing. It is, I believe, capable of improvement, and the Natives appeared much cheered with the prospect of increasing the quantity to nearly double of that cleaned by the shell in the same space of time. They have cattle and horses, and appear to be in a very healthy and prosperous state. Total Native population, 104.

20th Settlement.—“MATAIHUKA.”

Distant from “Whareroa” about 3 miles on the coast, is a small village, the huts being scattered; but their cultivations are in good order, and their potatoe crop, which is an early one, promises well. They are a sub-division of Ngatitaoas and Ngatiawas, and appear to be an industrious little community. Population, 39.

21st Settlement.—“TE URUHI.”

Within a mile of Waikanae—is nearly deserted. Several of the Natives returned with William King to Waitara—many have died within the last few years, and a very few persons only occupy the ground,—they are now, properly speaking, a part of the Waikanae Tribe, and will soon remove to the new village, are included in the Waikanae census: and their cultivations now form part of those belonging to the new settlement.

22nd Settlement.—“WAIKANAE.”

Formerly the Pa belonging to the Chief William King, who recently emigrated with the larger portion of the Tribe to Waitara. The Waikanae portion of the Pa is deserted; those Natives who remained have removed a little into the interior where a village has been laid out for them by the Government. The Oteraua, or Te Tupe's portion of the Pa, is still occupied; many of the huts in the old Pa have fallen to pieces, and the Pa itself is in a state of ruin. The Church only is used by them

for divine worship on the Sabbath day. Very few huts have been erected in the new village, but material for a new Church is in course of preparation. Their cultivations this year are very limited, owing I think to the uncertainty of many of the Natives remaining permanently. William King seems anxious that they should all join him, and uses every means to encourage their doing so. The site chosen for the new village is in every respect much more convenient for their plantations, and very much more healthy than the old Pa, which is now very nearly buried by the strong sand drifts.

The whole of the land between Wainui and Waikanae has been for some years in the occupation of small Tribes belonging to the Ngatiawa, who were originally put in possession by the Ngatitaoas.—I believe the Ngatiraukawa have allowed the claim of the Ngatiawa as far as the Kukutaaki stream, and would not in case of a sale raise any obstacle, but I believe the Ngatitaoas consider that since William King's departure for Tararaki the land has again reverted to them, and that they would expect to have a voice in the event of a sale taking place. Some of the Ngatitaoas are planting near the new village, and among them is the daughter of the late Tungaia, who, I believe, with Te Rauparaha, Rangihaeata, and other Chiefs, put the present occupants in possession. The extent of land is by no means great, and only fitted for grazing. Mr. Rhodes has a cattle station here. Population, 231.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

H. TADY KEMP,

Native Secretary.

The Honorable,
The Colonial Secretary,
New Munster.

[For further particulars in reference to the foregoing Report, vide Table No. 2, annexed.]

REPORT No. 3.

“OTAKI, MANAWATU, AND RANGITIKEI DISTRICTS.”

Rangitikei, March 10, 1850.

SIR,—In continuation of my Report No. 2, I do myself the honor to enclose herewith Return and Journal for the month ending February. I beg leave also to accompany them in the usual manner with a few general observations for the Lieutenant-Governor's information.

23rd Settlement.—“OTAKI.”

Distant from Waikanae about 10 miles, beach road, is situated about two miles inland, and is the head quarters of the Tribe commonly called Ngatiraukawa. Otaki, I think, is the best specimen of any thing like a new or regular system of Maori settlement any where to be found in New Zealand. The village has been laid out by a Government Surveyor, and allotments apportioned to each married couple. Many of these allotments are now occupied, and the huts which are as usual built of the reed, have the additional comfort of clay chimnies, and other conveniences which they never thought of before. Many of these allotments are also well fenced, here and there a good substantial weatherboarded barn—also a cottage or two in European style, with gardens, fruit trees, &c., and with the Church, which is the largest and best specimen of Native architecture I have ever seen, unite to give the place an air of comfort and good order rarely to be met with in a district inhabited exclusively by Natives. There are also

two watermills in progress of erection. One of them the property of the Catholic Natives is now nearly completed, the cost of which I am told will not be less than £800. These two mills completed, they will be, in point of comfort and actual wealth, better off than any Natives I know, and the consumption of flour much more general than it is now. They have also near 100 head of cattle, well selected, and in good condition.

Otaki was the principal residence of the late chief Te Rauparaha. His son Thompson inherits his father's property, rank, &c. From the great change, however, that has taken place within the last few years with regard to Native rights of chieftanship, it is not likely that he can have either the power or influence which his late father possessed. Te Rauparaha was always considered to be a treacherous chief by his own people, often resulting in the sacrifice of his own allies, who at one time accompanied him to distant parts of the Island for the purpose of taking possession of some fertile spots of country. To enter into a detail of the manner in which he conducted these campaigns, (of which he was generally the leader and promoter) would not be within the scope of this letter—suffice it, however, to say, that for depth of intrigue and cunning he stood unrivalled (even to a proverb) among the old men of his own time; nor is it likely that any of his family or connections which extend from nearly one end of the Island to the other, will ever produce another, whose history, and whose sanguinary deeds, (deeply stained as they are in the blood of many of his innocent countrymen) stand known and acknowledged.

I alluded in my Report No. 1, to the probability that E Puni would visit Taranaki this summer with a large party of followers, calling at the principal stations on his way up. The Ngatiawa and Ngatiraukawa have been enemies for many years. On this occasion Te Puni met with the most friendly reception at Otaki, was invited to the new village, and treated with the usual Native hospitality. I believe this to be the first time for now near ten years since E Puni ventured into Te Rauparaha's camp, and shows that feelings of animosity are fast disappearing before the spread of civilization, and intercourse with the Europeans.

There are near 150 Day Schools: some of them are beginning to read the English language—some few attempt to speak it, and with considerable success.

The Ngatiraukawa, who came originally from Maungatautari, north of Taranaki, near Kahia, is the most powerful tribe in Cook's Straits. They number about 1200 fighting men, including a section of the Ngatitoo, and inhabit all that country lying between Kukutaunaki (a small stream 2 miles north of Waikanae) and the main river of Rangitikei—intermixed with the Ngatiraukawa are a few remnants of the Ngatikāhuhunu, some of whom were part of the original possessors of the soil, while some have more recently migrated from the country in the neighbourhood of Hawke's Bay, which they left in consequence of jealousies and feuds connected with the distribution of land, and ultimately with the sanction of the Ngatiraukawa, were permitted to establish themselves on the banks of the Manawatu, where many of them still remain. Part of them propose returning to Hawke's Bay in the autumn. The Ngatiraukawa, as will be seen by the Returns, are a numerous body—they are industrious, brave, and very much united. In illustration of this I might mention that at the time of Te Rauparaha's seizure, every man capable of bearing arms, was up and ready to unite in the common cause, and to seek out the best means of revenging the old man's death, (for such it was deemed to be according to Native custom, on account of the degra-

ation his imprisonment entailed upon his successors, and those of his nearer relations), and from all I have since heard, that but for the timely interference of the better disposed young men, very serious consequences must have resulted therefrom, especially to the outsettlers who were in a great measure unprotected.

The soil in the neighbourhood of Otaki is good and the crops look well, but the situation of the village inclined to be somewhat damp. The Natives give this account of it themselves. The claim of the Ngatiraukawa to the whole of the district before mentioned, is, I believe, undisputed, and since the call for flax, each sub tribe sets a value upon their several districts which probably they never did before; the whole of that country abounds in flax. There are a few settlers in the neighbourhood of Otaki. Of the nature of their claims I am not aware, but I believe most of them are living there with the consent of the Natives, and appear to be on good terms with each other. Total Native population, 664.

24th Settlement.—“WAIKAWA AND OHAU.”

Distant from Otaki about 5 miles, is inhabited by 2 sub divisions of the Ngatiraukawa. Their principal occupation is cleaning flax, and a rope walk has been established there for nearly three years. The Waikawa Pa is in tolerably good order, but that of Ohau is in a wretched state, and unhealthy. Both villages are on the banks of two rivers of that name. The cultivations, which are some little distance inland, are in excellent order, and a small village which has been laid out by Mr. Williams, upon which they have already made a commencement immediately in the vicinity of the plantation grounds, will tend very much to their comfort and general health—the flax also being close at hand. Their wheat crops turned out very well this year, and many of these Natives, who are Catholics, having an interest in the mill at Otaki, seem to look forward with great anxiety to the time when they may take their grain to the mill free of expense. The road from Ohau to Otaki is good, and a dray or cart may pass without much difficulty. They have a Day School which is well attended. Population of Waikawa, 229—Ohau, 235.—Total Native population, 464.

25th Settlement.—“HOROWHENUA.”

Distant from Ohau about 5 miles, is situated on the border of a lake of that name. The inhabitants are a remnant of the original occupants of the soil called “Te Mūaupoko,” and have been allowed to remain there ever since the country was taken possession of by the Ngatiraukawa's. Horowhenua was the favorite residence of the late Te Whānui, one of the Principal Chiefs of the “Ngatiraukawa; and to him the individuals composing the tribe of Mūaupoko in a great measure owe their existence. The Lake abounds with eels, and the scenery around it is very picturesque and beautiful. It is also interesting in skirting the lake to see the remains of the old Pas, and to hear the accounts given of the manner in which they were attacked and destroyed by Te Rauparaha,—while it is no less gratifying to find among the survivors that sense of security which they frankly acknowledge they owe to the influence and good example of the white men. A daily school is kept here by an intelligent young man and the people generally are employed in preparing Flax for sale. Population, 122.

26th Settlement.—“POROUTAWHAO.”

Distant about 7 miles from Horowhenua is as well as Horowhenua situated some short distance

inland. It is the strong and well fortified village of Te Rangihaeata, the leader and instigator of the late rebellion at Porirua. The Pa, which is well built, has besides very good natural defences, having but one approach: As a stronghold I have seen nothing equal to it in this part of the country. The land around it is of the best kind, and the crops looked remarkably well. Rangihaeata has always borne the character, both among the settlers and Natives, of being honest and candid, whether in his private dealings, or under the more exciting circumstances and temptations of a war expedition, during which the character and dispositions of the leading men in particular are easily and most certainly displayed. Rangihaeata is much altered since the outbreak, and though still very loquacious, his constitution is evidently breaking. He is still thought a good deal of by all the natives on the coast, but his influence as having a tendency to raise any commotion, has certainly very much diminished. The number of his followers is but small; many of these have embraced Christianity, and become quiet and peaceable. Rangihaeata still adheres to the old native customs, and this is I suppose the only village in this part of the country where the "Tapu" still exists. Most of his time is spent in fishing, in making and repairing nets, and superintending the work of his slaves, who are kept under great subjection. He likewise entertains many visitors from the interior, including Taupo and Rotorua. A Daily School is kept here by the Native Teacher for the children, while the others are principally occupied in cleaning Flax and rearing Pigs for the English market. Population, 129.

27th Settlement.—"MANAWATU."

Is Distant from Otaki about 25 miles. Manawatu is the finest river in this neighbourhood—is navigable for several miles, the banks of which are composed of a rich alluvial Deposit and well timbered. It has two small branches called "Oroua," and "Tokomaru"—up the latter is the pass into the Wairarapa, but very shallow and serpentine. Manawatu is one of the Principal Districts occupied by the "Ngatiraukawa"—intermixed with them are two small tribes, one called "Te Paneiri," originally from the Hawke's Bay country,—the other, a remnant of the old Rangitane, part of whom are still to be found in and near the Wairau.

The Manawatu is becoming a district of considerable importance, owing to the recent demand for Flax, and in no district that I have travelled over have I found it so plentiful; Judging from this, it will be seen that the country lays low and subject to inundations. There are several Europeans on the River, who employ native agents as storekeepers and general traders at each of the principal stations. These are young men of good character, and sell either on commission, or are paid a yearly salary for their services. Upon enquiry I found that many of them thoroughly understood the simple rules of arithmetic, and could calculate very readily. Most of the Flax, Wheat, and Pork, &c., is sold by weight to the Europeans and to each other, at certain fixed prices. A considerable quantity of wheat is grown at Manawatu, and a ready market is found for the flour which is ground at Mr. Keble's mill.

The three principal stations or settlements on the Manawatu are "Te Awahou," near the heads, "Taita" and "Moutoa" or "Te Rewa Rewa," up the river. With the exception of Te Awahou, there are no other Pas or fortifications worth mentioning. The huts and cultivations are scattered along the banks of the river, and generally contiguous to the flax grounds. The easy water conveyance for the flax and other produce, including timber, has made the Manawatu a favourite residence with the Natives and in the two small rivers of Oroua and Tokomaru,

Eels are most plentiful. A village has been laid out at Te Rewa Rewa, and a substantial Church is in progress of erection at the Native Settlement of Te Awahou. It is, I think, probable that the Natives will make this their head quarters, as it is near the heads and convenient for fishing. The Native population, as will be seen by the enclosed Return, is considerably larger at Manawatu than at any other place, and there are likewise several European settlers who are living on friendly terms with them. From the dampness of the country many of them are taken off either by fevers or consumption, and are not within reach of medical aid. As the most central station between Wellington and Wanganui, Te Awahou seems to offer more advantages than any other settlement on the whole line of coast, for a Police Station, where a Medical dispensary might also be kept for affording relief to all sick persons within the districts of Otaki and Rangitikei, to defray the expenses of which a small fee might be demanded of the Natives, which I believe they would readily pay, rather than be at the expense and fatigue of travelling to Wellington for assistance.

It will be interesting to His Excellency to learn that within the district of Waikawa and Manawatu alone, flax to the amount of about 80 tons per annum is prepared entirely by the Natives, and that they are realizing at from 1d. to 1½d. per lb cash, and that the traffic between them and the settlers appear to be carried on in a liberal and praiseworthy manner. There are 2 or 3 cattle stations, and the Native population amounts to 877.

28th Settlement.—RANGITIKEI.

Distant from Manawatu about 16 miles, is included within the new purchase and inhabited by a tribe called Ngatiapa. There are three Pas—one near the entrance of the river, the other two about 5 miles further up, and within a very short distance of each other. One of them is occupied by a portion of the Natives who were expelled from the Hutt at the time of the rebellion. Te Kowhera, Rangihaeata's priest, who I saw, lives here also, and this once little disaffected band have now settled and become quiet and well behaved. These are known as the Ngatirangatahi, and are entirely distinct from the Ngatiapa, who occupy the other two Pas.

The Ngatiapa are a remnant of the original people, and have held but little intercourse with the Europeans. They are still rude and uncivilized, and look with a jealous eye upon their conquerors, the Ngatiraukawa, by whom they were recently permitted to sell the land on the other side of the river. The whole of the Ngatiapa scarcely amount to more than 300 souls, including Turakina and Whangaehu, for whom a sufficiency of land has been reserved. The quantity of stock already introduced is considerable, and the Natives will soon find the necessity of erecting substantial Fences around their plantations. This they must do at once in order to live at peace with the settlers. If the Natives of Rangitikei improve, they will eventually become useful auxiliaries to the settlers, and even now their attention is being drawn to the preparation of the flax, where, if sufficient inducement offers, a rope-walk will soon be established by one or two of the enterprising settlers. Total Native population, 259.

Arms and ammunition I believe the Natives in this district possess in considerable quantities, which are very carefully preserved. It was not in my power to obtain any accurate information on this subject, but I found the "Arms prohibition Ordinance" working well, and the Natives did not at all object to apply to the proper authorities for permission to have their fowling pieces repaired.

His Excellency will be gratified to find from this short outline of the state of the district, as well as

from the minute details given in the Returns that the Natives within the district of Otaki and Rangitikei, are peacefully disposed, and actually employed at all the villages in collecting and preparing flax for the English market. The mode of dressing it is very simple, and the quantity they are now supplying induces the hope that it will soon become a valuable article of export from this part of the country. Great care is now being taken by the Natives to mark out and reserve the flax grounds belonging to them in right of their families, and I know in one of these cases where the Natives of a village are paying the proprietor so much per head (cash) to be allowed to cut from a particular reserve, which they do most cheerfully. Another young chief proposes to establish a rope-walk, and is saving up money for the purpose of buying the necessary machinery. Several have stock, such as cattle, horses, and some few sheep, all evidence of the progress they are making, and of a desire on their part to settle down in peace and quietness with each other and with the settlers.

Having completed this part of the service, I shall lose no time in crossing the "Tararua" range into the valley of the Wairarapa, when I will further report for His Excellency's information.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
H. TACY KEMP,
Native Secretary.

The Honorable,
The Colonial Secretary,
New Munster.

[For further particulars in reference to the foregoing Report, *vide* Table No. 3, annexed.]

REPORT. No. 4.

WAIRARAPA DISTRICT.

Wairarapa, April 15th, 1850.

SIR,—In my Report No. 3, dated the 10th March 1850, I stated that I should lose no time in travelling through the Manawatu Pass into the valley of the Wairarapa; I have now the honor to report for His Excellency's information, that I accomplished the journey over the "Kaibinu" mountain on the Tararua and Ruahine ranges in three days from the head of the Tokomaru stream. From the top of the Kaibinu mountain, a fine view of the country lying between Otaki and Rangitikei is to be obtained, but more particularly the district of the Manawatu. From thence the course of the river is easily discernible by the narrow belt of timber which skirts it. Two or three swamps were also pointed out to me of many hundred acres in extent, running nearly parallel with the river. There are also several large lagoons abounding in eels and wild duck. Shortly after reaching the summit of the Kaibinu mountain, the weather became thick and foggy, the wind S. East with rain, and exceedingly cold. I was led to expect this from the account given by the three Natives who accompanied me, and the rapidity with which they moved on, over a scarcely perceptible track, convinced me that they were anxious to get out of the forest and cross the rivers before they overflowed. On the 2nd night we halted at a small village called "Te Hawera" at the extreme head of the Wairarapa, and about half a day's journey from the source of the Manawatu, or starting point from thence, into the Heretaunga or Hawke's Bay country. This being the first Maori village after crossing the range, I beg to commence the usual short outline of the state of the Native Settlements within the valley of the Wairarapa, to accompany the other Returns.

29th Settlement.—"TE HAWERA."

Is situated at the extreme head of the valley of the Wairarapa, having been occupied only about 5 or 6 years. It is surrounded by dense bush on all sides of many miles in extent, and appears to be nothing more than what is commonly known as a Maori clearing or garden. Its inhabitants are a remnant of the old Rangitanes and number in all 29 souls. They cultivate nothing but the potato, and live in two or three rude unfinished huts. The contrast between these people and those on the coast is very striking, the former resembling more of the Maori in his primitive state than any I have seen in the neighbourhood of Port Nicholson. The account of their first coming there is very interesting. After the country had been nearly depopulated by the Ngatiraukawa and Ngatiawa, the few survivors of the original occupants were obliged to seek refuge in the mountains, where many remained and obtained but a precarious subsistence. The Rangitanes were of the number, but when through the introduction of Christianity and civilization their enemies had ceased to scour the country in the hope of exterminating or making them slaves, they ventured to establish themselves in this remote part of the country. Their principal man recently died. His successor, aware of the inconvenience of living in this isolated spot, proposes, with the concurrence of the Manawatu chiefs, to abandon it, and engage in the flax trade, which is now found to be so profitable on that river. The bush on all sides of this little settlement is very dense, but level, and the Natives explained that a track might with little trouble be opened to enable a horse to travel by this route into the Hawke's Bay country. I also gathered such further information from the Natives as would lead to the belief that a communication might be opened between the Wairarapa, Manawatu, and Rangitikei country, and from the general lay of the country as observed from the summit of the Kaibinu, there is good reason for believing their statements to be correct, and if so, will be the means of incorporating three of the largest and most important districts adjacent to the Town of Wellington. The route they pointed out offers no greater impediment than that of clearing the bush. The only difficult ascent is the "Kotukutuku" hill, which terminates what may be properly called the Wairarapa plains; from thence to the Hawera, the bush is nearly level for 30 miles which I travelled, and beyond that as far as the navigable part of the Manawatu (for small canoes,) the bush is described by the Natives as being equally level. The length of bush which divides the two districts cannot, I think, be less than 40 miles, that is, from the Kotukutuku to the outlet on the Manawatu, at a point called Ngawapurua or Puelutai. From either of these points a road might be opened to the Rangitikei and Manawatu—to the former by the Oroua valley, which is nearly level, and to the latter by keeping the bank of the main river as far down as Moutoa or Te Rewa Rewa, one of its principal stations. I think there is no doubt that the most convenient and less expensive outlet for wool and other produce of the Rangitikei, will be through the valley of the Oroua, which is about 6 miles across, and nearly level, into the Manawatu, which port vessels are in the habit of frequenting, and often proceed up the river many miles. The approach to the Rangitikei from the sea is dangerous, and the river very shallow. (From Ngawapurua the road diverges in the direction of Hawke's Bay over a level open plain.) A bridle path I think might without much difficulty be opened between each of these important districts so as to make the journey between the two extreme points in less than two days. Although the forest is dense, the timber is not of a

heavy kind, and the soil in many parts extremely rich. The Manawatu Natives I believe claim the whole of the country north of the Kotukutuku, which was the boundary given by the Wairarapa Natives when an attempt was made sometime ago to purchase that district. Total Native population 29.

30th Settlement.—“KAIKOKIRIKIRI.”

Is the principal Pa at the top of the Wairarapa plain, and is about 35 miles distant from Te Hawera, and 10 from the Kotukutuku hill. The land between it and the Kaikokirikiri is very stony and inferior. Kaikokirikiri has been established within perhaps 8 or 9 years by a party of Natives from Nukutaurua or East Cape. Their principal man is Te Korou who has always manifested so strong an objection to sell the valley. The Pa is in a despicable state, and the Natives very unhealthy. The scenery round it is beautiful, and although I believe several attempts have been made to rent or lease the grass plains adjoining, the Natives have invariably refused to give them up. There are also two or three plantation grounds belonging to the Kaikokirikiri Natives in the neighbourhood of the Pa. One of them is occupied by a man, his wife and seven children, and is one of those instances rarely to be met with, of a numerous Native offspring. He is one of the survivors of the Rangitane, and although far from being civilized, is evidently very industrious. We found him very civil, and supplied us with provisions which were very acceptable after travelling through the forest. The name of this little village is Te Rua-o-Te-Taniwha, or Serpen's cave. Total Native population, 184.

31st Settlement.—“HURINUORANGI.”

Distant from Kaikokirikiri about 10 miles, is occupied by a sub-division of the Ngaitahu, who also recently returned from the East Cape. A new Pa has been built, which for neatness and good workmanship is not equalled by any in the valley. This village is situated on the bank of the Ruamahanga, and has always been a favourite spot. The soil is good, and the timber close at hand. Their intention in building this Pa is to invite another sub-division, of the Ngaitahu, who now reside near Turanganui to join them, with their chief Te Hamaiwaho as a Kaumatua or leader for them. This arrangement will no doubt be carried into effect before the winter sets in, and as he is one of the principal men in the Wairarapa, and well disposed, they will under his advice, settle down peaceably. This tribe is included in the number of those who proposed last year to sell the land. Total Native population, 55.

32nd Settlement.—“HUANGARUA.”

About 15 miles from Hurinuorangi, is the residence of the chief Ngairo, and is, I should think, the most central station in the valley. It was at this village that the negotiations for the purchase of the land were carried on last year, and is situated on the bank of the Ruamahanga. The change that has taken place since that time for the worse is almost incredible. Several deaths had taken place, others I saw in a dying state, huts decaying and destroyed, and the whole a complete wreck. Nor is it likely ever to recover itself. Ngairo urged the selling of the land, but his expectations in the shape of payments were too large. He has been a very turbulent Native, and used to be held in great terror by many of his own people. His intercourse with the Europeans has made him much more quiet and better disposed. They cultivate in small patches, but principally near the settlers to ensure a market. I observed a great deficiency in the wheat crop compared with last year. This is also

the case in the Manawatu, where the flax has monopolised the trade. Total Native population, 57.

33rd Settlement.—“WAIHINGA AND KAUPEKAHINGA.”

Are two small villages or plantation grounds belonging to Huangarua and Otaria, situated on the banks of the Ruamahunga, about midway between Captain Smith's and Mr. Bidwell's stations: The soil here is exceedingly good, and last year produced some of the finest wheat I ever saw; a few stacks still remain. The population is very small, only 39.

34th Settlement.—“OTARIA.”

Is situated about 12 miles from Huangarua, and is the Pa built about four years ago when the celebrated chief “Te Hapuku” threatened a hostile descent upon the natives of the valley in consequence of some insult offered by them to his son: he came down from Hawke's Bay, but returned without doing any mischief. The Wairarapa natives were, however, obliged to make an atonement for the insult, and Ngairo was deputed to be the bearer of a considerable sum of money, together with some other articles of value, and to arrange a reconciliation which he accomplished. Ngatuere, Manihera, and William King, are the Principal men of this Pa, and were the strongest opposers to the selling of the land. The Pa is now nearly a wreck, and since the peace with Te Hapuku, they feel more security in living in the plantation grounds, which are within a short distance of the Pa. Population, 75.

35th Settlement.—“TAUANUI.”

Will soon be deserted—Natives remove to Hurinuorangi.

36th Settlement.—“PERETANGINOA.”

Residence of Te Hamaiwaho, remove also to the New Pa at Hurinuorangi.

37th Settlement.—“TURANGANUI.”

Situated at the lower end of the Lake, distant 12 miles from Otaria, is the residence of Simon Peter, the principal chief of the “Ngaitahu,” who is a peaceable old man. Turanganui was one of the earliest villages formed after the natives returned from Nukutaurua, or E. Cape, under the sanction and conduct of the late “Te Wharepouri.” The first party I believe settled at Te Kopi, a small but exposed Bay on the sea coast, having but very little good land in the neighbourhood. When, however, the Europeans began to settle in the valley, and confidence became restored, the Ngaitahu (a sub-division of “Ngatikahuhunu's”) ultimately took possession of such parts of the valley as were within a convenient reach of the settlers—hence arises the comparatively few persons residing in each of the villages, as will be noticed by the annexed Returns.

At Turanganui a neat weather board Church is in course of erection. The Pa is in tolerably good order, and the crops, which are small, promise well. Turanganui is a favourite spot for eel fishing; the Lake being closed at certain seasons, great quantities are caught and dried for the winter.

The Natives of Wairarapa are descended from their ancestor “Kahuhuhunu,” who is supposed to have peopled the whole of the coast from thence to the East Cape or Poverty Bay. They are a very powerful tribe, although in many parts uncivilized, particularly those sub-divisions which reside between Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay; those inhabiting the Wairarapa, considering the intercourse they have had with white people are not much improved. They are far from being industrious, or anxious to obtain employment; and this is to be accounted for by the comparatively easy manner in which they

obtain European comforts through a considerable sum of money annually paid to them in the shape of rents for the use of the land. Population, 124.

38th Settlement.—“MUKAMUKA, PARANGARAHU, AND ORONGORONGO.”

Three small fishing villages belonging to Kaiwara, Pitone, and Pipitea, on the coast between Wairarapa and Wellington, are occasionally visited by Natives from those Pas, who are included in the census taken of those Settlements, with Report and Table for the Wellington District. I should not omit to mention that attached to Parangarahu and Orongorongo are two large and valuable Reserves made over to the Natives as an equivalent for, and in consideration of their having given up the spots of ground guaranteed to them under an arrangement made by Captain Fitzroy, generally known as the exception of “Pas and Cultivations.” The boundaries of many of the latter were undefined, and a great part of them were afterwards found to be situated in the middle, or forming some portion of valuable Town and country Sections, and from their irregular size, tended to make those sections of comparatively little value to the European proprietors. It was moreover a cause of constant irritation and dispute between the two Races, owing, in a great measure to the different modes of culture pursued by each other on the same section. The Natives but partially clearing the land for crops, and indiscriminately cutting down the timber, while the Settlers preferred a more regular and uniform system, preserving such of the fine timber as might be of use, or serve as ornament and shelter to their homesteads hereafter. These irregular Native plantations were scattered throughout the entire district of Wellington, and therefore more or less interfered with many of the valuable sections of the Europeans. I believe it primarily to have been the cause of the disturbances on the Hutt. To remove these very great difficulties, was one of Sir George Grey's first acts, and under the superintendance of Lieutenant-Col. McCleverty, arrangements were entered into with the Native proprietors in the shape of exchanges for land of an equivalent value elsewhere, in separate Blocks, and after some month's negotiation, were finally concluded to the satisfaction of all parties; the Blocks so set apart for the Natives have been surveyed and duly registered; the Natives hold copies of the original plans, and a question involving no little trouble and annoyance finally set at rest: The Blocks or reserves at Parangarahu and Orongorongo, within a short distance of the Beacon at the heads, are now, and have been for some time past, let by the Native owners as Cattle and Sheep Runs to Europeans at very fair annual rents, and as these arrangements are now made with a much better understanding than they formerly were, (the runs being clearly defined) there is a mutual benefit: The contractors have their fat cattle within a short distance of town, and the Natives derive an annual and almost certain income from the rents of land which would probably otherwise lie unoccupied.

The system of leasing throughout the Wairarapa from the Natives *without the sanction of the Government*, is a subject upon which I have already informed the Government as to its results; It is therefore perhaps needless for me to do more than to observe that the practise of leasing on those terms, is being extended, and not unlikely to prove a greater obstacle than it has already been to the acquisition of that district.

The high road to Hawke's Bay is through the Wairarapa, and along the coast. Besides this there is another road which strikes up the valley from the Lake to the Kaikokirikiri, and from thence in a nearly straight line through the forest to Castle

Point or Rangiwahakaoma, and is, I believe, the shortest of the two. One or two Policemen, might, I think, be very usefully stationed at Castle Point, where any deserters to the Hawke's Bay might be easily intercepted, and from whence such early information might be given to the Natives further up the coast as would almost prevent the possibility of an escape. A small vessel may anchor under Castle Point.

In conclusion, I beg leave to make a few additional remarks with regard to the census and other Memoranda. During nearly 5 months that I have been employed in collecting the particulars for the Returns, I have been uniformly treated with kindness and civility by the Natives, and in those districts within the neighbourhood of Port Nicholson, Waikanae, Otaki, and the lower part of the Manawatu, the Natives offered very little objection to my taking their numbers—but in the more remote, and especially the unpurchased districts, a strong disinclination to my doing so prevailed. By securing, however, the assistance of one or two of the intelligent young men at the stations, (sometimes at the risk of incurring the ill will of the tribe) I was enabled to complete the particulars required by His Excellency. In the unpurchased districts, the Natives believe that by obtaining an accurate account of their numbers (which if small in proportion to the land claimed) Government would acquire it upon whatsoever terms they might think proper.—The gentlemen of the different Missionary Societies can, I believe, by a reference to their registers, furnish a correct Return (if such were required at any future time) without exciting the suspicions of the Natives or rendering the interference of Government disagreeable to their feelings. Another difficulty in connection with the Maori Census is this, that the Natives are scarcely for many months together stationary; and so with regard to their cultivations; it frequently happens that the same individual has cultivations in two or three different parts of the country as his inclination guides him, or the locality is good. The Returns which have been compiled may, however, be considered as a very close approximation, and I trust will be found interesting to his Excellency, more especially those items which show that the Natives are becoming possessed of useful and valuable English property, such as cattle, horses, and sheep, &c., as well as increasing in general wealth, tending not only to their own prosperity and comfort, but also to the prosperity of the country at large.

The Road by the coast from the Wairarapa into Town is one of the worst I have ever travelled, and in many parts exceedingly dangerous: Subject to the influence of the Tides, which, during southerly gales are generally very high, herds of cattle are frequently detained for two or three days at a time on their journey to and fro, with scarcely a blade of grass, to the no small annoyance of the drivers, and inconvenience to other travellers between the two places: the want of a safe flat-bottomed boat has long been felt at the mouth of the lake; where only a small canoe is now kept; and as the attendance of the natives on the spot is very irregular, and as they are moreover incapable of managing a boat in a strong tide rip, I think they should be required to give up the Ferry into the hands of a trustworthy European, at least until the new road is made available; an effort has already been made to place a European in charge, but the natives have invariably objected to this being done.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
H. TACY KEMP.

The Honorable,
The Colonial Secretary, New Munster.
]For further particulars in reference to the foregoing Report, *vide* Table No. 4, annexed.]

FINAL REPORT.

*Native Secretary's Office,
Wellington, 15, June, 1850.*

SIR,—I have already given in four different Reports, a detailed account of the state of the Native Settlements included within the four great Districts, through which I travelled, with such other information as I believed would be interesting to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, and be useful to the Government hereafter as forming data from which the decline or improvement of the Natives might be observed.

In transmitting the enclosed General Abstract, accompanied also by an Abstract of each Settlement consecutively taken, I think I might also make a few additional General Remarks upon one or two important points in connection with the Natives themselves, having reference also to the relation in which they stand to the Europeans, and especially bearing on the important trade which is being carried on between them.

2. First,—as to the general condition of the Natives; I think there is sufficient in the Returns to show that, in point of actual wealth, they are far better off than they were a few years ago; and we cannot look at this fact alone, without feeling much satisfaction at their having attained a position among a civilized people which comparatively few other Aboriginal Races have done, and their progress in which may be fairly looked upon as the one great bond of union, bringing with it its other attendant privileges, and above all, the blessings of peace: the eagerness with which they desire to become possessed of useful European Property, and the value they place upon those portions of land which have been regularly reserved to them and their children under the direction of the Government, fully demonstrate the correctness of the favourable view taken by persons acquainted with these subjects, and whose long residence in the country, attaches considerable weight and value to their opinion and testimony.

3. As to the sanitary state of the Native Population, I regret to state, not only from the information of several gentlemen with whom during my Mission I had an opportunity of conversing, but also from personal observation and enquiry, that they are by no means in that healthy state which one would be led to expect when compared with the advance they have made in other respects: In the former, it would appear that they are retrograding, and this decline is especially visible in and near the European Towns, and easily attributable to causes, the prevalence of which, is more or less detrimental to any body of persons, but felt in a greater degree in a mixed community of Europeans and Natives. In illustration of this, I may mention the comparatively few births; while from the census, it will be seen that a greater equality of the sexes prevails than was generally believed to be the case throughout the entire Districts; and perhaps therefore, the most favourable conclusion to form is, that the Native Population is not increasing; or in other words, that taking the deaths and births into account it is likely to remain stationary for some time to come, unless swept off by some unusual and fatal disease.

4. In their intercourse with the Europeans, it is gratifying to find that there exists a confidence and friendly feeling between the two Races in the Province. I was not a little surprised to find that goods to the value of some hundreds of pounds are being advanced by the merchants and other small traders for Native produce, which of itself is strong evidence of the good faith that governs them in their mercantile transactions with each other; and although the summary operation of the Law is beneficially felt

by both classes, yet it rarely happens that recourse to its interference is found to be necessary in cases of debt arising out of those transactions: While upon this subject I may be permitted to suggest that the appointment of one or two Native chiefs, in Annual rotation, selected by the Tribe itself, and approved by the Government, with small fixed incomes, would materially add to the influence of the European Magistrates, and command that respect for all proceedings in a Court of Justice, which I think the present appointment of Assessors, (though exceedingly good) is not so well calculated to produce, and the number being but limited,—and in the settled Districts only—their decisions, while being impartial, would carry with them a weight and impotence likely to produce much good, especially among the Native Race.

5. His Excellency will not fail to mark with satisfaction the comparatively few instances in which persons of the Native Race have been convicted before English Courts of Justice, since British Law has been in force in the Colony. The security with which the settlers and their families locate themselves, with their property, among the Natives, is, I think, upon the whole, evidence sufficient of their freedom from crimes to which, as a yet uncivilized people they might naturally be considered addicted.

6. The Race of half castes now fast springing up, will, no doubt, ere long come under the benevolent consideration of the Government, more particularly those who may not be improperly designated as Orphans. Of this class many are growing up without education, and not unlikely to become troublesome, if not dangerous members of society. Those whose parents are still living in the country express a strong desire to have their children educated and brought into a proper state of discipline; and I believe would willingly contribute a share in defraying the expenses of the same. Several of the parents of these children are likewise anxious to have the lands and property given them in right of their mothers, duly registered, and otherwise legally secured to them; and as I was requested to make the application on their behalf, this seems to be a fitting opportunity for my doing so, and would very respectfully submit the case of these children for His Excellency's consideration.

7. In reference to the education of the Natives, (I allude of course to those Districts only indicated in the Returns,) it will be seen that under all the disadvantages of age and other previous well grounded prejudices, without, also, a regular system of tuition, a very large proportion are familiar with the elementary branches of reading and writing in their own language. The Returns will show a total of nearly 300 daily scholars, principally between the ages of 10 and 15 years of both sexes. With the exception of the school at Otaki, which is conducted by a European schoolmaster, and which is also an industrial school, all the others are under the management of Native Teachers, who, in one or two instances, receive an annual trifling allowance, while the others give their services gratuitously. The Sunday Schools are generally very well attended by adults as well as children,—the former comprise chiefly the communicants or candidates for baptism preparatory to their admission. The names of these persons are all, I believe, carefully registered by the Clergyman of the District, and is in reality the only means of access for obtaining accurate information on a subject of such paramount importance.

8. The importance of the Trade which is now being carried on between the two Races on the coast has probably not escaped His Excellency's notice, and its extension encouraged by every means within the reach of Government. The most important item is the Flax, and the quantity that has been prepared for the European Market, within the

last few months exceeds that of many previous years. In the Return, I have merely stated what I found on the spot,—but on further enquiry, it appears that the present average is about 120 tons per annum, chiefly cut and cleaned in the country lying between Otaki and Manawatu, and sold at the rate of about £10 per ton. As the employment is one in which persons of all ages and sexes can engage, the trade is likely to become of very great importance to the Province, and will be more extensively carried on than it is now, if the prices do not fail.

9. As nearly as I could do so, I have endeavoured to give the distances between the several settlements, their total number of inhabitants, their usual employment, and means of subsistence. I have adopted this plan, because I believe it will give a tolerably good idea of the character and condition of the whole of the Native settlements scattered throughout the Northern Island, many of which I have personally visited; I think also that, with the exception of some few inland stations inhabited by the "Waikato" and "Rotorua" tribes, the number and condition of the Natives inhabiting the settlements on the east and west coasts would now be found to correspond very nearly with those above described. In the Middle Island their numbers are comparatively few.

10. The entire population within the Districts of Wellington, Waikanae, Otaki, Manawatu, and Wairarapa, amounts to 4721; and the average of expenditure in articles of European Manufacture, at about 25s. per head, or near £6,000 per annum, as nearly as I am able to judge: If the flax trade should go on increasing in the ratio that it does now, the consumption will be greater, and the Revenue to which they are at the present time large contributors, will no doubt increase in proportion.

With these few remarks I beg to conclude, in the hope that the particulars collected during the mission will be satisfactory to His Excellency, and found to be useful hereafter in compiling Statistics of a similar kind.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
H. TACY KEMP,
Native Secretary.

The Honorable,
The Colonial Secretary,
New Munster.

ERRATUM.—Page 77—line 48—for 150 *Day Schools*, read *Day Scholars*.

TABLE No. 1.

DISTRICT OF PORT NICHOLSON.

SETTLEMENTS.	POPULATION.					RELIGION.		MORAL CONDITION.				BUILDINGS.		STOCK.			CROPS.						MISCELLANEOUS.																
	Male Adults.	Female do.	Male Children.	Female do.	Total Population.	Church of England.	Wesleyan.	Roman Catholic.	Total of all kinds.	Married, English Custom.	Do. Naive Custom.	Can Bread and Write.	Can read only.	Churches, or Chapels.	Weather Boarded houses.	Huts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Wheat, Acres.	Maize, do.	Potatoes, do.	Kumara, do.	Other Garden Produce, do.	War Canoes.	Hand Mills.	Tame Pigs.	Boats.	Goats.	Daily Scholars.	Bee Hives.	Half Castes.	Water Mills.	Flax prepared.—Tons.	Carts.	Vessels.—Tons.	Rents received.		
Ohariu.	60	36	12	11	119	47			47	3	23	32	6	1		39	3	15		4	1	14	1	1	7	1	9											12	
Ohaua.	1	4			5	3			3		1		2			15						1					7												
Oterongo.	9	6	2	2	19	10			10	1	5	4	1	1		12	1	1			1	4			1		7												
Waiariki.	23	17	1	3	44	32			32	4	13	14	1	1		15	8	3		3	3	7	6			3		9											
Te Aro.	104	62	7	13	186	78	106		184	7	48	49	13	2		36	20	4		11	14	26	4		7		11												
Kumutoto.	6	6		2	14		11		1	1	3	4		1	1	1	1	4				3																	
Pipitea.	43	29	15	9	96	51	44		95	4	21	35	7	1	5	12	14	4		5	24	11			5	1	9			8								65	
Tiakiwai.								Kaiwarara.																															
Kaiwarara.	22	15	3	4	44	19	2		21	1	11	11	1	1	13	6	6		9	3	6	3			1		7												
Ngauranga.	13	10	6	5	34	21	11		32		7	13		1	18	5	8		2	3	6				2														
Pitone.	57	40	16	23	136	107	29	1	137	1	34	48	6	1	3	35	20	19	20	2	4	11	5	2	8	13		20		2				4	35		24		
Waiwetu.	21	16	5	6	48	23	20		43		13	10	2	2	9	7	2			1	3	6	1		7		8										6		
Total	359	241	67	78	745	391	233	1	1604	24	179	220	39	11	9	204	85	66	20	275	224	95	15	9	41	2	91	3	32		3		8	35		137			

H. TACY KEMP.

Wellington, 15th June, 1850.

TABLE. No 2.
DISTRICTS OF WAIKANAE AND PORIRUA.

SETTLEMENTS.	POPULATION.				RELIGION.		MORAL CONDITION.				BUILDINGS.		STOCK.		CROPS.				MISCELLANEOUS.																				
	Male Adults.	Female do.	Male Children.	Female do.	Total Population.	Church of England.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholics.	Total of all kinds.	Married, European Custom.	Do. Native Custom.	Can Read and Write.	Can Read only.	Churches or Chapels.	Weather-boarded Houses.	Huts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Wheat Acres.	Maize, do.	Potatoes, do.	Kumara, do.	Other Garden Produce, do.	War Canoes.	Hand Mills.	Tame Pigs.	Boats.	Goats.	Daily Scholars.	Bee Hives.	Half Castles.	Water Mills.	Flax Prepared.—Tons.	Carts.	Vessels.—Tons.	Rents received.		
Porirua	118	100	24	10	252	118	120		238	2	63	65	26	2	4	50	22	30	8	33	38	1	2	14	14	6	17	4	17										
Komangarautawhiri	17	17	5	6	45	40		40	1	11	7	2	1			19	2		3	2	5	2	2	3	3	1	6												
Taupo, deserted																																							
Paripari	11	8	2	1	22	7	14		21	1	6	2	3	1		12	6	2			3	2																	
Wainui	88	76	19	12	195	157	39	196	5	44	61	7	2		40	9	9	2	3	5	18	2	1	1	9	5	40	90	33										
Whareroa	50	31	10	13	104	76	24	100	6	23	21	13	1	2	32	4	9	2	3	4	13	7	7	2	10	4	100												
Mataihuka	13	13	7	6	39	39		39	7	11	2	1			9	2	2				3	7	4	2	2	2	5												
Waikanae	110	90	16	15	231	81	26	107	10	46	70	40	1		44	27	24		34	5	33	7	2	2	12	4	161	30		2	10								
Total	407	335	83	63	888	518	223	741	25	140	237	93	9	6	206	72	76	2	204	52	117	224	8	53	23	329	4	77	33	2	17	1	34			24	26		

H. TACY KEMP,

Wellington, June 15, 1850.

TABLE No. 3.

DISTRICT OF OTAKI, MANAWATU, AND RANGITIKEI.

SETTLEMENTS.	POPULATION.					RELIGION.			MORAL CONDITION.				BUILDINGS.			STOCK.			CROPS.					MISCELLANEOUS.														
	Male Adults.	Female do.	Male Children.	Female do.	Total Population.	Church of England.	Wesleyan.	Roman Catholic.	Total of all kinds.	Married, European Custom.	Do., Native Custom.	Can Read and Write.	Can Read only.	Churches or Chapels.	Weather Boarded houses.	Huts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Wheat, Acres.	Maize, do.	Potatoes, do.	Kumara, do.	Other Garden Produce, do.	War Canoes.	Hand Mills.	Tame Pigs.	Boats.	Goats.	Daily Scholars.	Bee Hives.	Half Castles.	Water Mills.	Flax Prepared.—Tons.	Carts.	Vessels.	Rents received.	
Otaki	247	227	101	89	664	278	76	354	10	134	158	48	2	12	146	42	75	3	5	40	82	7	9	4	610	20	130	18	36	2	10	3						
Waikawa	82	76	41	30	229	58	52	110	2	53	84	12	2	2	39	13	8	30	11	31	5	3	10	7	150	34	18	3	2	3								
Ohau	95	78	24	38	235	71	1	18	2	43	70	18	1	1	65	10	20	7	11	29	5	3	4	4	120	21	2	2	2	2								
Horowhenua	44	38	19	21	122	32	4	36	1	29	22	25	1	1	38	6		3	7	13	4	3	2	2	50	21	1	1	2	2								
Poroutawhao	61	41	18	9	129	40	5	45	1	34	24		1	1	36	11			3	7	16	3	2	2	90	12	2	2	1	1								
<i>Manawatu</i>																																						
Te Awahou	56	49	9	13	127	54	1	1	56	4	25	31	12	1	23	8	1	20	6	26	3	3	1	1	125			1	2	1						£ 20		
Te Taita	90	62	20	16	188	73		73	8	32	47	7	1	2	23	10	3	33	13	27	3	3			170											5	8	
Te Rewa Rewa	123	119	57	35	339	99	1	100	9	83	79	33	1	1	32	18	5	90	15	37	1	3	11	2	260	16		1										
Puketotara	61	48	29	23	161	78	1	79	1	26	24	13			18	2			3	30	2	1	3	3	90													
Oroua	28	24	7	3	62	23		23	1	17	16	9	1	1	13		3		3	9	3	1	3	3	70	5												
<i>Rangitikei</i>																																						
Parewani	42	33	15	15	105	43	50	93	3	25	10	11	2	2	23	11			6	13	2	2			70													
Maramaihoea	39	28	16	11	94	49		49	2	24	15	7	1	1	26	3			6	12	3	2			76	6												
Te Awahou	25	23	8	4	60	49	5	54	2	14	7	6	1	1	20	9			4	9	3	2			40													
Total	998	846	364	307	2515	947	68	147	1162	42	539	587	202	15	14	507	143	115	20	177	129	334	404	38	36	16	1921	47	218	19	14	2	26			£ 25	8	

H. TACY KEMP.

Wellington, June 15, 1850.

TABLE No. 4.
DISTRICT OF WAIRARAPA.

SETTLEMENTS.	POPULATION.				RELIGION.		MORAL CONDITION.			BUILDINGS.	STOCK.		CROPS.			MISCELLANEOUS.																							
	Male Adults.	Female Do.	Male Children.	Female Do.	Total Population	Church of England.	Wesleyans.	Roman Catholic.	Total of all kinds.	Married, European Custom.	Do. Native Custom.	Can Read and Write.	Can Read only.	Churches or Chapels	Weatherboard Houses.	Huts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Wheat, (Acres)	Maize, do.	Potatoes, do.	Kumara, do.	Other Garden Produce, do.	War Canoes.	Hand Mills.	Tame Pigs.	Boats.	Goats.	Daily Scholars.	Bee Hives.	Half Castes.	Water Mills.	Flax Prepared.	Carts.	Vessels.	Rents Received.		
Te Hawera	15	9	4	1	29	21	1	3	21	1	3	6	3																										
Kaikokirikiri	104	54	8	18	184	145			145	7	37	24	36	1	20	5	4			10	7	34		3		130		3										£84	
Hurimuiorangi	22	17	10	6	55	44			44	1	10	8	10	1	13	2										40												£12	
Huanga	33	16	4	4	57	41	3		44	5	14	11	13	1	7	9	1				3	9		1		36												£88	
Waikinga and Kaupeka	19	13	3	4	39	29	1		30	1	7	7	6		11	5				2	3	7		14		35											£36		
Otarara — including Hikunui and Matiti	38	25	7	5	75	37	13		50	2	19	9	5		17	15								2		36												£210	
Taanui																																							
Peretanginoa	Vide																																						
Turanganui	58	40	16	10	124	87	3	13	103	13	20	39	7	1	17	13				3	10	21		3		72												£158	
Total	289	174	52	48	563	404	20	13	437	30	110	104	80	4	85	49	5			15	32	102		124		340		3										£588	

H. TACY KEMP.

Wellington, June 15, 1850.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF NATIVE POPULATION WITHIN THE DISTRICTS OF WELLINGTON, WAIKANAE, OTAKI, MANAWATU, RANGITIKEI, AND
WAIRARAPA, IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW MUNSTER, TAKEN IN THE BEGINNING OF 1850, AS COMPRISED IN THE FOREGOING TABLES, Nos. 1, 2, 3, AND 4.

DISTRICTS.	POPULATION.					RELIGION.*			MORAL CONDITION.			BUILDINGS.		STOCK.			CROPS.			MISCELLANEOUS.																														
	Male Adults.	Female, do.	Male Children.	Female, do.	Total Population.	Church of England.	Wesleyan.	Roman Catholic.	Total of all kinds.	Married, European custom.	Do. Native custom.	Can Read and Write.	Can Read only.	Churches or Chapels.	Weather Boarded Houses.	Huts.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Wheat, Acres.	Maize, do.	Potatoes, do.	Kumara, do.	Other Garden Produce, do.	War Canoes.	Hand Mills.	Tame Pigs.	Boats.	Goats.	Daily Scholars.	Bee Hives.	Half Castes.	Water Mills.	Flax Prepared. †	Carts.	Vessels.—Tons.	Rents received.	No. of Depositors in the Savings Bank.	Amount deposited in do.	Capital offences. ‡	Minor do.	Patients under Medical treatment since the establishment of Colonial Hospital at Wellington.	Native Assessors appointed.	No. of Natives employed in the Armed Police.						
PORT NICHOLSON.—Including, Wellington, the Hutt, Ohariu, Waairiki, &c., &c.	359	241	67	78	745	391	223	1	615	24	179	220	39	11	9	204	85	66	29	27	22	95	15	9	41	2	91	3					32	3		3	8	35	137	10	£	215	18	4						
WAIKANAE.—Including, Porirua, Wainui, Whareroa, &c., &c.	407	335	83	63	888	518	223		741	25	140	237	93	9	6	206	72	76	2	20	52	117	224	8	53	23	329	4	77	33	2	23	1	34		20	53													
OTAKI.—Including, Manawatu, Rangitikei, &c., &c.	998	846	364	307	2515	947	68	147	1162	42	539	587	202	15	14	507	143	115	20	177	129	334	404	38	33	16	1021		47	218	19	44	2	26			25	8	102	11	10									
WAIRARAPA,	289	174	52	48	563	404	20	13	437	30	116	104	80	4		85	49	5		15	32	102		124			349		3						588															
Grand Total.	2053	1596	566	496	4711	2260	534	161	2955	121	968	1148	414	39	29	1102	349	262	12	249	235	648	78	674	130	41	2690	7	127	233	21	70	3	304	8	55	£	803	18	£	318	10	2	2	14	930	21	34		

*The number stated under the Head of Religion are those only who have been admitted by *Baptism* as members of each Denomination. The ordinary Congregations in each case are much larger.

†The quantity of Flax mentioned is merely that found on the spot; the amount annually prepared is considerably more, and is likely to increase.

‡One tried by Martial Law. Both were from a distance.

H. TACY KEMP.

Native Secretary.

Wellington, 15th June, 1850.

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